



SUMMER

PRINCE HALL MASONIC

2020



# JOURNAL

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

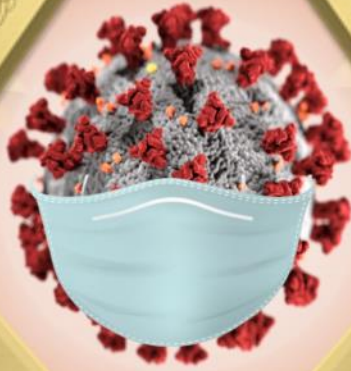
**BLACK LIVES MATTER**



**2020 GRAND LODGE AWARDS**



**TRIPLE NICKLES**



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**THE SHRINE**

# PRINCE HALL STRONG

## *DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS*

### Masonic Year in Review

2019 ~ 2020



# JOURNAL STAFF

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Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Master  
**Ex-Officio Editor-In-Chief**



Right Worshipful Brother Daryl Andrews  
**Editor**

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Worshipful Brother Michael Thomas  
Sister Dr. Katie Sanders

**REST IN PEACE TO OUR TEAMMATE**



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Sister Carolyn Womack  
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**DEADLINE:**

**January 7, 2021**

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Send your Lodge ROSTER to  
**GrandSecretary809@yahoo.com**

# EDITORIAL

**BLACK LIVES MATTER!!!** This edition of the Masonic Journal is a milestone for me as editor. It now marks the longest editorial tenure of any editor in the history of the publication. As the publication has evolved over the years, it has become critical to plan for transitions. As such, I look forward to the participation of new faces in the future editions of the publication.

This edition is larger than the norm as it incorporates activities that occurred over the entire Masonic Year. The COVID-19 epidemic caused editions to be placed on hold. However, we are now able to move forward and produce a somewhat condensed version of the activities during the 2019-2020 Masonic Year in addition to other articles that are of a great deal of importance.

It is my prayer that this edition inspires serious thought on the behaviors that are exhibited by all Masons and Eastern Stars. It is also my hope that everyone obtains a better understanding of the source and impacts of COVID-19, the importance of protecting our Masonic brand, the history of the Prince Hall Charter and our relationship with the Shrine. Knowing who we are and our capabilities should drive improvements in the future. After all, we are **family...**

**Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews, 33<sup>o</sup>, FPS**



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## FAMILY

**Brother Markell L. Mooney**

Copyright 2018

*There are many things we cherish  
Material possessions, fame, and money  
Our significant other, cars and clothes  
When there’s nothing to materialize*

*When bridges are not burned  
And you find yourself in a hole  
Your family can dig you out  
When finances are low*

*Nothing to drive  
Nothing to spend  
In the end  
Your family is there for you*

*Family is there to give you a boost  
Family should not be taken advantage of  
Show that you are appreciative by giving back  
Nothing is better than family*



*Brother Mooney is a new columnist of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal. A member of New Jerusalem #158, he is a published author, teacher and activist.*



# OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER

## *Fraternal Greetings,*

As we continue to live in unpredictable times, we are unable to make predictable decisions as circumstances change daily. The Governor moved the Stay-at-Home Order to Phase 4 June 26, 2020. As of July 24, 2020, many counties have spiked in confirmed cases of COVID-19. This trend has continued through the month of August. With that being our present condition, it creates a safety concern when it comes to the re-opening of our Masonic temples in the Jurisdiction.

In preparation for possible re-openings in September, the Grand Lodge will have completed its necessary phases. It is my hope that the same is true for Lodges that own their halls. Lodges will be able to reopen on a case by case approval basis. A COVID-19 Waiver is required and phase 3 requirements that help to maintain healthy and safe buildings must be met.

As the Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons, the health and safety of our membership is my very first priority and each decision that I have made has been in compliance with the laws and regulations imposed by the Governor of the State of Illinois and leaders of local municipalities. In the midst of this crisis, however, we have been able to make strides and break new ground. Zoom meetings were authorized to allow Lodges to conduct business and stay in touch. Community service efforts have reached all-time highs. **Over 500,000 PPE has been distributed.** The good name of Prince Hall Freemasonry has been expanded through these efforts and I have never been so proud of our organization.

I would like to commend all Prince Hall members for your work and dedication during this pandemic. This administration wanted to enhance our community service throughout the state. During our current conditions, we have accomplished that mission and are situated to do more in the future. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

**Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow**  
**Grand Master**



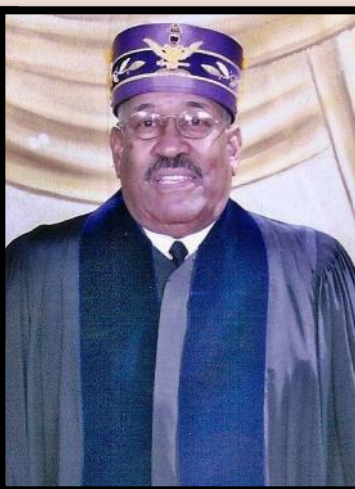
## REST IN PEACE



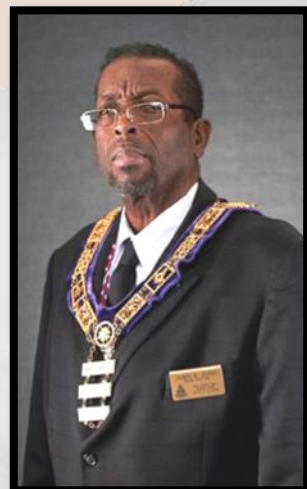
Most Worshipful Brother  
Willie B. Evans Sr.  
39th Grand Master  
Most Worshipful Prince Hall  
Grand Lodge of Illinois



Most Worshipful Brother  
James E. Gavin  
40th Grand Master  
Most Worshipful Prince Hall  
Grand Lodge of Illinois



Right Worshipful Brother  
Clarence W. Hayes Sr.  
Honorary Past Grand Master  
Most Worshipful Prince Hall  
Grand Lodge of Illinois



Right Worshipful Brother  
James R. Jones II  
Grand Auditor  
Most Worshipful Prince Hall  
Grand Lodge of Illinois

# EUREKA GRAND CHAPTER



*Rest in Heavenly Peace*



Sister Teresa D. Abner  
Past Worthy Grand Matron

Sister Anna M. Cooper  
Past Worthy Grand Matron

**Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star**

# ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR



**Term Past Worthy Grand Matrons Past Worthy Grand Patrons**

1890-1892 Rebecca D. Boone  
 1892-1894 Frances E. Lewis  
 1894-1896 S.V. Bean  
 1896-1898 Rosie Etta Moore  
 1898-1900 Agnes Moody  
 1900-1902 Eva J. Lewis  
 1902-1904 Laura Dixon  
 1904-1906 Mary Davenport  
 1906-1908 Kittie Terrell  
 1908-1910 Hattie A. Woolridge  
 1910-1912 Blanche Charleston  
 1912-1913 Cordelia D. Lewis  
 1913-1914 Cordelia D. Lewis  
 1914-1916 Adelle M. Ross  
 1916-1918 Louise C. Webb  
 1918-1920 Melissa E. McClure  
 1920-1922 Frances P. Monroe  
 1922-1924 Emma S. Kennedy  
 1924-1926 Carrie Lee Bell  
 1926-1927 Sey C. Johnson  
 1927-1928 Sey C. Johnson  
 1928-1930 Anna B. Dorsey  
 1930-1931 Susie W. Turner  
 1931-1932 Susie W. Turner  
 1932-1933 Callie Harris  
 1933-1934 Callie Harris  
 1934-1935 Martha Jackson  
 1935-1936 Martha Jackson  
 1936-1937 Maude B. Smith  
 1937-1938 Maude B. Smith  
 1938-1939 Edythe T. Stewart  
 1939-1940 Edythe T. Stewart  
 1940-1941 Anna J. Powers  
 1941-1942 Anna J. Powers  
 1942-1944 Bessie C. Green  
 1944-1946 Lottie Davidson  
 1946-1948 Mary R. Carter  
 1948-1950 Lovonia H. Brown  
 1950-1952 Sadie C. Butler  
 1952-1954 Harriet Bell  
 1954-1956 Ruth I. Brown  
 1956-1958 Lola W. Hundley  
 1958-1960 Hazel Laws Stillwell  
 1960-1962 Burtella McDougal  
 1962-1964 Mayme B. Hennigan  
 1964-1966 Agatha Goldsmith  
 1966-1968 Esther Lamar Grier  
 1968-1970 Charley M. Hammer  
 1970-1972 Hazel B. Walker  
 1972-1974 Daisy S. Slaughter  
 1974-1976 Ethel E. Sherlock  
 1976-1978 Bessie Lee Howard  
 1978-1980 Lillian E. Choice  
 1980-1982 Iona Husband  
 1982-1984 Minnie Allen  
 1984-1986 Delia Walls  
 1986-1988 Geneva Jenkins  
 1988-1990 Anne B. Greene  
 1990-1992 Hazel Cleo Clay  
 1992-1994 H. Lorraine Jeter  
 1994-1996 Dollie L. Sanders  
 1996-1997 Margaret Elvov  
 1997-1998 Hazel Cleo Clay  
 1998-1999 Maple L. Spearmon  
 1999-2001 Anna Marie Cooper  
 2001-2003 Marilyn Watt Crook  
 2003-2005 Joyce Walkup  
 2005-2007 Weatau A. H. Barsh  
 2007-2009 Shalonda F.W. Patterson  
 2009-2011 Paulette Brown  
 2011-2013 Teresa D. Abner  
 2013-2015 Sandra D. Smith  
 2015-2017 Stephanie D. Atwood  
 2017-2019 Lena D. Roberts

Richard E. Moore  
 Richard E. Moore  
 William H.S. Seals  
 J.C. Lewis  
 James H. Washington  
 James H. Washington  
 James H. Washington  
 Bail S. Harris  
 William T. Berry  
 William T. Berry  
 J.B. McCrary  
 Samuel Cary  
 Thomas H. Samuels  
 Thomas H. Samuels  
 L.B. Shepard  
 William E. Kennedy  
 J.R. Hicks  
 Reuben G. Bell  
 Abe H. Dawson  
 Lee Taylor  
 James E. White  
 James E. White  
 John B. Hart  
 Adolph Dorsey  
 Adolph Dorsey  
 Robert W. Maxwell  
 Robert W. Maxwell  
 Walter Z. Martin  
 Walter Z. Martin  
 August Abadie  
 August Abadie  
 Robert S. Troutman  
 Robert S. Troutman  
 Moses Young  
 Charles Golden  
 Walter E. Freeman  
 Thomas Y. Watson  
 Samuel H. Rosenberg  
 Frederick A. Garden  
 George B. Fort  
 Ahmed Brown  
 Eugene King  
 William Thompson  
 James E. Smith  
 Elton P. Hodo  
 James E. Harden  
 Thornton T. Lewis  
 William H. Jones  
 Rev. Joseph J. Richardson  
 Homer E. Baron  
 Armstrong Walker  
 Lawrence F. Williams  
 Curtiss Frazier  
 James L. Long  
 Leslie Z. Cathey  
 Rev. Clyde W. Cooper Sr.  
 J. Alvin Cobb  
 Theodore Sharp  
 Oscar V. Washington  
 Jesse Wilks  
 Willie L. Moore  
 Jerome Abner  
 Jerome Abner  
 William L. Norman  
 Herman E. Gray  
 Calvin B. Wright  
 Dwayne A. Smith  
 James H. Barsh Sr.  
 Fred Bradley III  
 William W. Jackson  
 Armand T. Harris  
 Anthony L. Atwood  
 DuWayne Portis Sr.  
 Antonio Terry



**Sister Zandra Prince  
 & Brother Keith Roach  
 Worthy Grand Matron & Patron  
 2019-2021**



Congratulations to the elected members of  
**VELMA J. THAMES  
 YOUTH FRATERNITY**

sponsored by Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star:

Most Royal Queen Lauren Goree

Most Royal King. Ryan Farley

Most Royal Princess Sydney Knight

Most Royal Prince. Jordan Harris

Princess Guide Aaminah Dishman

Prince Guard. Harrison Brookins

# 2020 GRAND LODGE AWARDS

## MASON OF THE YEAR—2020—TIMOTHY R. DAVIS



For the fourth time in the history of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois has the home of the Mason of the Year been **Garden City Lodge #59**. Due to his great works for the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family, Past Master **Timothy R. Davis** now succeeds Isaac Washington (1972), Leroy Barnes (1994) and Michael Ramey (2014) for the highest award that the Grand Lodge offers. His leadership over the Grand Lodge Community Service program and President of the First District Past Masters Council and endeavors to uplift communities through his charitable works are most definitely worthy of emulation. His service while personally impacted by the Coronavirus speaks to his zeal for brotherhood and bridge building. His Zoom Conference during the height of the virus connected hundreds and became a balm for some who were enduring the crisis. Congratulations!!!



## WORSHIPFUL MASTER OF THE YEAR—2020—TROY ANDREWS

Prolific leadership of **Cornerstone Lodge #91** is the reason why **Troy T. Andrews** was selected Worshipful Master of the Year. He first served as Master in 2015 and 2016. He returned in 2020 to prepare the Lodge for the future. He has required the Wardens to lead degree work and has coached the administrative officers on best business practices. He provides detailed explanations on ALL Masonic works and has delegated high responsibilities to officers **after** training them. The Senior Warden is now the Dean of Instruction. Both Wardens lead the work for specific Degrees. The Lodge Secretary, a second year member, has excelled so much that he was nominated for Mason of the Year. Other efforts are not publicized but the stellar work speaks for itself as it related to leadership. Congratulations!!!

## TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEAR AND FIFTY (50) YEAR SERVICE PINS

### Twenty-Five Year Pin Recipients (14)

1. Austry R. Andrews, John C. Ellis #17
2. Hibert Bowden, Lone Star #18
3. Wilmer T Colman, Lone Star #18
4. Clifford L Cook Jr., Olive Branch #94
5. Earl Goldman, Eureka #64
6. Michael Jackson, Eureka #64
7. David Johnson, Lone Star #18

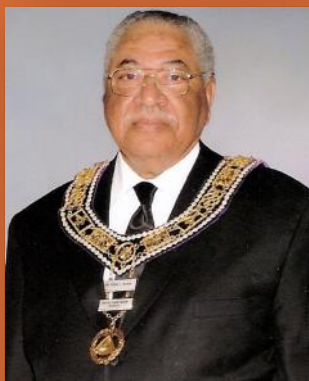


8. Carl L Jones, St. Paul #42
9. RB Jones, Lone Star #18
10. George A McCrowey, Eureka #64
11. Alfredicio P Perez, St. Paul #42
12. Michael D Shields, St. Paul #42
13. Talmadge Wilmington, John Jones #7
14. Ray J Yancy, St. Paul #42

### Fifty Year Pin Recipients (3)

- Douglas L Burns, Garden City #59
- **Clarence Trotter (PGM), Lone Star #18**
- Ronald E Vaughn, St. Paul #42

## Norman's Nook



**HISTORIC PHOTO ARCHIVES FROM THE GALLERY OF WILLIAM L. NORMAN**

*Submitted by Worshipful Brother William L. Norman Past Grand Master (H)*



As per the custom of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois, the Grand Master hosts a breakfast with visiting dignitaries as a show of hospitality when attending Grand Lodge sessions. This breakfast was held under the term of Most Worshipful Brother Archie C. Senter in 1989 prior to the Grand Lodge Session.

**Standing:** PGM Henry G. Fort (1963-65), PGM Vernon L. Barker (1968-71), PGM Melvin Frierson (1985-87), PGM Vernon B. Williams (Honorary), PGM James H. Black Sr. (1975-77), PGM Rufus Starks (1973-75), PGM Edward Sykes (1981-83), PGM Levi L. Rose (1983-85)  
**Seated:** Carl L. Wilson (Ohio), GM Archie C. Senter (1987-89), Felix Jackson (Wisc)

# GRAND LODGE CITIZENS OF THE YEAR—2020



**JANICE MITCHELL**

Founder & Executive Director of Urbana Neighborhood Connections—Photo, The News Gazette, July 20, 2020



**TIFFANY MATHIS**

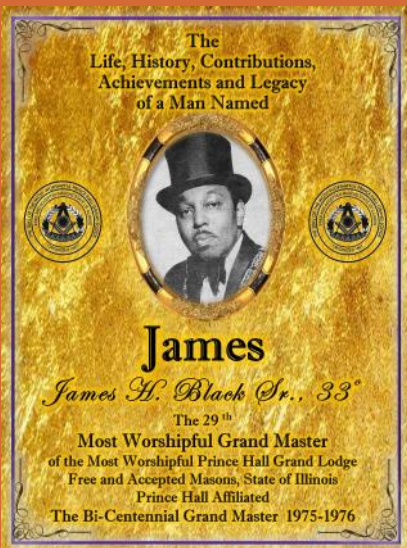
CEO and Executive Director of Development & Community Engagement at the Boys & Girls Club of Central Illinois

## LODGE OF THE YEAR—2020—EUREKA LODGE #64



### The Life, History, Contributions, Achievements and Legacy of

# \*\*\* A MAN NAMED JAMES \*\*\*



“The Life, History, Contributions, Achievements and Legacy of a Man named James: James H. Black Sr., The 29th Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, State of Illinois, Prince Hall Affiliated—The Bi-Centennial Grand Master 1975-1976” is much more than a Souvenir Book. It is a classic representation of the Masonic Mind of Most Worshipful Brother James H. Black Sr., 29th Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons. In addition to providing a detailed background on the efforts of Past Grand Master Black, it contains valuable historical content on Prince Hall Freemasonry, The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois and a historic review that aligns the name of Mt. Hebron Lodge #29 with its Biblical roots. Well wishes from members across the country are included in this work which took more than four years to complete. Order your copy today via [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or visit “Bookstore” on the Grand Lodge website—[mwphgil.com](http://mwphgil.com).



**amazon.com**

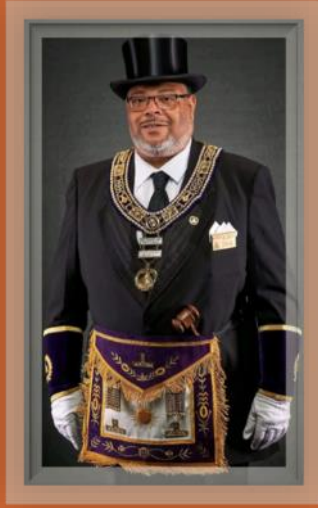
**ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY!!**

# Masonic Year in Review—Timeline

## FIRST QUARTER

### July 2019

The 2019 Annual Session of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois was held its annual session in the City of Springfield July 26-August 1, 2019. All officers were elected to retain their stations and places. A son of the city was also selected Mason of the Year—Dr. James A. Lanier, Past Master of Central Lodge #3. The basketball team from Eureka Grand Chapter won the Charity Basketball Game held at the Boys & Girls Club just prior to the annual session. Hundreds of dollars were raised to support the center.



### August 2019

The Grand Lodge marched in the 2019 Annual Bud Biliken Day Parade in the City of Chicago to support the youth who were on their way back to school. Brothers and Sisters served as Marshalls during the parade in addition to those who marched in the parade representing the Grand Lodge and its Appendant and Concordant Bodies. The Grand Lodge Scholarship Luncheon occurred on the following weekend to award educational donations to students pursuing higher education at the collegiate level. The same day, brethren and sisters of Lodges and Chapters across the City of Chicago walked together to bring awareness to prostate cancer and to raise funds to fight the disease.

### September 2019

Prince Hall Americanism Day was celebrated in each District. This day is set aside to honor the example of service and leadership provided by Prince Hall, America's first African American Masonic leader. The history and examples of Hall's contribution to American society were presented in all Districts of the Illinois Jurisdiction simultaneously in the cities of Chicago (1<sup>st</sup> Dist—Grand East), La Grange (2<sup>nd</sup> Dist—Second Baptist Church), Peoria (3<sup>rd</sup> Dist—Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church) and Centreville (4<sup>th</sup> Dist—Greater Faith Christian Church).



## SECOND QUARTER

### October 2019

Univer-SOUL Circus Night for the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic family on Sunday, October 6, 2019, was well attended by members and their families in Chicago's Washington Park. This event has become an annual night in which families come together to not only have fun but also produce supplies to help youth move forward through their educational endeavors.



### November 2019

The annual Veterans Day celebrations occurred throughout the Illinois Jurisdiction in order to salute those brethren, sisters and citizens who have served the United States of America in the Armed Forces. The Grand Lodge sponsored its annual Thanksgiving Program for the less fortunate at the Grand East to provide sustenance for those in need during the Holiday Season. Hundreds were served meals and received deliveries of baskets filled with all of the fixings. Efforts in each District were underway simultaneously in each corner of the state through the hands of several Lodges. With donations, received from the Grand Lodge and their local contributors, Lodge Halls became havens of safety and sustenance for those who needed it most.



### December 2019

The season of giving continued in the month of December. All Masonic bodies engaged in efforts to provide toys and clothes for youth and members of the community in need. The conclusion of the month found all newly elected Worshipful Masters installed in each District. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> District Officers were installed on December 14 at the Second Baptist Church of Lagrange and Aahmes Temple of East St. Louis. 3<sup>rd</sup> District Officers were installed on December 21 at Greater Northside Missionary Baptist Church of Decatur. 1<sup>st</sup> District Officers were installed on December 28 at Grant Memorial AME Church of Chicago.





## THIRD QUARTER



### January 2020

During this month, the Grand Lodge Legacy Library was also dedicated to Past Grand Master Angelo W. Jones. This library houses collections of books as well as a computer for research purposes. In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Districts engaged in the PGM Henry Short Bowling Event on January 20 in order to educate citizens on Dr. King and provide a physical activity in which the youth could be engaged for free. The Annual 4<sup>th</sup> District Scholarship Banquet was held on January 28 in Belleville. This annual event continues to be a beacon for students pursuing higher education as well as officers who were elected to lead subordinate bodies in the District.



### February 2020

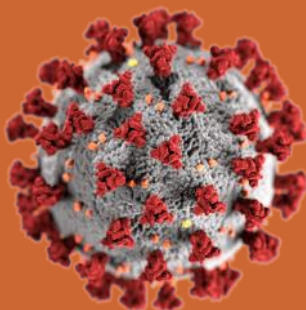
Black History Programs were in full effect across the State of Illinois in order to educate members and citizens on the impacts blacks on both the local and global scales. These events spanned the entire month of February. The annual Mid-Year Session and Banquet were held in Normal on the weekend of February 28.

Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey Barlow was honored at the Saturday Banquet for his service as Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons. At the banquet, the Grand Master honored others for their service and support. The Mid-year session also proved to be fruitful as the sessions provided insight into the plans of the Grand Lodge and direction on the immediate next steps.



### March 2020

The outbreak of COVID-19 prompted great consideration on the potential of the virus and its ability to be transmitted between persons. This factor and the edicts provided by the Office of the Governor of the State of Illinois prompted the cancellation of the Midwest Regional Conference of Grand Masters and Masons and Grand Chapters and Eastern Stars which was set to be hosted by the Illinois Jurisdiction on March 19-22 in Lombard, Illinois.



## FOURTH QUARTER



### April 2020

In the best interest in the Masonic Order in Illinois, Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow postponed all Masonic face-to-face gatherings in the Illinois Jurisdiction until the Governor of the State of Illinois, Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) lifted the mandates. So that Lodges could conduct business, Edict AKB206 was issued to allow Lodges to meet through social media—Zoom.

### May 2020

Members of the Illinois Jurisdiction heard the cries of those in need and mobilized to satisfy the need. Many shop owners shifted their production to create Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for distribution to members and to the public. The Grand Lodge and Commanders of the Rite bodies collectively and individually donated PPE to thousands of citizens in each corners of the State of Illinois. It is estimated that more the **10,000 PPE** were distributed over the months of April and May. Food and other donations were also provided for health workers by ALL Masonic bodies. These efforts helped to uplift those who were working overtime and double-time to help citizens in need.



### June 2020

PPE distribution and the serving of sustenance for front-line workers intensified significantly across the entire state. From Roseland Community Hospital in Chicago to Centreville Seniors Center in Centreville, thousands were not only given PPE and food donations but also computers and other items to help facilitate communications. As social distancing orders were implemented across the state, the equipment donations helped to open safer lines of communication between relatives. By the end of the month of June, it is estimated that more the **200,000 PPE** were distributed across Illinois.



# Past Master Duerell Harley



## is a Brother You Should Know

*Submitted by Most Worshipful  
Brother Aubrey K. Barlow,  
Grand Master*

*"We Are Central:  
Duerell Harley, Law  
Enforcement, Supervises  
Evening Watch 'to  
Protect the Castle and  
the People in It' - SL8  
News—Federal Reserve  
Bank St. Louis*



Duerell Harley was recently showcased by the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank (SL8) as a part of its "We Are Central" profile series. Headquartered in downtown St. Louis at the intersection of Fourth, St. Charles and Broadway, the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis takes great pride in serving "Main Street" audiences and representing their views. The St. Louis Fed is located in the Eighth Federal Reserve District, which includes all of Arkansas and portions of six other states: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee. The St. Louis Bank serves most of Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois.

Duerell joined the Bank in 2000 after working as an undercover officer. He is currently pursuing a degree in mathematics from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. He was interviewed by the SL8 team and spotlighted for his service as noted below:

### **SL8 News: Why did you decide to work for the Federal Reserve?**

**Duerell Harley (DH):** *I had a friend who worked in law enforcement, and I took a complimentary ride along with him in his cruiser one day and opted to put my math books away and put on a badge. I started working at a local supermarket as an undercover officer for four years before being introduced to the Bank.*

*One day a former Bank employee, Mr. Sid Frazier, who had visited the store several times, presented me with the opportunity to come work at the Bank. I came down for a visit and tour, and he gave me an interview with his boss the same day. I was walked to the HR department to fill out a job application, and the rest is history.*

### **SL8 News: What are your key responsibilities at the Bank?**

**DH:** *My responsibilities as a lieutenant are to supervise the evening watch; coordinate communications between officers and the control center; supervise critical incidents to ensure proper and effective response by officers; ensure proper care, economical and efficient use of LEU property and equipment; and to provide assistance to the chief, director and staff of the department. The ultimate mission is to protect the castle and the people in it.*

### **SL8 News: What do you enjoy most about being central in your role?**

**DH:** *What I enjoy most about my role is working with people in the department and outside the organization, along with traveling to different Reserve banks and seeing how the LEU works as a whole to safeguard the FRS. I enjoy learning new applications, collecting data and analyzing information to assess problems.*

### **SL8 News: What do you enjoy outside the Bank?**

**DH:** *I am currently finishing up my last few math classes at SIUE. After my career ends at the Bank, I would like to give back to my community by teaching the next generation. I am also a member of various organizations that occupy a good percentage of my time. I am a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Joppa Lodge #79, Tyree Consistory #64 and Aahmes Temple 132 (Shriners).*

*I volunteer monthly in the community for multiple community service initiatives. I participate annually in the Relay for Life Cancer Walk, I co-chaired in 2017-2018 the Prostate Cancer Walk, tutor area students in math, and volunteer for the Arthur Johnson Amateur Boxing Event and Foundation. I help raise money to provide dinners for needy families during Thanksgiving and Christmas.*

Congratulations Past Master Harley on this recognition from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

In 2016, East Gate Lodge #98 wanted to increase its involvement in the community but couldn't figure out an effective way to assist. As fate would have it, Peter "Uncle Pete" Harvey was also seeking assistance in the growth and production of the Sweet Holy Spirit Outreach Ministries (SHSOM). Working together, SHSOM and East were a perfect fit.

SHSOM is a non-profit organization directed by Uncle Pete and dedicated to providing meals and essential services for battered women, children and the homeless in the Chicagoland area. Created in 1993 in a kitchen space at Sweet Holy Spirit Church, SHSOM is solely funded with donations and personal, volunteer time. SHSOM was founded with a vision to deliver one meal at a time to the targeted individuals in need. Twice monthly, Uncle Pete and his volunteers gas up their cars and travel throughout the city to deliver packaged meals, toiletries, cloths and blankets to the various shelters and makeshift homeless communities.

Uncle Pete actually began his culinary dreams in 1994 after graduating from the Cooking Hospitality Institute of Chicago (CHIC). After graduation, he began a career with the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) as a lunchroom attendant. He advanced to the positions of Food Service Director and later became a Culinary instructor for the After School Matters (ASM) program. ASM is a program that is aligned with CPS to develop cultural activities for Chicago area youth and provide opportunities to gain knowledge in potential career paths. Uncle Pete retired from CPS in 2015 which is when he decided to commit 100% of his time and focus to grow SHSOM.

Uncle Pete allowed East Gate Lodge #98 to join SHSOM in its endeavors. East Gate has assisted with donations, preparation and deliveries. For the last four years, East Gate Lodge #98 has witnessed the epitome of dedication and charity from Uncle Pete that measures next to none. It is for this very reason that Uncle Pete is a Citizen You Should Know.

## Uncle Pete Harvey



is a  
**Citizen  
You Should  
Know**

*Submitted by  
East Gate Lodge #98*

***Sweet Holy Spirit  
Outreach Ministries  
8621 S. South Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois 60617***



**Sweet Holy Spirit Church—Chicago**

# BLACK LIVES

Like life, the sport of Track and Field is an individual and team sport. Individual races require sprinters, middle distance and long distance runners to put forth their best efforts to win the races in which they have registered. Jumpers seek to beat their previous lengths in the long jump and triple jump events. Throwers seek to toss shotputs and throw hammers, discus and javelins farther than previously thrown. Individual victories count as points for the athlete as well as points towards the team as a whole. In this sport, no athlete on a team is lifted without also lifting up his team.

The relays are typically the last races for runners. The 4x100 Meter Relays typically places the best teams of four sprinters in competition. With the careful pass of a baton between sprinters every 100 meters across the span of a 400 meter track, this event certainly makes for an exciting race. The sprinters may not be the four fastest on the team but most likely are the four sprinters who work best together during the times of transition when the pass of the baton is required. Woe to him who drops the baton or passes the baton outside of the specified range. For by either infraction, a team may lose by disqualification. It is with great care that the exchange is performed to ensure that the team will finish the race.

There are additional pressures in the 4x100 Meter Relay event. All runners must run in their lanes. The timing of the baton exchanges must be close to perfect to ensure zone compliance. In addition, the runners in each leg of the race must focus on running faster than his counterpart. Timing is critical also because the exchanges are blind. The first runner starts with the

baton. The second runner leaves his specific mark at a specific cue in order to equalize the speed of the incoming first runner for a smooth exchange. At the perfect time, the second runner simply stretches back his arms

with an open hand while building up speed with the expectation that the first runner will perfectly place the baton. It is critical to note that the second runner is building up to full speed and cannot turn around for an open exchange. Otherwise critical time is lost. Precision is key.

Upon a precise transition, the second runner must do the same for the third runner and, subsequently, the third runner to the fourth. With the baton in the hand of

the fourth runner, who is usually the fastest of the quartet, the runner can finish the race for the team. However, if dropped, the race is over. If bobbled anywhere between the four legs, there is a delay in time. Although perfection has not been attained by any man, virtual perfection must be in place during this relay or the race will not be won.

Many 4x100 Meter Relay teams have experienced short term success. Some Track and Field events host a 4x200 Meter Relay where exchanges on the batons are made blindly along the curves of a 400 Meter track. The total length traveled by the team comes to 800 Meters. The 4x400 Meter Relay, or the Mile Relay, is the only one of the relays where open exchanges are typically used. The total traveled by the team during the race equates to one mile. In this event, one can see the predecessor coming, can turn around to receive the baton, and can turn forward to drive through the curve to the straightway. After traversing through the second curve, 300 Meters will have been surpassed leaving a spring to the relay members of 100 Meters to carry the team onward. The final runner, like the prior relays, is typically the fastest and it becomes his duty to bring the baton across the finish line to conclude the race.

The Mile Relay is like no other race. It requires stamina, strength and strategy. An attempt at a full sprint by one runner could cause him to falter at the end and lose time. One must know when to move to beat his opponent at all times. So, this race is not like checkers. It is more akin to chess. Moves are made to ensure optimal performance at key points. By that same token, the Black Lives Matter Movement is a leg in life's Mile Relay for black folks.

The first legs of the race was engaged after during the era of the Civil War and its immediate aftermath. The Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863 in seen as the start to the effort by many. Straight out of the blocks, the intent of the issuance of a declaration of freedom in the Southern states was a great start. Although it is considered as a brilliant war tactic to impact the war machine of the enemy, it did set the stage for things that followed as it related to the laws of the land. These are shown through the updates to the United States Constitution.

The 13th Amendment banned Slavery and all involuntary servitude with the exception of criminal punishment. As this became a law of the land in 1865, it provided a legal basis for enforcement by authorities.



# MATTER



The 14th Amendment of 1868 defined a citizen as any person born in or naturalized in the United States. As such, the previously enslaved were qualified as full citizens under the law. This update effectively overturned the Dred Scott V. Sandford (1857) Supreme Court ruling stating that Black people were not eligible for citizenship.

The 15th Amendment prohibited governments from denying U.S. citizens the right to vote based on race, color, or past servitude. Passed in 1870, it provided legal means to protect voting rights but did not effectively shutdown the ability of municipalities to create new requirements to block blacks from voting. Poll taxes and literacy tests were implemented in some locales. Intimidation tactics were also implemented to physically prevent movement. Despite the challenges, the vigor to exercise constitutional rights by blacks of the period were not doused. It was from these efforts that several "First Blacks" were elected to congressional offices and empowered.

During the first leg of the Mile Relay there is an additional rule that the first runner must follow. He must stay in his lane throughout the entire first leg of the race. This runner must be quick out of the blocks and steady in his demeanor. He is running with the purpose of moving the team to the best possible position for forward movement. This was certainly accomplished by the first legs of the Mile Relay for Black Folks.



By 1872, several blacks had been elected to local and national political office as a result of the passage of the 15th Amendment. Hiram Revels became the first Black United States Senator representing Mississippi in 1870. John Jones became Illinois' first Black elected official also in 1870 when he won election as Cook County Commissioner. Benjamin Turner of Alabama; Josiah Walls of Florida; Joseph Rainey, R. Brown Elliott and Robert DeLarge of South Carolina and Jefferson Long of Georgia had joined Revels in the United States Congress as

Representatives by 1872 (pictured above). Several others followed suit across the country because election to office became a means to ensure the implementation of laws to secure rights for all.

While their achievements provided an avenue for legal support, the laws were not necessarily respected by those who were set to enforce them. Jim Crow laws were implemented locally during the late 19th and early 20th Centuries to circumvent the laws. Segregation was not illegal during this period which drove a great deal of issues. Unfair requirements for voting were implemented in order to prevent blacks from voting. These types of actions defined the environment in which the second legs of the Mile Relay for Black folks occurred.

The second leg of the race is a fighter's leg. For the first quarter of the leg, the runner must stay in his lane. Afterwards, he can fight his way to the inner-most lane to place himself in a better position to move ahead of others. This shift may require physical intervention to secure a place. If blocked, the fighter must break through the blockage so that he can excel. For black folks, the Jim Crow era was clearly one in which fights had to occur. Although the first-leggers did secure laws, the enforcement of the laws ranged from inconsistent enactment to non-existent enactment by law enforcement and adjudicators. Race played a major role in these choices as segregation was the calling card for the era. Hence, the rise of organizations and movements to ensure the rights of citizens under the law and in business were engaged by black leaders during the period.



The National Negro Business League (NNBL) is a great example of progressive thinking and the practical implementation of collaboration between individuals who understood the need for self-sufficiency. Organized in 1900 by Booker T. Washington in Boston, Massachusetts, the NNBL promoted the commercial and financial welfare

of black folks through multiple enterprises. Its primary focus was economic development to force equality.

By the time Washington died in 1915, the NNBL had a presence in 34 states including doctors, lawyers, farmers, craftsmen and other professionals and tradesmen with businesses. Through this collaboration, many businesses exchanged best-practices and worked together to build self-sustaining communities. "Black Wallstreet" in Tulsa, Oklahoma provides the perfect example.

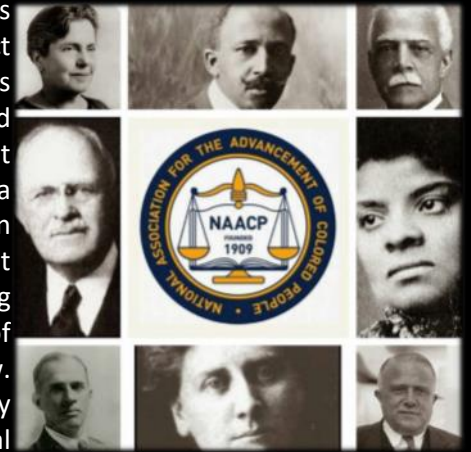
Admitted as the 46th State of the Union in 1907, Oklahoma had become a point of relocation for many blacks following the Civil War but also a state with high racial tensions. Townships were setup by many blacks before statehood and after it was achieved many towns obtained charters from the state. The City of Greenwood was organized as a township by O.W. Gurley who purchased forty acres of land for the town. Black settlers followed suit and the town grew.



Gurley setup the first business, a boarding house for blacks, in 1906. J.B. Stradford, a black lawyer and activist, erected a luxury hotel in the town shortly thereafter. With Greenwood later being adopted as a District of Tulsa, these early businesses drove traffic into the town contributing to its growth. Stradford also promoted the ideal of pooling resources to purchase more property and create more businesses. He promoted keeping dollars within the community to ensure that it would change hands internally several times before leaving the town. This is an ideal that was promoted heavily by the NNBL. In doing so, more businesses came to Tulsa helping to make Greenwood into a thriving business district.

By the time of the Tulsa Race Riots of 1921 that were perpetrated by a mob of racists, Tulsa was actually considered one of America's most thriving cities. Mob violence on May 31-June 1, 1921 based on a fraudulent assault claim sparked a riot which burned the majority of the Greenwood District. After the riot, some stayed and rebuilt while the vast majority migrated to other areas. Yet, the fact had been proven that pooled resources could build a self-sustaining community and thriving economy. This was the NNBL's primary point. Other towns had also transformed themselves similarly as a result. Examples like these drove more growth nationally.

Years prior to the Tulsa Massacre riots, another riot occurred in the City of Springfield, Illinois in 1908. Racial tensions in the city came to a boiling point when racist mobs scoured the city engaging in violence. The lynching of William Donegan, an Illinois Prince Hall Mason from Central Lodge #3 (Springfield), was broadcast by Ida B. Wells and other reporters across the country. This act outraged blacks across the nation and served as the catalyst that organized a larger organization whose focus was set squarely on securing the enforcement of rights under the law. Organized February 19, 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) focuses extensively on political, educational, social and economic equality for all persons and the elimination of race discrimination. By 1919, there were more than 90,000 members in 300 branches across the country and their presence was felt in multiple arenas:



- **Gunn vs. United States:** *The NAACP challenged the grandfather clause that was passed as an amendment to the Oklahoma Constitution in 1910. The law sought to prevent blacks who were illiterate from voting. The 1915 challenge by the NAACP overturned the law.*
- **1918 Anti-Lynching Bill:** *Anti-lynching campaigns drove the presentation of the 1918 Anti-Lynching bill which called for the crime to be prosecuted as a federal offense. Though passage of the bill was halted, the efforts by the NAACP for it to be presented placed the organization on the map with greater prestige;*
- **Brown Vs. Board of Education:** *After establishing the NAACP Legal Defense Fund in the 1940s under Thurgood Marshall to combat the various ills that suppressed blacks, the NAACP moved aggressively to fight the battles that centered on discrimination and segregation. The NAACP argued for outlawing segregation in public schools. Its success overturned the 1896 ruling in Plessy Vs. Ferguson which rules that segregation was legal as long as blacks and whites had equal facilities.*

These efforts became the catalyst for additional activism and other organizations that could focus on the struggles of the era from different angles. With Sister Rosa Parks (pictured), NAACP Secretary, refusing to give up her seat after a long afternoon to a white patron, the final stage of the second leg of the Mile Relay had begun. Her stand by keeping her seat was the spark that caused others to raise up and serves as the point of exchange for the third leg of the Mile Relay for Black Folks.

The third leg of the Mile Relay is the leg that some consider to be the time when the weakest runner takes the baton. This is a general perception based on the fact that there is no lane restriction whatsoever in this race. A runner may run in any of the available lanes. While there isn't a need to directly fight for space, there is a need to fight to maintain it and to place the final runner in a position to run home. This runner is highly analytical and must gauge the best course to meet that end. Often times, this is the leg in which the relay is lost or won.

Third-leggers are typically long striders who can eat up a great deal of ground while maintaining the status of the team. They require endurance, speed and great wisdom in determining when to stride to store up energy and when to burst to gain speed. The end goal is for this runner to end in a full spring to propel the final leg into victory like Rosa Parks did. Her true contribution is seen through many lenses but it was actually the final sprint that transitioned the baton to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others. No seat by this Queen actually means no stand by Dr. King.



Without the influence of Parks and King, the racial climate would have most likely reverted to the Jim Crow era of prior years. At the time that King received the baton, the prior legs had set a grand stage for elevation. The first-leggers created that legal basis for the establishment of black communities and a means to protect them. The second-leggers expanded upon the ground that was laid by the first-leggers. Dr. King was a product of second-legger success.

The community that sprang Dr. King was manicured and maintained by Most Worshipful Brother John Wesley Dobbs, Grand Master of Georgia Prince Hall Masons; M.L. King Sr., father of Dr. King; Maynard Jackson Sr., son-in-law of Dobbs and a host of others who fought for ground during the first quarter of the second leg of the race and watered that ground for the next generation. Dr. King was the product of gifted orators and seasoned leaders who knew how to drive and implement change. The youth were educated and given leadership opportunities at early ages. This provides sufficient evidence to affirm that their labors did not go for naught. Dr. King was clearly educated and adept to seize upon the opportunity provided by Parks. The results of his efforts and those of his Southern Christian Leadership Conference and other related organizations implemented changes that impacted the world.



A focus on a broader coalition to impact changes needed in America shaped the methods utilized by Dr. King to achieve the chance he had in mind. Following the example of the NAACP, he sought counsel from multiple channels the world was not a single channel space. It was the focus on non-violence that drew many of other races into the fold.

This focus and the willingness to stand against violence with non-violent protest drew attention from the world and garnered respect from some of the most unlikely citizens across the globe. His selfless acts were all done on behalf of others. In each speech that was given he ensured that the audience understood that personal gratification was not the key. The focus was always on the people which is the most likely the reason for his selection as the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize recipient. In his speech to the audience he noted:

*"After contemplation, I conclude that this award which I receive on behalf of that movement is a profound recognition that nonviolence is the answer to the crucial political and moral question of our time – the need for man to overcome oppression and violence without resorting to violence and oppression. Civilization and violence are antithetical concepts. Negroes of the United States, following the people of India, have demonstrated that nonviolence is not sterile passivity, but a powerful moral force which makes for social transformation. Sooner or later all the people of the world will have to discover a way to live together in peace, and thereby transform this pending cosmic elegy into a creative psalm of brotherhood. If this is to be achieved, man must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love."*

Promotion of the concept of love was not a weak approach. Defending the assertion non-violently was also not a weak approach. In retrospect, one can state that it was highly strategic. It was so strategic that the 1963 March of Washington, which to the average white citizen meant nothing at the time, slipped under the radar but had the impact of a bomb that spawned civil rights legislation. Following President John F. Kennedy's death by assassination in 1963 and King's continual, non-violent push for legislation produced the 1964 Civil Rights Act which addressed issues of racial discrimination. Signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson on July 2, 1964 with King and other civil rights leaders present, the Act created the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to ensure that the provisions of the Act are enforced.

While King's focus was on non-violent protest, the focus of the Nation of Islam was on another path. Often played against one another by the media, the threat of retaliation by the Nation also helped to quell the threats of physical violence against black people as a whole. Protection by any means necessary was in full effect during this era as well.

The Nation of Islam under the leadership of Elijah Muhammad was established in the 1930s. Muhammad, formerly Elijah Poole, converted to Islam after an encounter with Wallace Fard Muhammad in the City of Detroit, Michigan. The words of Wallace fell upon fertile ground with Elijah especially the ideal of black



nationalism and the ideal that African legacy was stolen through the Slave Trade. A migrant from the South during the Great Migration, Elijah knew full well of the atrocities of Jim Crow and flocked to the teachings of Wallace under the Allah Temple of Islam. Following the disappearance of Wallace in 1934 and after internal challenges, Elijah eventually assumed the mantle of leadership, migrated his family from Detroit to Chicago, Illinois, and renamed the organization to the Nation of Islam (NOI).

Under his leadership, the NOI extended its reach to major cities across the country. The efforts incorporated large holdings and self-reliant communities that created and distributed life's necessities. This concept drew many black nationalists into the fold including one of the most well-known black Muslims, namely Malcolm X.

Malcolm X, formerly Malcolm Little, adopted the faith after serving time in prison. A former hustler, he had an oratory gift and quick with that many feel were inspired by the Heavenly Father up above. A prolific speaker, his words received much notoriety and he was willing to back up the fiery rhetoric with actions where required. He was often placed in juxtaposition with Dr. King as it related to his methods for securing the fate of black people. Yet, the quintessential ideals of equality and respect for the black race remained at the pinnacle of both of their pillars of action. So, while Dr. King mobilized citizens to implement political change, Malcolm X mobilized the grass roots to physically ensure equality. Together, they helped to solidify the consciousness of black people and line up succeeding generations from greater things.

The final exchange of the baton in the Mile Relay for Black Folks at the "Securing the Rights" meet actually occurred during this era. This final exchange was the one that set in motion a series of events that would result in the first Black Man being elected President of the United States of America. To a great deal of black citizens, this achievement was always the prize as it would serve as that clarion call that all men are truly created equal. Surely, the election of a President of the United States of America would confirm this if the leader of the free world had skin of bronze and hair like lambs wool? This in fact was the belief of many which was put into motion years ago. Yet, it would not be until the current era, 143 years after the end of the Civil War, that prize was achieved.

The unmitigated gaul of a person of color seeking the highest office in the land was considered arrogance at the highest degree. Typically, something had to be physically done to quell the thought of a negro being the leader of a predominantly white society. The idea was actually introduced during the era of the first leg of the relay. It was molded during the second leg of the relay. Black intimidation was done away with during the third leg of the relay and at the passing of the baton on the fourth leg,



the runners were set to run for the prize as outlined in the timeline below:

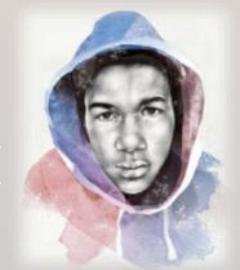
- **Hiram Revels (1870)** - First Black U.S. Senator
- **Frederick Douglas (1888)** - Received one nominal vote for President of the United States;
- **George Edwin Taylor (1904) of Central #3** - Received 65,000 scattering votes for President of the United States as a member of the National Negro Civil Liberty Party. The initial candidate, **William T. Scott (Lincoln #5)**, withdrew due to an arrest on trumped up charges;
- **Channing Phillips (1968)** - Received 67.5 delegate votes at the 1968 Democratic National Convention;
- **Shirley Chisholm (1972)** - Gained 152 delegate votes as a candidate for the Democratic Party;
- **Jesse Jackson Sr. (1984 & 1988) of Harmony #88** - Former King lieutenant who gained over 3 million primary votes in 1984 and over 7 million in 1988.

The efforts of the latter actual produced the individual who would achieve the goal in 2008. The Honorable Barack H. Obama was drawn to Chicago by the success of the Chicago mayoral campaign of Harold Washington in the 1980s. Washington's 1984 victory proved the viability of the black vote. Jackson's campaign was built upon this factor which drove him to seek the highest office in the land. 3 million primary votes received in 1984 and more than double of that amount in 1988 further proved that the prize could be achieved. This prospect drew Obama to Chicago, got him active in political and civic works and ultimately served as the catalyst to his rise as the first Black President of the United States of America in 2008. With this victory, the Mile Relay for Black Folks relative to political power was won.



It is important to re-state that the Mile Relay is typically the very last race of Track and Field meets. For Black Folks, it is evident that a series of meets are in progress particularly because issues continue to occur on multiple fronts. While Obama's victory can certainly be viewed as a trophy and as a win for the political meet, a new Track and Field Meet has now begun. It is focused on civics as it relates to the policies that were implemented during the political Track and Field Meet and their enforcement. The events in today's era now mark the start of this meet and the lead runner on the Mile Relay team is the #BLACKLIVESMATTER organization.

**#BLACKLIVESMATTER** was founded in 2013 in response to the acquittal of George Zimmerman, the murderer of Trayvon Martin. This organization is global and with a mission to eradicate





white supremacy and build local power to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the state and vigilantes. The efforts of the organization extended through the 2014 shooting of Mike Brown in Ferguson, Missouri; the death of Sandra Bland in a jail cell in Waller County, Texas in 2015; and subsequent deaths by the hands of authorities of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Aubrey, Tony McDade, George Floyd and others. The death of Floyd in Minnesota in 2020 resulted in protests not only within the State of Minnesota but also across the country and in various places across the globe. The ground upon which this new meet is being run is not just local but global which provides an indication of the power that the movement for black lives has.

As we look to the future, we must decide our roles in this current movement. Clearly, ALL lives matter. However, placing a focus on black lives is critical to the success of black communities. The success of Black Wallstreet in Tulsa is evidence of this fact as it was a self-sustaining community. Roles in the current movement should be focused on this type of outcome as a target of its efforts and a means to protect it for future generations. This will ensure that ALL lives will be treated with dignity and respect in the present and the future.



“Never let anyone—  
any person or  
any force—  
dampen, dim  
or diminish  
your light.”

—JOHN LEWIS



# Photo Blast from the Past



In January of 1966, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. made his way to the City of Chicago along with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) to embark upon the Chicago Freedom Movement. This effort marked the expansion of civil rights activities to the Northern states. As Chicago was considered one of the most segregated cities in America, it made it the perfect point to launch a campaign for equal rights. In this effort, King relocated to Chicago to be closer to the movement.

Operation Breadbasket was launched by the SCLC under the direction of Rev. Bro. Jesse Jackson. This project was designed to fight racist hiring practices by companies working in black communities. It had gained steam by the middle of 1966 as a result of the marches that put pressure on the impacted businesses. However, the efforts did not take place without its bumps and bruises. Riots by white demonstrators during the marches ensued in July. In August, Dr. King succumbed a barrage of bottles and rocks prompting him to state that “I have seen many demonstrations in the South but I have never seen anything so hostile and so hateful as I’ve seen here.”

Sister Esther Lamar Grier, Worthy Grand Matron of Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star (1966-1968) had the opportunity to share the stage with Dr. King at a rally prior to one of the marches. She represented the Order of the Eastern Star. Her representation provides evidence that the Grand Chapter was involved in progress.

**Photo and Research Submitted by  
William L. Norman and Daryl L. Andrews**

# Triple Nickles



## 555<sup>th</sup> Airborne

Submitted by Past Master Charles A. Cooper Sr., #128



*"As an Airborne Paratrooper, the history of the Triple Nickles is so important to me. People don't necessarily hear about them. It is important that we tell their story....it is up there with the Tuskegee Airmen."*

**Have Info or Want to Help?**

**Contact:**  
**Charles A. Cooper Sr.**  
**(773) 613-2719**



The 555th Test Platoon, later the 555th Battalion, of the 82nd Airborne Division was the first black paratroop unit. In the winter of 1943-44, in an army that often relegated blacks to menial jobs, a small group of American soldiers succeeded in becoming the nation's first all-black parachute infantry test platoon, company and battalion, the 555th Battalion of the 82nd Airborne -- the **Triple Nickles**. The high professional standards of the 555th, the men's skill in airborne operations, fearlessness in testing new concepts, and effectiveness in training other personnel mark them as pioneers whose achievement had an impact on society far beyond the army and paved the way for the modern military. Let us all salute the Triple Nickles!!!

Efforts are currently underway to provide more information on the impacts of the Triple Nickles. Since publishing the article by Past Master Charles Cooper in the Winter 2013 edition of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal, Cooper has been working to ensure that the legacy of the Triple Nickles does not become lost in the annals of history. Like the Tuskegee Airmen, the 555th made strides in the Armed Forces and implemented new techniques that were utilized to improve the capabilities of all Airborne Paratroopers. These historical facts cannot be forgotten and the current generation must also work to ensure that their legacy remains alive.



Cooper along with the surviving members of the 555th are pictured with Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker and Lt. Governor Julianna Stratton as a show of respect for the impacts of the Triple Nickles. Their success against the odds of the day provided evidence to the fact that black soldiers could meet or exceed the standards expected for all soldiers. In order to be successful, they endured mental tortures due to racism and surpassed the challenges by virtue of their integrity and ability to focus during turbulent times. It is these types of instances that Cooper and others are working to capture and bring to the light of the world.



**WANT TO HELP THE EFFORT???**



# Fathers & Sons in Masonry



Consider it joy when sons follow their fathers into the noble profession known as Prince Hall Freemasonry!!!

## SALUTE TO THE WORSHIPFUL BROTHERS JOHNSON

The December Meeting of Jachin Lodge #133 produced another Chapter in the father and son linkages of Prince Hall Freemasonry. Exactly 40 years after his father served as Worshipful Master of Jachin Lodge #133, Worshipful Brother Gibran Johnson was elected to serve as its Worshipful Master.

*"Allow me to re-introduce myself I am Bro G Johnson, Worshipful Master of Jachin Lodge #133. I have no words for what I experienced last night and I thank my lodge for electing me to this great position. I will be serving exactly 40yrs behind my father who was WM of Jachin Lodge in 1980. CONGRATULATIONS to all elected and appointed officers of the 2020 year."* - Gibran Johnson

Quote retrieved from Facebook post December 2020



## SALUTE TO THE DOUBLE BROTHERS CALHOUN - ILLINOIS & MISSISSIPPI

Worshipful Brother Christopher Calhoun Sr. has been a Prince Hall Mason in the Illinois Jurisdiction for more than twenty years since his days at Illinois State University (ISU). It was with extreme pride that he found out that his son, Christopher Calhoun Jr. made the leap to become a double brother with his dad.



While at ISU, the senior Calhoun had not only become a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated but also a member of Elijah S. Betts Lodge #23 of Bloomington. The efforts of both organizations clearly made an impression on the junior Calhoun. An academic wiz, he is a graduate of the Chicago High School for Agriculture Sciences and a scholar at Jackson State University (JSU). At JSU, this Physical Therapy Major with a 3.4 GPA became a member of Omega Psi Phi and, to the pleasant surprise



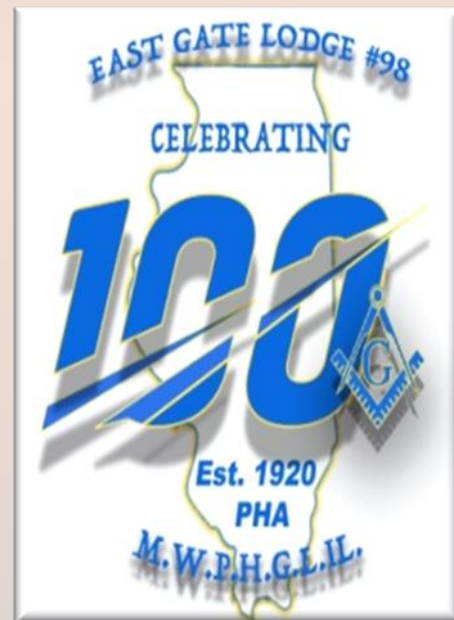
of many, he also became a Prince Hall Mason in the Mississippi Jurisdiction. He is a member of J.I. Martin Lodge #701 of the Most Worshipful Stringer Grand Lodge of

Mississippi (PHA). During this period of unrest in the country, he also took a stand when returning home to Chicago against the practices of racial injustice that remain pervasive in the African American community today. He stated at a march and PPE giveaway in Chicago on 87th and Jeffrey, "I felt the protest brought a lot of students from HBCUs together. There were also a lot of people for diverse backgrounds that joined the march. I was excited to be there and represent as a Black man." Calhoun Jr. actually coordinated this march along with members of the Upsilon Epsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi. Prince Hall Masons have always been at the forefront of social activism and efforts that have implemented change. Knowing this, it is no surprise that his son has followed his dad, the 2009 Mason of the Year, into the Masonic and Collegiate fraternal ranks. Congratulations!!!





Giving honor to the Great Almighty, this story is only made possible by our Lord and Savior as he continues to breathe air into our lungs, this cannot be understated. As a result of His mercy, on August 1, 2020, 15 Past Master’s of East Gate Lodge participated on a Zoom Conference Call. This call was particularly significant because it consisted of 15 consecutive Past Master’s of East Gate Lodge, serving the lodge beginning in 1998 through 2020. Uniquely as significant is the fact that 14 of those 15 Past Masters are members of our current 2020 Roster. With the only Past Master on the call not on the current roster being Past Master Patrick Parks, the 2003 Most Worshipful Prince Hall Mason of the Year. Past Master Parks has been focusing on his Bachelors Degree in Divinity which he received and effective September 1, 2020, he was elected to the most esteemed position of Senior Pastor of Second Baptist Church of Elgin.



Since our reemergence in the decade of the 90’s, East Gate is well known for our togetherness and comradery. The August 1, 2020, Zoom call is a testimony of this comradery as the 15 Past Master’s on the call were spread out from Illinois to California. In response to the current pandemic which has had devastating affects on the world at large and more specifically our fraternal organization, East Gate began conducting monthly Zoom calls since March and has enacted a bi-weekly phone tree. A system by which we check on each member of the roster as well as our widow’s and orphans. From these calls we have been able to identify needs with our widows and have been able to address them promptly. We take pride in these achievements as it speaks to the very tenements of Free Masonry, relative to Brotherly love, relief and truth.

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone our celebration of being a subordinate lodge of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois for 100 years. We look forward 2021 and the promise that it will bring. Until then we will continue communicating, fellowshiping and serving the community under the banner of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand lodge of Illinois. - EG4L

# THE SHRINE



The Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of North and South America and Its Jurisdictions, Inc. has a long and colorful history. The order was established as an Imperial Council of Prince Hall Shriners on June 3, 1893, in Chicago, Illinois, by 13 Prince Hall Masons under the leadership of John George Jones (left). They met in the Apollo Hall on State Street where Palestine Temple was organized. On June 10, 1893, Jones and his associates organized the Imperial Grand Council of Prince Hall Shriners. Jones, who was an attorney, immediately went about organizing Prince Hall Shrine Temples in Los Angeles, California, Washington D.C., Jacksonville, Florida, Indianapolis, Indiana, Baltimore, Maryland, Kansas City and St. Louis, Missouri, New York City, New York, Cleveland, Ohio, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Providence, Rhode Island, Alexandria and Richmond, Virginia.



In 1895, a new faction of Shrinedom was organized by the hands of Milton F. Fields (right). A prominent Mason from St. Louis, Missouri, he also established Temples at various points across the country in the midst of the scandals in which Jones was involved. Jones had established a bogus Supreme Council for Scottish Rite Masons (Southern & Western Jurisdiction) after losing the 1895 election for the Office of Sovereign Grand Commander of the United Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction. Jones' efforts to establish consistories in the same regions caused much unrest across the country. The rightful leader of the Southern Jurisdiction, Thornton A. Jackson, expelled Jones as a result. Like Jones, Fields held leadership positions in regular Scottish Rite bodies but also ran into conflicts within the Scottish Rite. Fields eventually established a bogus Supreme Council (Northern & Western Jurisdiction) after falling from grace as a Deputy of the Orient of Missouri. Despite



the cloudy nature of both men, the Jones and Fields factions of the Scottish Rite and the Shrine grew despite the challenges.

The spread of both factions produced multiple conflicts within the Order of the Mystic Shrine. Although conventions for both factions were held, many Temples found themselves under extreme circumstances as it related to their fealty. By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, both Jones and Field were considered infamous characters across the diaspora of Freemasonry and it eventually fell upon the existing Temples to come to some sort of resolution on their own. As such, in September of 1899, Isaac L.W. Holland, the Illustrious Potentate of Pyramid Temple in Philadelphia, sent out a call to members of Prince Hall Shrine Temples within the nation to meet with him to determine a clear resolution which was to reorganize the Imperial Grand Council. The Wilkes Barre Weekly Times reported the declaration in an article titled "Mystic Shriners Split in Twain" on December 15, 1900 (right). The article has been transcribed as follows :

To the potentates and nobles of Ancient Arabic Order of Mystic Shrines of North and South America.

Greetings. We, the nobles of Pyramid Temple, desire to go into a legitimate convention for the purpose of establishing a pure supreme imperial temple for America, and to show cause why such an imperial supreme body should not exist. Grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of civil and religious liberty and humbly invoking His guidance we proclaim to the world:

**First**—We want to go into a pure convention to set apart and establish a new temple.

**Second**—We do not want to be under a suspended Mason as our leader.

**Third**—We want every Mason to be under a regular, legitimate grand lodge.

**Fourth**—We do not want any spurious Mason among this new imperial council.

**Fifth**—We want to adopt a new constitution that we are not ashamed of.

**Sixth**—We do not want any monarch over our imperial council.

**Seventh**—We want every noble that is a representative to have a full say in behalf of his temple at any annual session.

**Eighth**—We want every temple to know

what has become of the moneys that are paid into the imperial council.

**Ninth**—We want every temple to send a representative to the sitting of the new convention, for the election of a supreme imperial potentate and imperial officers to govern this new body.

**Tenth**—We propose that each state and territory shall be laid out in four districts and district deputy potentates be appointed and shall have exclusive jurisdiction over his district. We want to establish a supreme imperial temple on the basis that every temple will know where the money goes to and for them to have a say where it is to go.

#### Signed for the call.

Illustrious Isaac Holland, 33d Degree,

1911 Panama Street, Grand Potentate

Samuel J. Porter, Chief Rabban

M.T.J. Hicks, Assistant Rabban

Andrew Collins, Recorder

E.A. Turpin

Committee—Isaac Holland, 33d Degree,

chairman; Henry T. Hilyard, 32d

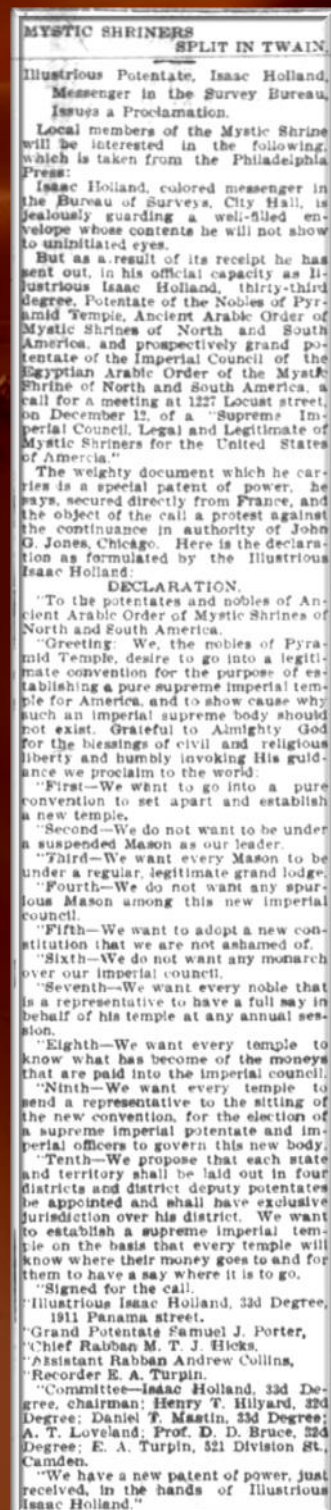
Degree; Daniel T. Mastin, 33d Degree;

A.T. Loveland; Prof. D.D. Bruce, 32d

Degree; E.A. Turpin, 521 Division St.,

Camden

We have received a new patent of power, just received, in the hands of Illustrious Holland.



As Pyramid Temple was under the Jones faction, the courageous call to pull away from tyranny resulted in the expulsion of Holland. However, as Jones was an expelled member of a legitimate body of the Scottish Rite and had lost Masonic privileges in the region, Holland could not respect Jones' course of

action. Based on this premise, the call of Holland was answered in Philadelphia on December 12, 1900 by officers and members from Temples in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Alexandria, Virginia. At this meeting, the Imperial Council of the Ancient **Egyptian** Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of North and South America and its Jurisdiction, Incorporated (AEAONMS) was organized.

The constitution for the AEAONMS was adopted at its first annual session on September 25, 1901, in Newark, New Jersey and later incorporated in the District of Columbia on November 13, 1901. Per the constitution, membership in the Order was limited to Freemasons who were members of Lodges that descended from African Lodge #459. Members would also need to be a Knight Templar in good-standing in a recognized Commandery or a Scottish Rite Mason in good-standing in a recognized Consistory of the Northern or Southern Prince Hall Jurisdiction.

At the turn of the 20th Century, three Shrine organizations were in existence. Although he had been expelled from Freemasonry by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois, Jones had not only started illegitimate Grand Lodges but also continued to lead his Shrine organization and other bodies that he organized until his death in 1914. Fields did the same, yet the persistence of AEAONMS and progress could not be thwarted by either faction. Yet, Shriners from another faction threatened the organization through legal channels.

In August 1914, a lawsuit sought by White Shriners against Prince Hall Shriners sought to wipe the AEAONMS off of the map. It attempted to deprive Prince Hall Shriners from using the name, designation, letters, emblems and regalia as Nobles of the Mystic Shrine and to only be recognized as Shriners. It also extended those implications to all appending Prince Hall Masons established in the United States. Rulings in support of this were upheld by lower Courts in Georgia, Texas and Arkansas. However, after a fifteen year battle, the **United States Supreme Court overturned those rulings** in a historic decision on June 3, 1929. AEAONMS was represented by Harold S. Davis (Boston), **James E. White (Chicago)**, **Samuel A.T. Watkins (Chicago)** and Moorfield Story (Boston). This victory became a shield which protected the AEAONMS from all legal challenges relating to usage of the emblems and recognition as Shriners. The addition of Egyptian in the name clearly distinguished Prince Hall Shriners from all others. Now, each year on the closest Sunday to June 3rd, Prince Hall Shrine Temples all across the world celebrate this victory as Jubilee Day.

Today, the Worldwide Fraternal Shrine Family has a membership in the tens of thousands situated throughout the Continental United States, Canada, Germany, Italy, England, Spain, Hawaii, Japan, Korea, Guam, Thailand, Panama, and the Bahamas. In the Desert of Illinois, multiple Shrine Temples are located in each hemisphere of the State of Illinois. AEAONMS is primarily a benevolent, charitable and fraternal organization. Its membership is dedicated to the principle of fostering civic, economic and educational development programs throughout the world.



**Noble William D. Baldwin Sr.**  
**Imperial Deputy**  
**Desert of Illinois**



**Arabic Temple #44**  
*Chicago, Illinois*

**Kamar Temple #56**  
*Springfield, Illinois*

**Sudan Temple #93**  
*Champaign, Illinois*

**Aahmes Temple #132**  
*East St. Louis, Illinois*

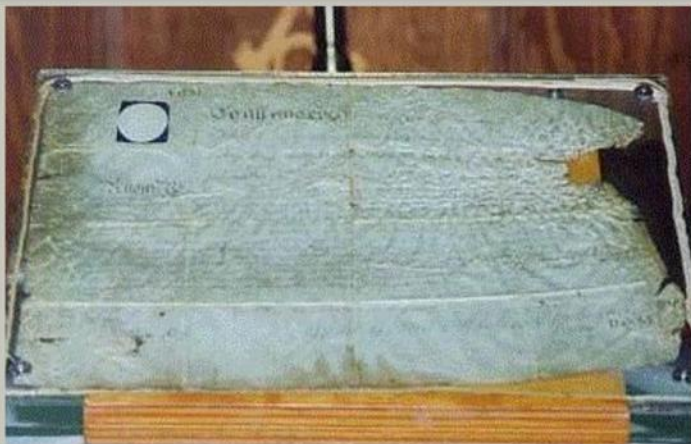
**Shawall Temple #165**  
*Waukegan, Illinois*

**Masqat Temple #167**  
*Rock Island, Illinois*

**Al-Hamid Temple #222**  
*Joliet, Illinois*

# The Charter

*By Worshipful Brother Lloyd Womack, Grand Historian*



Have you ever given it a thought regarding the importance of “The Charter” and its importance to a Lodge?

Did you ever give it a second thought that this document is required to make the meetings of a Lodge regular?

Well my Brethren, as the Grand Historian, let me give you the history of “The Charter” and its importance.

The ritual defines a Lodge to be “an assemblage of Masons, duly congregated, having the Holy Bible, Square, and Compasses, and a “Charter” or warrant of constitution authorizing them to work”. In general assembly of Master Masons, a Lodge can never be open for labor unless, “The Charter” is present and in full view for every Brother Mason to see which is their right. The Charter is an official document that contains the history of the Lodge to include when and where it was organized, its purpose, and the names of the original elected Lodge Officers. At the outset, most Subordinate Lodges petitions the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons for the State of Illinois to constitute them into a Just and Regular Lodge. The Charter given under the seal of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge identify the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Master by name and title to include the name and titles of his Grand Lodge Officers and the signature of the Grand Secretary to attest the issuance of this document. The Charter is granted and given to the Lodge Worshipful Master empowering him to organize a Lodge and confer degrees.

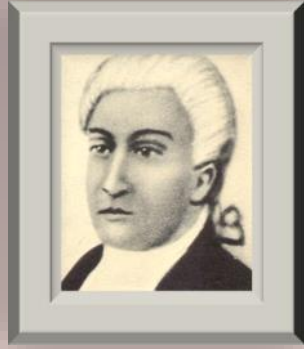
“The Charter” in most instances is contained within a tube for safekeeping. Very few Worshipful Masters take the time too examine the Charter and its contents, maybe out of fear of destroying the Charter because it is old and fragile. However, I was not amongst that rank. When I was Worshipful Master of Alpha and Omega Lodge No. 121, I, made the time to





examine the Charter and I was amazed at the history recorded. In addition, yes, I was very careful in placing the Charter back into the tube.

Prince Hall was the first African American initiated a Mason on March 6, 1775 in Lodge No. 441 of the Irish Registry attach to the 38th British Foot Infantry at Castle William Island in Boston Harbor, Massachusetts.



About a year later since the conflict between England and America had commenced, the British Foot Infantry left Boston, along with its Lodge, leaving Prince Hall and his associates without a Lodge. Prince Hall was given a “permit” to meet as a lodge and bury their dead in manner and form. This “permit”, however, did not allow them to do any “Masonic Work” or to take in any new members.

On July 3, 1776, African Lodge was organized with Prince Hall as the Worshipful Master. On March 2, 1784, African Lodge No. 1 petition the Grand Lodge of England, the Premier or Mother Lodge of the World, for a warrant or Charter to organize a Regular Masonic Lodge with all the rights and privileges there unto prescribed.

On September 28, 1784, the Grand Lodge of England issued a Charter to Prince Hall and African Lodge No. 459 the first Lodge of African Americans in America. Prince Hall and his associates formally began work as a Regular Masonic Lodge on May 6, 1787 with all the rights and privileges of any Masonic Lodge in the World. Since African Lodge No. 459 was the only Lodge in America to receive her Charter directly from England, a close relationship was developed between Prince Hall and the Grand Lodge of England.

In 1791, Prince Hall was appointed a Provincial Grand Master by the Grand Lodge of England

and African Lodge No. 459 became a “Mother Lodge”. A Provincial Grand Master is an officer known only to the English Constitutions. The modern Constitutions of England invest him with the powers in his own province very similar to those of the Grand Master.

Every even year, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts located in Boston, Massachusetts host the Re-opening Ceremonies of the symbolic African Lodge No. 459, a celebration of Prince Hall and African Lodge No. 459, the birthplace of Prince Hall Masonry where it all began.

The most recent celebration was on April 28, 2018, where eighteen year old Brother Devonte Matthews (Jachin Lodge No. 133) made history where he was raised in like manor to the Degree of Master Mason the same as Prince Hall, two hundred forty three years ago.

On display at the Re-Opening Dedication Ceremonies and under tight security is “The Charter” made available for the member Brothers of the symbolic African Lodge No. 459 to view. The two hundred thirty five year old Charter is enclosed in an air tight glass frame and is housed in a Bank vault in Boston, Massachusetts. The Charter is only brought out for special events only and is transported to its destination under tight security and return to the Bank vault escorted by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts Security Team and the city of Boston Police Department.

Now you have the history of “The Charter” and the importance of “The Charter” to your Lodge. Guard it well.

#### **Source Disclaimer:**

*The source of the dates on initiation of Prince Hall and his appointment as Provincial Grand Master by the Grand Lodge of England source from the account adopted by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts which is considered the Mother Grand Lodge of Prince Hall Freemasonry.*

# PROTECTION

OF THE  
BRAND  
OF

In today's day and age, the aura of Freemasonry appears to be corrupted because the brand of Freemasonry has been diluted. It is common place to see men outside of locations of ill-repute adorning the square and compass emblem. It is also common to see brethren intoxicated in lounges wearing jackets with the names of their Lodges and affiliations for the world to see. The common misconception about the Masonic Order is that is a party-hardy, fraternity. This was not the concept of our predecessors. So why is it common place today?

Could it be that many Freemasons do not practice what they preach anymore? Is the brotherhood a sham? Do we "play" Freemasonry simply to get close to someone so that it doesn't take as much time to stab him in the back? If this is the case, then where did it all go wrong? Keep in mind that it is extremely difficult to attract high quality members if the aforementioned perception is pervasive across the public. It is also extremely difficult to keep high quality members if the aforementioned perception is a reality in Lodges and Chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star. Why would a quality husband even consider bringing a quality wife into something like that if he

cannot trust his brother in his own home?

**While the perception may not be reality,** it does draw some serious consideration on the state of Freemasonry. Is Freemasonry a relic of the past that has been demoted? If the public does believe this, then what do they feel when they see a Square and Compass? What do they feel when they see our brand?

I am sorry to say that some in the public do feel this way. I can confidently state this viewpoint because I have received this commentary directly. It is this negative view of the Masonic brand that has now become an awesome challenge for men of the Masonic ranks to overcome in this day and age.

The perception of the brand is of the utmost importance. Brand recognition and

perceptions of the brand will determine the future of Freemasonry. It will determine if the Order will be seen as a shining light that is gaining in brightness or a falling star fading in the light of the day. As such, we must work to erase the negative stigma attached to the brand and protect it if we wish to draw men of high quality into our ranks.

Having surpassed twenty years in the Masonic Order, my mind often wanders back to my beginning. Like some, I was a cynic. I believed that Freemasons were devil



# FREEMASONRY



worshippers who drove the cycles of the world to the beat of one drum for an ulterior motive. I had friends who were in Prince Hall and non-Prince Hall Affiliated Lodges. I knew that I could hang out with them to have a good time but always felt that they were being misled. I felt that a higher power was using them like puppets and that they were simply pawns in someone else's game. After an auto accident in November of 1995, I began to open my mind to new possibilities. I shifted residences from Illinois to Florida months later in 1996 for an Information Technology Consulting opportunity. It was in Florida that my mindset of the Masonic Order was changed.

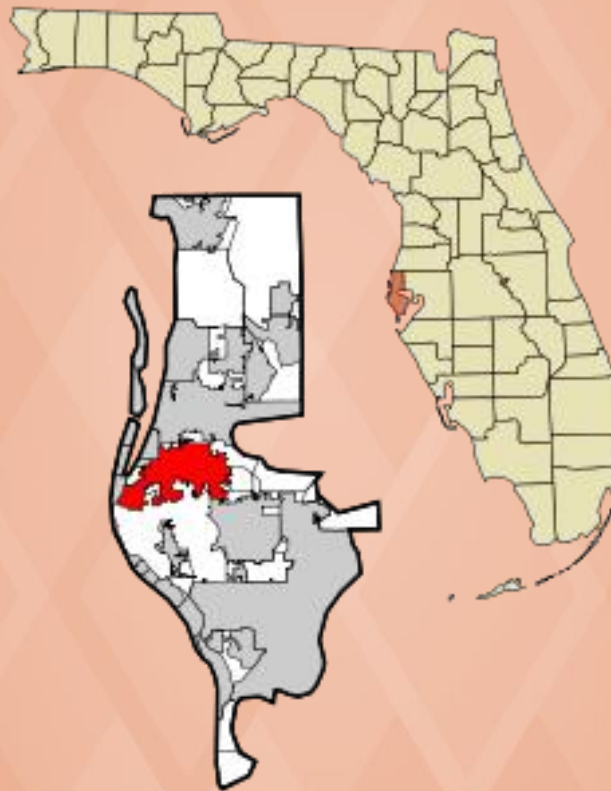
Largo, Florida is situated in between Clearwater and St. Petersburg and it was in this city that I made a brief hiatus. Rooming with my cousin, I encountered a number of different African American men who seemed to carry themselves a bit differently than the average fellow. After playing cards, talking a little trash and enjoying the time, the conversation of fun always tended to shift to history and religion. I enjoyed the shift because I used to read esoteric and history books for fun. A turn from the Divine Comedy of Dante to the African influence in

society sparked my interests and, to my surprise, some of these fellows were Masons. Challenges relative to being controlled by higher, Illuminati-type powers were successfully rebuffed by the gentlemen. In fact, stories of triumph and community control were presented in response. With no clue on the relevance of affiliation, I set my mind to join the Masonic Order when I returned home to Chicago.

My nostrils met the brisk, cold air of the Windy City again in the fall of 1996. With a new consulting opportunity in place, I was positioned to make some moves within the agency and within the company that I was assigned. I starting attending my old church for services and became more active in multiple areas. Once squared

away financially, I set my sites on achieving the full goal of becoming a Mason.

My initial line of site into the Order was through the lenses of a bogus Masonic body. I was introduced to a knowledgeable man by one of my old pals who attended my church. We were about the same age and I found him to be very persuasive because of his diligence and ability to answer every question that I presented completely. I accepted an invitation to attend an affair at their temple but the



scenario took my mind back to the party atmosphere that I didn't necessarily want to be around. Yet, in the days following, we continued to converse. We'd make trips to various places and I began to notice that everyone with a Masonic emblem on their cars honked their horns and gave him some kind of hand signal. The number of horns that honked presented a positive picture of community involvement in this brotherhood. There appeared to be a strong comradery in place. This prompted me to take the next steps.

The following Sunday, after having dinner with my parents, I started a conversation on the Masonic Order with my father. He left a bogus Masonic body a long time ago that was situated on 74th and Halsted in Chicago. He directed me to a Deacon at my church to ask additional questions. It was only through that subsequent conversation that I learned about the differences in affiliation. If I hadn't asked, I would not have known. He didn't know the full history but was **honest** about what he did know. He told me enough to make me take a step back from my initial petition to that Lodge affiliated with the St. James Grand Lodge and seek out more information on Prince Hall.

**Substantial information on Hall was not readily available.** I searched through Carter G. Woodson Library in Chicago and only found general information on the Masonic Order with nothing specific on African American Masons. In many of the general history books, Prince Hall was just listed as a black fraternal founding father and that was it. Yet, I persisted in researching him. Further conversations with the Deacon revealed the additional information that I was missing. He had actually done some research on his own and found information to give to me to review. He provided evidence that there was a long line of contention between the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois and other organizations in the state and tied several of those organizations to expelled Prince Hall Freemasons. His final words were to "be careful about the path that you choose".

So, I returned to the gentlemen from the St. James Grand Lodge and my church mate to get their takes on these findings. For the very first time, they did not confidently answer my questions. No clear answers were provided on the source of St. James. To them, John G. Jones was seen as a hero and it was fine for someone to leave one Grand Lodge and start another. Answers given for other questions were either too vague or lacked merit. Yet, because I had obtained the

missing information from the deacon's extra work, I grew in knowledge and persisted in my research.

In February of 1997, I had shifted from consulting to a full time role at one of Chicago's largest commercial insurance agencies. During lunch hours, I would often go to the African American Bookstore located nearby at DePaul University. I saw the spine of a book which had the picture of an African American man wearing a Masonic Collar. I purchased the book titled "Where Peachtree Meets Sweet Auburn: A Saga of Race and Family" by Gary M. Pomerantz. It was this book that drove me to join a legitimate Lodge of Freemasonry.

The name John Wesley Dobbs (pictured) of Atlanta, Georgia never stood out in any history book. He was not listed among the common list of African American heroes. While I knew that Maynard Jackson was the first African American Mayor of the City of Atlanta, I did not know how his community was structured to advance him to that point of political leadership. I did not know that this was the same community from which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others were sourced. While the fellows in Florida told me of a few instances that were similar, I had just found a **documented example** of what they were referring to. I found practical evidence of the Masonic Brand. It was from this evidence that I decided to petition the Lodge to which my church Deacon belonged—**Cornerstone Lodge #91**.



The parts of the book that resounded most with me centered on the relationships that existed between the Dobbs family, Georgia Prince Hall Masons and the community at large. They secured the community during times of civic strife. Their support of and participation in the civic process improved the state of their community and provided a foundation upon which its citizen could build. For example, the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) were located in the Grand East of Georgia. They provided relief to the community during times of struggle and need. I also discovered that Maynard Jackson was actually the grandson of Dobbs. These examples provided that **positive view of the BRAND OF FREEMASONRY** that drew me into the fold.

Is this the perception that is pervasive today? Do Prince Hall Masons play a role in molding communities today? Clear and concise answers to these questions can be a clarion call that will draw high quality candidates and affirm that the Order is an asset to communities. If not seen in that manner, expeditious

action must be taken to prevent Brand distortion.

An incident that still haunts the brand of Freemasonry today is the inability to successfully check John G. Jones, the father of Clandestine Freemasonry. Many believe that it is common to startup Grand Lodges at will. Many ponder what drove these “good” men to be expelled in the first place? Others look at the actions of legitimate and bogus Masons and compare them to the principles that they believe are associated with the organization. **Public intoxication** and lewd behavior do not bode well for the perception of decency. **Inter-marital affairs** do not promote the ideal of brotherly love in its intended sense. Hypocrisy and truth do not mix. If these are common assertions then why would persons of high quality want to be a part of that brand?

Good “Masonic Branding” should outline a clear vision and mission; outline benefits of membership; show evidence of enforcement and show a documented history of service. They should be expressed through strong communications engines for private and public absorption. Positivity on display at all levels is constructive. Anything less is detrimental.

It is naïve to think that brands do not experience challenges. During those periods, integrity is required to resolve them. When an issue occurs with an automobile, manufacturers typically identify the root cause, implement protocols to decrease the possibility of its recurrence and execute a recall to correct the issue for its existing customers. This show of integrity builds trust in that brand and helps to increase the likelihood of return customers and new buyers.

Two challenges to the brand of Prince Hall Freemasonry is Bogus Freemasonry and a lack of internal integrity for many Masons. To pretend that Bogus organizations do not exist shows cowardice and a lack of integrity. The general public is not aware of distinctions between legitimate and bogus bodies. They both wear the Square and Compass. If distinctions are not publicly made, the brand will continue to be diluted.

Some men in bogus organizations know that their lineages tie to illegitimate sources while others do not. In many cases, details have not been shared. Private forums may be more suitable for dialog to avoid public confrontation. Resolutions can be introduced humbly with respect. Humility is key. For example, a man who belonged to St. Titus Grand Lodge entered the Grand East

wearing an earring. **It took months of conversations from several Masons to even get that young man to the door.**

The very first officer to whom he was introduced **immediately insulted him about his earring and affiliation.** **Distraught,** he left immediately and was not heard from again. Arrogance or the lack of internal integrity destroyed that opportunity **NOT ONLY** for him **BUT ALSO forty** others for whom he was probing.

Forums opened to the public can be utilized to show that Prince Hall Freemasonry is not derelict in its duty to society. One would be hard-pressed not to find a Prince Hall Mason involved on any current or historic topic surrounding African American History. Daniel Chappie James Jr. (pictured), the nation’s first Black four-star General, was an Illinois Prince Hall Mason and member of P.G. Porter Lodge #142. There are several other examples that could be discussed and inspire others to join. In newspapers of old, articles on Freemasonry were pervasive. Today, a presence on the internet has become a must. The vision, mission and practical examples of their satisfaction are on display to a global audience. Showcasing them will provide evidence of integrity. For potential members, questions relative to their ability to align with the tenets of brotherly love, relief and truth should have high priority. For if an individual does not respect his fellow man despite their differences, would he be able to express brotherly love? If one does not care for the well-being of his family, can he be trusted to provide relief for his brother where his cable tow does permit? If one cannot stay true to his own code of conduct, can he be expected to be ethical? To protect the brand from internal degradation, black ball enforcement must be highly considered.

All in all, the Masonic logo, the Square and Compass, has endured the test of time. However, if the actions behind the logo do not remain consistent with the vision and mission of the brand, the brand will lose its true meaning. The works of all Masons must be of such caliber that they ensure the integrity of our organization is protected. The Masonic logo was never meant to be akin with drunkards and fools but akin to kings. Therefore, protecting our brand through our labors, maintaining an ever watchful eye on our actions and promoting positive images of the Masonic Order are the manners in which we can secure our positive state for posterity. If not protected, then we doom our beloved order to an early demise.—***RW Bro. Daryl L. Andrews***



# THE DISTRIBUTION OF ACROSS THE HISTORY OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL

Over the past 153 years, there have been 46 brethren elected to serve the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois as Grand Master. At the formation of the Grand Lodge, there were

three primary districts which represented the Central, Southern and Northern sections of the state. The first three Grand Masters were elected accordingly. Over the years the district structure

## Third District (Central)



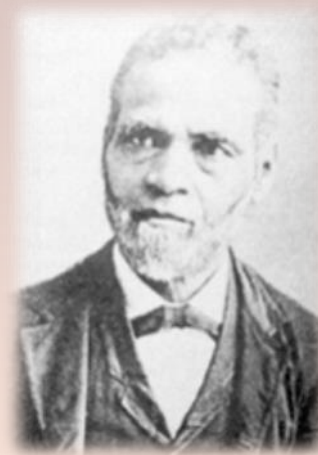
**Benjamin F. Rogers**

First Grand Master elected in 1867  
Central Lodge #3  
Springfield, Illinois

- 1867-69 Benjamin F. Rogers, Central #3
- 1873-77 Benjamin F. Rogers, Central #3
- 1880-82 James Hollinger, Decatur #17
- 1882-84 Austin Perry, Eureka #13
- 1894-95 William H.S. Seals, Mt. Olive #16
- 1906-12 George E. Jesse, Eureka #13
- 1924-44 John C. Ellis, Decatur #17
- 1953-55 Frances C. Rogan, Decatur #17
- 1981-83 Edward Sykes, Lone Star #18
- 1989-92 James Gayles, Henry Brown #22
- 1995-97 Clarence W. Trotter, Lone Star #18
- 2001-03 James E. Gavin, J.C. Ellis (Decatur) #17
- 2018- Aubrey K. Barlow, E.S. Betts #23

51 Years of Leadership from the 3<sup>rd</sup> District

## Fourth District (Southern)



**Isaac H. Kelly**

Second Grand Master elected in 1869  
G.T. Watson Lodge #2  
Alton, Illinois

- 1869-70 Isaac H. Kelly, G.T. Watson #2
- 1877-78 John J. Bird, Lincoln #5
- 1887-88 Henry L. Bartholomew, Eastern Star #27
- 1896-97 Rufus Mitchell, Silver Crown #26
- 1913-18 Alexander A. Martin, Ionic #46
- 1973-75 Rufus Starks, Southern Cross #112
- 1977-79 Edgar Falconer, St. Paul #42
- 1985-87 Melvin Frierson, Southern Cross #112

**153 Total Years of Leadership  
across 46 Most Worshipful  
Grand Masters**

15 Years of Leadership from the 4<sup>th</sup> District

# MASONIC LEADERSHIP

## PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS

shifted dramatically due to the onboarding and sunseting of Lodges. There are currently 4 districts in Illinois and the Lodges to which the Grand Masters of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall

Grand Lodge of Illinois belonged have be realigned to the current structure. This provides the basis for which the distribution of Masonic Leadership within the Illinois Jurisdiction is derived.

### First District (Northern)



**William L. Darrow**

Third Grand Master elected in 1870  
North Star Lodge #1  
Chicago, Illinois

### Second District (Northern)



**Henry E. Burris**

Fourteenth Grand Master elected in 1898  
King Solomon Lodge #20  
Rock Island, Illinois

- 1870-73 William L. Darrow, North Star #1
- 1878-80 James W. Taylor, Hiram #14
- 1884-87 Joseph W. Moore, North Star #1
- 1888-94 Thomas H. Smith, John Jones #7
- 1919-24 Thomas H. Samuels, Golden Gate #43
- 1944-45 Nelson T. Long, Celestial #80
- 1945-53 Ashby B. Carter, Mt. Hebron #29
- 1955-63 Obed E. Vanderburg, Fidelity #103
- 1963-65 Henry G. Fort, Harmony #88
- 1965-67 Oscar Stanton DePriest, Oriental #68
- 1967-68 Milton Pitts, North Star #1
- 1969-71 Vernon L. Barker, King David #100
- 1971-73 John H. Perkins, Wayfarers #128

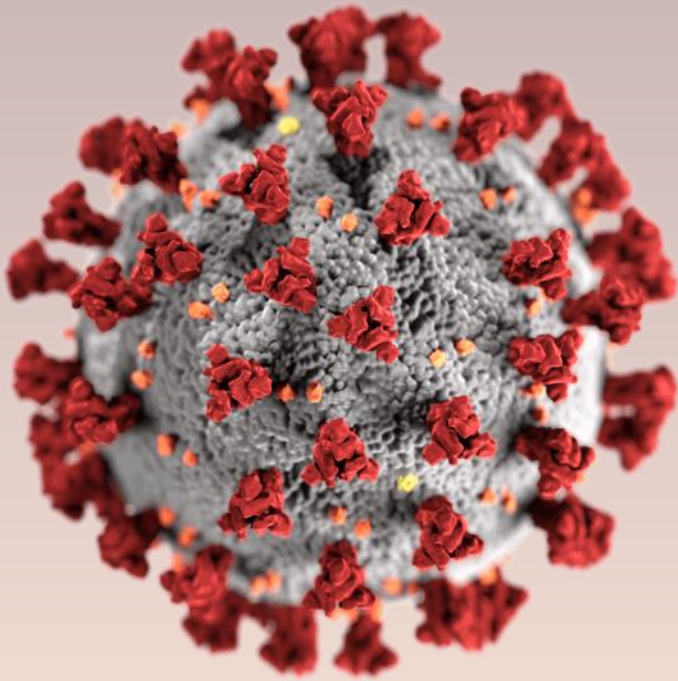
1898-1906 Henry E. Burris, King Solomon #20

- 1975-77 James H. Black Sr., Mt. Hebron #29
- 1979-81 Alto Clark, Oriental #68
- 1983-85 Levi L. Rose, Wisdom #102
- 1987-89 Archie C. Senter, Rufus Mitchell #107
- 1992-95 Henry Short, Alpha & Omega #121
- 1997-2001 Willie B. Evans Sr., Jachin #133
- 2003-06 Jerry Butler, North Star #1
- 2006-09 Angelo W. Jones, King David #100
- 2009-12 Otis W. Cromartie Sr., Wm. Scruggs #147
- 2012-15 Millard V. Driskell, Plumblin #116
- 2015-18 Dwayne A. Smith, Jachin #133

73 Years of Leadership from the 1<sup>st</sup> District

8 Years of Leadership from the 2<sup>nd</sup> District

# COVID-19 HITS



COVID-19 has effectively placed the United States of America on hold. The closure of businesses of multiple types in order to prevent the spread of the virus has stifled the nation. The implementation of statutes requiring citizens to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to minimize exposure to the virus has become the new norm along with the practice of Social Distancing. Limitations on the sizes of gatherings have forced many houses of faith and social organizations to change the manner in which they conduct activities. COVID-19 has definitely changed our way of life.

December 2019 was the month in which the World Health Organization (WHO) reported an issue of massive proportion. WHO China Country Office was informed of a cluster of pneumonia cases in the City of Wuhan in Hubei Province, China. WHO requested information to research the issue and announced, on January 4, 2020, that it would track the spread of this type of pneumonia across China and share details as they came forth. On January 5, 2020, WHO published its first Disease Outbreak News to the world.

The Disease Outbreak News reported a cluster of pneumonia from an unknown cause by the WHO China Country Office. As of January 3, 2020, 44 patients were infected with 11 of the patients in an

extremely ill state. In response, the following public health response measures were implemented:

- *One hundred and twenty-one close contacts have been identified and are under medical observation;*
- *The follow-up of close contacts is ongoing;*
- *Pathogen identification and the tracing of the cause are underway;*
- *Wuhan Municipal Health Commission carried out active case finding, and retrospective investigations have been completed;*
- *Environmental sanitation and further hygiene investigations are under way.*

With limited information available, a detailed risk assessment was not provided. However, the advice given by WHO based on the available information was that no restrictions be placed on travelers or trade to China and, for travelers who may show symptoms of respiratory illness, to seek medical attention immediately.

The question relative to the transmission of the virus between people remained a priority for WHO. Although the cause was unknown, the starting point appeared to be a Hunan Seafood market which caused speculation that the source was sanitation issues in the marketplace. However, on January 22, 2020, WHO issued a statement declaring that there was evidence of human-human transmission in Wuhan which drove an emergency meeting to understand the full extent of the virus and transmission. After further research, the Emergency Committee reconvened on January 30, 2020 and announced that the outbreak constituted a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) and declared it as the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV). WHO's situation reported also announced that 7,818 cases had been confirmed worldwide with the highest concentration of cases in China. WHO's risk assessment for China was rated "very-high" and rated "high" for the world.

Officially named "COVID-19" by WHO on February 11, 2020 at its Research and Innovation Forum, world experts convened in Geneva, Switzerland to review



# FREEMASONRY

presentations on the virus and its potential. All aspects of the outbreak were discussed as well as methods to control and track it.

WHO initiated a joint mission consisting of worldwide experts on February 16-24, 2020 to visit the source in Wuhan and perform an additional study on the origins of the virus. The result of the Wuhan visitation produced recommendations on February 24, 2020 for China, for countries with outbreaks of COVID-19, for uninfected countries, for the general public and for the international community. The primary focus of the recommendations focused on tracking, containment, knowledge transfer agreements and the prioritization of research.

## Recommendations for China:

1. *Maintain an appropriate level of emergency management protocols, depending on the assessed risk in each area and recognizing the real risk of new cases and clusters of COVID-19 as economic activity resumes, movement restrictions are lifted, and schools reopen;*
2. *Carefully monitor the phased lifting of the current restrictions on movement and public gatherings, beginning with the return of workers and migrant labor, followed by the eventual reopening of schools and lifting other measures;*
3. *Further strengthen the readiness of emergency management mechanisms, public health institutions (e.g. CDCs), medical facilities, and community engagement mechanisms to ensure sustained capacity to immediately launch containment activities in response to any resurgence in cases;*
4. *Prioritize research that rapidly informs response and risk management decisions, particularly household and health care facility studies, age-stratified seroepidemiologic surveys and rigorous investigation of the animal-human interface; establish a centralized research program to fast-track the most promising rapid diagnostics and serologic assays, the testing of potential antivirals and vaccine candidates, and Chinese engagement in selected multi-country trials;*
5. *As the country with the greatest knowledge on COVID-19, further enhance the systematic and real-time sharing of epidemiologic data, clinical results and experience to inform the global response.*

## For countries with imported cases/outbreaks of COVID-19:

1. *Immediately activate the highest level of national Response Management protocols to contain COVID-19 with non-pharmaceutical public health measures;*
2. *Prioritize active, exhaustive case finding and immediate testing and isolation, painstaking contact tracing and rigorous quarantine of close contacts;*
3. *Fully educate the general public on the seriousness of COVID-19 and their role in preventing its spread;*
4. *Immediately expand surveillance to detect COVID-19 transmission chains, by testing all patients with atypical pneumonias, conducting screening in some patients with upper respiratory illnesses and/or recent COVID-19 exposure, and adding testing for the COVID-19 virus to existing surveillance systems (e.g. systems for influenza-like-illness and SARI); and*
5. *Conduct multi-sector scenario planning and simulations for the deployment of even more stringent measures to interrupt transmission chains as needed (e.g. the suspension of large-scale gatherings and the closure of schools and workplaces).*

## For uninfected countries:

1. *Prepare to immediately activate the highest level of emergency response mechanisms to trigger the all-of-government and all-of society approach that is essential for early containment of a COVID-19 outbreak;*
2. *Rapidly test national preparedness plans in light of new knowledge on the effectiveness of non-pharmaceutical measures against COVID-19; incorporate rapid detection, largescale case isolation and respiratory support capacities, and rigorous contact tracing and management in national COVID-19 readiness and response plans and capacities;*
3. *Immediately enhance surveillance for COVID-19 as rapid detection is crucial to containing spread; consider testing all patients with atypical pneumonia for the COVID-19 virus, and adding testing for the virus to existing influenza surveillance systems;*
4. *Begin now to enforce rigorous application of infection prevention and control measures in all healthcare facilities, especially in emergency departments and outpatient clinics, as this is where COVID-19 will enter the health system; and*
5. *Rapidly assess the general population's understanding of COVID-19, adjust national health promotion materials and activities accordingly, and engage clinical champions to communicate with the media.*

**For the Public:**

1. *Recognize that COVID-19 is a new and concerning disease, but that outbreaks can be managed with the right response and that the vast majority of infected people will recover;*
2. *Begin now to adopt and rigorously practice the most important preventive measures for COVID-19 by frequent hand washing and always covering your mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing;*
3. *Continually update yourself on COVID-19 and its signs and symptoms (i.e. fever and dry cough), because the strategies and response activities will constantly improve as new information on this disease is accumulating every day; and*
4. *Be prepared to actively support a response to COVID-19 in a variety of ways, including the adoption of more stringent 'social distancing' practices and helping the high-risk elderly population.*

**For the International Community:**

1. *Recognize that true solidarity and collaboration is essential between nations to tackle the common threat that COVID-19 represents and operationalize this principle;*
2. *Rapidly share information as required under the International Health Regulations (IHR) including detailed information about imported cases to facilitate contact tracing and inform containment measures that span countries;*
3. *Recognize the rapidly changing risk profile of COVID-19 affected countries and continually monitor outbreak trends and control capacities to reassess any 'additional health measures' that significantly interfere with international travel and trade.*

Socialization of these recommendations were transmitted worldwide immediately after the mission in the weeks that followed. On March 11, 2020, COVID-19 was officially declared a pandemic.

The American response to the COVID-19 virus is considered somewhat dysfunctional as the tier of criticality did not appear to be properly assessed. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) was aware of the

virus in December of 2019 and did make a public alert about the coronavirus early on January 8, 2020. This announcement was made after Ohio announced the first coronavirus patient a day earlier. However, the outbreak was not declared a public health emergency by President Donald Trump until January 31, 2020. During the month of January, the Washington Post reported that over 300,000 people, potentially with exposure, had travelled from China to the United States. With confirmation that the virus could be transmitted between humans on January 20, 2020, a nearly two weeks passed before travel bans were implemented and the alert to the general American public was slightly raised. After President Trump continued to downplay the virus through February and mid-March, COVID-19 was not declared a national emergency until March 13, 2020.

Despite challenges at the national level, many states and territories of the United States of America had already taken matters into their own hands. American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands declared a state of emergency on January 29, 2020 and the State of Washington on February 29, 2020. Before the 13th of March, 37 other states including Illinois made the same declaration. By the end of March, the vast majority of states had implemented stay-at-home orders and gathering bans as methods to prevent the spread of the virus.

Although the spirit of the actions of the states and territories was done in the best interest of the safety of the public, it resulted in the closure of several businesses that were considered non-essential, school buildings as well as social and recreational venues. These efforts slowed the outbreak through executive order. The results, however, translated into massive job losses due to the inability of businesses to generate income and a decrease in the effectiveness of youth education and sports due to the closure of facilities and fields of play. Another by-product though was realized through technology. Operational models for education and businesses shifted from face-to-face models to technology that allowed for transactional communication without risk of the spread of the virus. After overcoming early challenges, the technology model has proven to be a

viable solution that will most likely remain in tact permanently.

Considering that the impact on the lives of all Americans have been impacted significantly, it is safe to say that good leaders have made the proper calls particularly where large gatherings are concerned. As of July 1, 2020, the CDC's "United States COVID-19 Cases and Deaths by State" reported 2,624,823 cases of COVID-19 and 127,299 deaths from the virus in the United States of America and its territories. Colleges and Universities across America have instituted remote learning for all classes. Corporate America has also implemented this strategy to keep essential businesses operational. The United Supreme Council Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Northern Jurisdiction was forced to cancel its annual session due to the state restrictions in Ohio. A "Zoom" session of executive staff and essential personnel was instituted to cover the bases. Similarly, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodges of Illinois, Georgia and other Grand Lodges have also followed suit in cancelling face-to-face sessions but allowing for electronic communications channels through which meetings could be conducted. These actions prove the integrity of the leaders of these organizations relative to their concerns for the best interests of their members and/or employees by not providing venues that could potentially expose them to the virus.

Service organizations have not only incorporated the electronic communications tactic but have also become providers of PPE and food items for individuals and families in need. The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois and its Appendant Bodies as well as Concordant Bodies like the Illinois Council of Deliberation, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry have provided over 30,000 PPE and food items since the State of Illinois declared a state of emergency on March 9, 2020. Regaled in PPE themselves, members have distributed resources as safely as possible in every quadrant of the state. Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons, has provided a means for all Lodges under the Illinois Jurisdiction to hold Zoom meetings to

conduct their business. Sister Zandra Prince, Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, has also provided avenues for the same for Eastern Star Chapters. These methods have helped to ensure that the business of brotherly love, relief and truth continues.

Movement within Freemasonry has not progressed without sustaining losses of brethren and sisters from across the Illinois Jurisdiction. While many shed sympathetic tears to the memories of those who have traveled onward to that bourne from which no traveler returns, let us throw over any imperfections that broad mantle of charity nor withhold from their memories the commendations that their virtues claim at our hands. Perfection on earth has never yet been attained. the wisest as well as the best of men have gone astray, suffer then, the apologies of human nature to plead for them who can no longer plead for themselves. Let their accomplishments drive those who remain to fix their eyes of the final scene and view life strips of its ornaments. Let the memories of them remind us that the work of God must be our priority. In the midst of this pandemic, the works of charity to fellow citizens of the world must continue and remain strong. For by the hands of Masons who remain true to the tenets of the organization, it shall.

Through the first six months of the calendar year of 2020, Prince Hall Freemasons in Illinois and beyond have answered the call to service. They fight. They push. They strive to provide assistance to the communities in need across the United States of America with great zeal. It would be a great underestimation to state that over one million PPE has been delivered by the American diaspora of Prince Hall Freemasons. In fact, this number holds true just for the State of Illinois alone. When combining the amount of PPE distributed along with food to families in need, it would be safe the state the millions have been served because Prince Hall Masons and Eastern Stars fight. They fight through personal risks to themselves to extend the mantle of charity to those who need it most. May God bless those who fight so that others may live.

*(Photos on Page 58)*



The 2019 Annual Session was considered one of the most efficient sessions in the history of the Grand Lodge. All Grand Lodge Officers retained their elected and appointed stations and places with Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey Barlow at the helm of the Grand Lodge. Several members and Lodges were saluted for their service over the course of the Masonic Year. Past Master James E. Lanier of Central Lodge #3 was selected the 2019 Mason of the Year (top-center), Eureka Grand Chapter saluted Sister Tyra Watson as Miss Eureka 2019 (top-



right) and Worshipful Brothers Curtis Blanden of Lone Star Lodge #18 (bottom-center) and Bretton Frierson of Southern Cross Lodge #112 (bottom-right) were selected Co-Worshipful Masters of the Year. Lodges of the Year were selected by District. King David Lodge #100, Watch City Lodge #131, Lone Star Lodge #18 and Dunbar Lodge #97 were selected. A Citizen of the Year (COY) for each Masonic District was selected due to the number of great works that have been performed throughout the course of the year. Mr. Andrew Holmes, prominent activist, was selected as the First District COY (right-top), Mrs. Carolyn Pitts was selected as the Second District COY, Mr. Andre Hursey was selected as the Third District COY (right-center) and Judge Milton Wharton was selected as the Fourth District COY (left). The works of these citizens are definitely worthy of emulation and they are to be saluted. Twenty-six (26) members received 25 year pins and seven (7) members received 50 year pins in recognition of their service to Prince Hall Freemasonry. They were:



**25 Year Pin Recipients**

- Charles Alexander, #128
- Karl Bass, #150
- Leroy R. Berry, #98
- Christopher Calhoun, #155
- James E. Collier, #30
- Clarke Criddell, #7
- Charles E. Curtis, #43
- Timothy R. Davis, #59

- Erwin M. Freeman, #17
- Timothy D. Gause, #147
- Lee E. Gillard, #99
- Herman E. Gray Jr., #112
- Greg L. Harts, #59
- Marcus Hazelwood, #150
- Ronnie L. Johnson, #139
- Jeffrey M. King, #99
- Sheldon T. Moore, #98

- Carl Richardson, #7
- Glenn D. Scott, #98
- Eli Smith, #52
- Aubrey L. Spears, #1
- James Rivers Thompson, #112
- Gregory Treadwell, #150
- Freddie J. Walker, #90
- Horace Watkins, #91
- Ken C. Wilson, #30

**50 Year Pin Recipients**

- William T. Briggs, #80
- Albert F. Gavilan, #30
- Thomas Simmons, #137
- Kenneth L. Smith, #137
- Bernard Teat, #128
- Bush D. Warner, #1
- Joe Watt, #100

New leaders were elected and installed for Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star and the Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court Heroines of Jericho. All sessions from the 2019 Unification Session concluded successfully.



On the 4th of July, Lone Star Lodge #18 in conjunction with Urbana Lodge #157 of the MWGL of Illinois (AF&AM) saluted the last living Tuskegee Airman Pilot, Colonel Charles McGee. The efforts the Tuskegee Airmen to desegregate the Armed Forces did all Americans proud as did the individual and collective efforts of the Airmen during World War Two. Three cheers for Colonel Charles McGee.



In memory of Mary Lane, Alexandria Lodge #148 and Royal Eagle Chapter #88, OES provided book bags and meals to the residents of Chicago's Englewood Community by the Chicago Transit Authority Station on 63rd and Ashland. Past Master Tommie Harris has solidified a foothold at this location for years to aid the community. Working together with his Lodge and Chapter, their impacts have been multiplied tremendously.



Monarch Lodge #99 continued its annual tradition in participating with the "Peace in the Park" initiative in Chicago's Nat King Cole Park. This annual event is held in honor of Officer Thomas Wortham who has fatally shot near the park in 2010. In its 10th year, more that 85 youth spent the night in the park with the primary aim of making youth feel safe in this public domain. They spent time with officers in addition to the brethren of Monarch Lodge who not only donated food and supplies but also camped out with the youth. The Lodge was awarded with a plaque of appreciation for its years of service. Congratulations!!!



Richard E Moore Lodge #109 provided food and support for the Children's Habilitation Center (CHC) during its picnic. The CHC provides critical care for infants and children with complex medical needs in the City of Harvey. Our highly trained staff has been recognized throughout the state of Illinois and includes Respiratory Therapists, Trach Wound Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs), Physical Therapists, Certified Occupational Therapist Assistants, a Registered Dietitian, and a Psychologist.



Members of the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family, under the direction of RW Bro. Roland G. Simon, DGM, came together to raise funds to fight Prostate Cancer for the RGS 5K in August. Over the course of the past three years, this event has raised over \$25,000 to fight this disease which impacts black men disproportionately compared to other races. Prayers for continued success in the event and the fight.



Prince Hall Americanism Day Celebrations occurred in each District of the Illinois Jurisdiction to celebrate the efforts of Prince Hall to help others realize the American Dream. It is often understated that the involvement of Hall and others in the American Revolutionary War was highly commendable. Hall supplied leather goods and fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775. After the War, Hall turned his home into a school for colored children and banned together with the Free African Society to help newly freed citizens to build a life for themselves.



Freemasonry served as a grand tool for resources and connections to citizens who sympathized with the efforts of Hall, Absalom Jones, Richard Allen and others to assist those who needed it most. These sentiments as it relates to Prince Hall were referenced in each District of the Illinois Jurisdiction on Prince Hall Americanism Day. The acts to provide resources to those in need are replayed by each Lodge in the Illinois Jurisdiction regularly. The collaboration with citizens of like-mind is the crux of the brotherhood of Freemasonry. Celebration of Prince Hall Americanism Day serves as a refresher of



these duties of Prince Hall Freemasons to all who fall under the banner of Prince Hall Freemasonry.

It is also important that the services for the celebrations occurred on consecrated ground. **No Freemason is an atheist** and history confirms that Prince Hall had become an ordained Methodist Minister. With this in mind, Americanism Day celebrations occurred at the Grand East in the First District. Second Baptist Church of LaGrange hosted the Second District Services. Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church of Peoria hosted the Third District services. Greater Faith Christian Center of Centreville hosted the Fourth District services. All celebrations occurred in perfect peace and harmony.

Elijah S. Betts Lodge #23 was happy to donate 20 backpacks with school supplies to Irving Elementary School of Bloomington. The backpacks were donated to grade schools students filled with supplies to not only encourage them as they made their ways back to school but also to ensure that they had all of the supplies that they needed to move forward. Supplies includes writing utensils as well as paper, notebooks and folders.



Several times a year members of King David Lodge #100 give back to the community by giving back to those who are in need. On September 30th members of King David #100 went to the Brian Piccolo school of excellence and donated school supplies to the students of Ms. Monique Smith and fourth-grade class. School supplies were given out to the students and few members spoke to them about the importance of staying in school and doing their best. The

school is named in honor of Brian Piccolo (1943-70), a professional football player for the Chicago Bears. He died from cancer at the age of 26 and is remembered as a courageous, loyal and dedicated team player.



Union Lodge # 155 participated in its annual Adopt-A-Highway Clean Up for 2019. The program is a volunteer campaign to keep a section of a highway free from litter. Union Lodge #155 is responsible for the litter removal on Lincoln Highway/Route 30 from Cicero Avenue to Crawford Avenue in Matteson, Illinois. The Lodge participated on September 13- 15, 2019 under the direction of WM. Bozeman, JW. Dixon, JD. Wilson, Bro. Thomas, PM. Revish and his son was in attendance.



The members of Eternal Light #156 participated in their annual charity event which involves providing and preparing food and beverages for the Chicago Autism Connection (CAC) "We Are Family Reunion Picnic" on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. The CAC is a not-for profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to increase autism awareness and improve the quality of life for children and adults with autism. Since 1997 the CAC has touched hundreds of families by providing tools to "shine the light" on the darkness of autism. With monthly parent meetings, the "Spring Fling for Autism Awareness" Resource Fair, a summer picnic and pool party, the fall "Night of Stars" Dinner Dance, and numerous other activities, the CAC strives to support families affected by this devastating neurological disorder and the professionals who work with them. Through its two divisions - the Chicago Southside Autism Support Group (CSASG) and the "A" Team Social and Recreational Club - CAC continues to work toward the fulfillment of its mission. As a partner, Eternal Light #156 enjoyed the fun filled day catered to the families and children with autism.



Junior Warden Kevin 'Tank' Johnson and Junior Deacon Marcus Robinson did an outstanding job of representing Southern Cross Lodge #112. The Brother's recognized educator Michael Docksteiner and youth Nicholas Coleman of Lincoln Middle School as our September 2019 Teacher and Student of the month. Both recipients received a certificate and \$50 gift card. Thank you to Lincoln's administration and staff.







Universoul Circus Prince Hall Night was held on Sunday, October 6, 2019. 2019 marked the fifth annual implementation of Prince Hall Night at the Circus in Chicago's Washington Park. Annually, members of the Prince Hall Masonic Family congregate at the Circus to celebrate unity under the umbrella of the Order with family and friends. It serves as an opportunity for youth to enjoy entertainment and entertainers who have honed their crafts over various parts of the world. The 2019 event was certainly up to par with prior years and everyone had fun including the guest ringmaster, Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons.



In honor of a century of service to the communities of Chicago as a subordinate Lodge of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois, the officers and members of Cornerstone Lodge #91 hosted its Centennial Banquet at the Harborside Banquet Center on Saturday, October 12, 2019. Under the leadership of Worshipful Brother LaMonte Wilson, Worshipful Master, the Lodge celebrated in Grand fashion honoring its long time members and recognizing members for their years of service. The Wrightwood Baseball organization was honored for its service to the community. The First District Citizen of the Year, Andrew Holmes, community activist, was also presented with his plaque for Citizen of the Year. Brother Edward Briscoe served as the Master of Ceremonies for the event program which was developed by Past Master Troy Andrews. All living Past Masters were honored and recognized for their service and all Candidates for membership were in attendance to witness the event. Congratulations!!!



On Tuesday October 22, 2019 the brethren of Dunbar Lodge #97 and Moses Dickson Lodge #187 of the Jurisdiction of Missouri had the opportunity to fellowship. The home of Dunbar Lodge is Alton, Illinois and the home of Moses Dickson Lodge is St. Louis, Missouri. Situated across the great Mississippi River, their fellowship has proven that neither a mere river of water nor the great Mississippi is no barrier to brotherhood. Both Lodges joined together in harmony in October to celebrate the spirit of brotherhood and extend a bond that was established long ago. In fact, Worshipful Master Troy Curtis of Moses Dickson Lodge presented Worshipful Bro. Roy Williams, II, Worshipful Master of Dunbar Lodge and the Brothers of Dunbar Lodge #97 with a copy of their original By-Laws for their archives that was gifted to him years earlier. Best wishes on this continued fellowship.



Estella Chapter #3 hosted an afternoon of tea, treats, baked goods, food and fellowship at the Boys and Girls Club in the City of Springfield, Illinois. The hall was arrayed in colors of green, red, blue, yellow and white in honor of the Order of the Eastern Star. Tables were filled with delicacies from the sisters and from local vendors. The event was topped off with a donation to the Boys and Girls Club to aid in the extraordinary efforts of the organization among the youth in center of the State of Illinois.



The Wardens Club of the Grand Lodge came together to serve the less fortunate on Chicago's West Side. The team setup the Church's Chicken Parking Lot located directly across from Austin Park in the City of Chicago. After purchasing boxes of meals from Church's Chicken, they came together and donated bottles of water and food to homeless citizens and anyone in need in the vicinity. The Wardens disbursed nourishment not only through food and water donations but also gave words of encouragement to those who would listen. Altogether, they served nearly one hundred citizens.

The Sisters and Brothers of Imani Chapter #153 celebrate 10 years of service to Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star. Since its organization on January 17, 2009, Imani has been active in all aspects of the efforts of the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family. The works of the Chapter as it relates to community service have been numerous since its official date of Charter on August 3, 2010 and its formal Constitution on October 2, 2010. The first Worthy Matron is none other than Sister Sharithea Cherry and the first Worthy Patron is none other than Christopher Calhoun Sr. Three Cheers to Imani!!!

Congratulations to Jachin Lodge #133 and Princess Orpah Chapter #127, OES on their annual anniversary celebration. This Brother Lodge and Sister Chapter have worked together over the years to produce examples of leadership and service that are definitely worthy of emulation. Jachin Lodge celebrated over 60 years of service in 2019. The Lodge was first organized in 1948 with Worshipful Brother William Webb as its first Worshipful Master. Since that time, the Lodge is home to two Past Grand Masters, multiple Masons of the Year and a Past Worthy Grand Patron. Princess Orpah's examples of leadership and service match the accomplishments of the Lodge. Congratulations on this anniversary!!!

PHAmily  
**#GET READY**



*Imani forever*

**Organized: January 17, 2009 • Chartered: August 3, 2010 • Constituted: October 2, 2010**  
**Sis. Diane Shears, Worthy Matron • Bro. Maurice Copeland, Worthy Patron**

**Cheers to**  
*Ten*  
**Years...**

*Becoming*  
**Imani** #153

**HONORARY MEMBERS:** MW Bro. Aubrey K. Barlow, GM • PWGM Shalonda F.W. Patterson • PWGM Stephanie E. Atwood • PWGP William W. Jackson • PWGP Anthony Atwood • Bro. David Fields, PP





Eureka Grand Chapter Community Service Project Committee out in the community feeding the Women at Sarah's Circle Interim housing on November 16, 2019. The Women enjoyed the committee coming out and blessing them with Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner and a gift bag. The sisters and brothers also provided their annual pre-Thanksgiving dinner to the residents of Bria House.



Cornerstone Lodge #91 put together nearly one hundred bags for distribution on the South Side of Chicago at Memorial M.B. Church. The Lodge then travelled to Deborah's Place on the North side to aid the women's shelter. The charity mission, then, shifted to "Tent City on Roosevelt" near the center of the city to distribute clothes, hats, toiletry kits and other items. In one fell swoop, the entire city was blessed by the Lodge.



The Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family continued its annual efforts to provide sustenance to families in need during the Thanksgiving Holiday season. Efforts at the Grand East began in the kitchen as the brethren came together to cook and prepare the food for distribution. With the assistance of the youth, plates were filled with all of the fixings and distributed to those who were able to make their way to the Grand East. Meals were also delivered by members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity to the homes of those in need. The remaining food items were distributed to homeless citizens on Chicago's Lower Wacker Drive.





*Our Sponsors*

Thank you for supporting the Lone Star Lodge #18's Black and White Scholarship Ball. A portion of the proceeds from tonight's Scholarship Ball will be used to provide scholarships for senior males of African American descent that are graduating from Champaign, Urbana and Rantoul High Schools.

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Sister Brienne Sims, Past Matron, DOGL



2019 Lone Star Lodge #18 Black & White Scholarship Ball was a grand success. Its purpose was to assist African American young men in their post-secondary educational pursuits and to honor community leaders for their dedicated service. The Lodge sought sponsors and other donors to assist with this endeavor which is a method that should be replicated by Lodges across the state to generate more funds for charitable works. The list of Corporate, Business, and Square Sponsors is impressive and highlights the need for the full community to get involved with efforts to uplift youth. Honorees included Dr. Ollie Watts-Davis, Dr. Jennifer Ivory-Tatum, Rev. Bro. Rickey E. Parks for their "Dedication to Education". With closing comments by Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Master, the event was a huge success.



Efforts in the 4th District also went well. The 4th District, Trinity United Methodist Church and other volunteers show up and showed out! We collectively came together and not only delivered dinners to the community, but we also made sure that every single person that walked in the church was fed until full, and was able to go home with a plate! Congrats again guys, job well done! - Marquita G.E. Powell

St. Paul Lodge #42 with the assistance of Queen Elizabeth #16 did a toy give away and fed the residents



of Call for Help, Inc. (CFH). CFH helps people overcome a variety of personal crises, ranging from sexual assault and poverty, to homelessness and mental health. CFH changes lives by giving people skills and support that empower them to overcome emotional and physical crisis. The donations from St. Paul and Queen Elizabeth provided an abundance of toys to bring smiles to the faces of the children impacted by crisis. Well Done!!!



The brothers of Richard E Moore Lodge #109 presented donations to Englewood Children & Family Center in preparation for the cold winter months. The center supports a wide range of programs serving children and parents including Head Start, Early Head Start, Child Care Referral, Computer Literacy, GED Parental Education, Parent Support Services, Job Readiness Training, "Raising A Reader", and Subsequent Pregnancy Prevention. The Lodge provided a multitude of hats and gloves for the youth and the staff of the center. Their efforts helped to keep everyone warm during the winter months.



Estella Chapter #3 OES and Central Lodge #3 of Springfield volunteered their time and energy as well as items to the youth of the city. They came together and donated hats and gloves during the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Illinois Holiday Celebration. The items were donated by the 3rd District as part of Eureka Grand Chapter's Community Service from Estella #3 (Springfield); St Mary's #65 (Decatur); Silver Star #74 (Peoria); and Anwar #149 (Bloomington). Donations also received from Central #3 (Springfield). Job well done 3rd District Chapters and Central Lodge for participation and support. We're looking forward to next year.



Lone Star Lodge #18 made sure that the Champaign community received the Thanksgiving Dinner that it deserves. The Lodge came together to serve those in need at the local Salvation Army center. During the

Christmas Holiday Season, the Annual Lone Star Lodge #18 Family Christmas Party/ Christmas Miracle Program with the Champaign County Family Advocacy Program was a grand success. Pictured with Mrs. Grace Mitchell, Director.



Alexandria Lodge #148 continued its regular efforts during the winter months to provide sustenance to those in need in Chicago's Englewood Community. In addition to providing bags filled with sandwiches and fruit, they also provided hot food and hot coffee during the cold winter months. The Crusade of this Lodge continues to help hundreds in one of Chicago's most challenging communities.







Anwar Chapter #149, OES along with the women of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church of Bloomington and Brother Charles Johnson, Worthy Patron for Anwar Chapter, surprised its Past Matron Si-Star Kimberly Hanson-Turner with some Christmas love.



The Brothers of East Gate Lodge #98 and members of East Gate Chapter #94, OES, provided hundreds of items to aid in spreading the Christmas spirit. These donations were gifted to youth in Chicago and include over thirty (30) bicycles and hundred of gifts for wrapping and distribution across the City of Chicago.



Electa Chapter #1, OES packed hundreds of bags for delivery during the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Seasons. These bags were filled with non-perishable items, turkeys and hams and other items to fill the needs of families in the city. They were then prepared for delivery to various sites across the Chicagoland area.



Late Night Out with Club 51 Serving the Community, Vivian F. Howell Chapter #151, OES, proclaimed "We can't be valuable unless we're visible!!" Working together with Western Light



#30 and Sons of Solomon Lodge #154, the lovely Sisters of Vivian F Howell #151, OES coordinated efforts to feed and clothe homeless citizens who live under Chicago's Lower Wacker Drive.



The Brothers of Celestial Lodge #80 and the members of Venus Chapter #69, OES united to aid in the needs of food distribution across the Chicagoland area by packing boxes of food at the Greater Chicago Food Depository. These efforts help to feed thousands of needy families across the city and beyond. Great Work!!!





The annual Christmas dinner and toy giveaway sponsored by Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star produced 197 hats coats and scarves, 228 toys, 378 dinners, 150 beyond Wacker drive meals, 27 haircuts and 8 heads braided. Several manicures, facials, and the pop up boutique were also provided. Sister Zandra Prince, Worthy Grand Matron, expressed her heartfelt joy at the labors that were done collectively. All Chapters across the State of Illinois contributed to this major event which actually aided thousands in the Chicagoland area.

Immanuel Lodge #153 held its annual Toy Give-A-Way at two locations—PEACE Center (South Side) and the CWC Center (West Side). The Lodge fed the youth and then gave them with toys for Christmas cheer. The efforts of the Lodge did not stop there. They also provided much needed supplies to homeless citizens on Lower Wacker Drive.





The “Just Blessings” collaborative under the direction of Past Master Dontane Farmer came together just prior to the new year to ensure that citizens in the hardest hit communities on Chicago’s South Side receive the necessary items to handle the winter months. The Englewood community was the first stop from Noon to 3PM. With the assistance of La Sean Renee Abney and brothers and sisters from the Illinois Prince Hall Family, hats, gloves, scarves, shoes and toiletry kits were distributed. The second stop in the Roseland community also received distributions of the same items. Conversation is also a big part of this effort. Simple conversations go a long way and help to provide a greater sense of respect. Great work!!!

Congratulations to St. Paul Lodge #42 of East St. Louis who celebrated the leadership of its Worshipful Master for the 2019 Masonic Year. St. Paul is the oldest Lodge in the City of East St. Louis. Since being established in 1895 with Worshipful Brother J. Gibb as its first Worshipful Master, the Lodge has been a beacon of light in the community. In 2020, St. Paul will be 125 years old. Congratulations St. Paul #42!!!



## Prince Hall Legacy Library in the new PGM Angelo W. Jones Hall

Third Quarter 2019-20

On January 18, 2020, history was made at the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge located in Chicago, Illinois where Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow serves at its 46th Grand Master. On the outside of the building, the day was snowy and cold but on the inside, the historical program activities were warm and gracious. After all, it is not often that we have in the same day a dual program, a dedication ceremony, "The Prince Hall Legacy Ceremony" followed by a Floor Hall Re-naming Ceremony for "Past Grand Master Angelo W. Jones, 42nd Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons. Past Grand Master Jones years of service was for the period 2006-2009. Past Grand Master Jones was an icon in Prince Hall Masonry and he will truly be missed.



I, Worshipful Brother Lloyd Womack, Grand Historian, will always be grateful for Past Most Worshipful Grand Master Jones, because in 2009, he appointed me as the Grand Historian for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge. As the years moved forward, in many of my conversations with Past Grand Master Jones, he always told me that he was pleased with his appointment and was proud of my works as the Grand Historian. I will forever cherish those words coming from him. And yes, I, am honored to be a part of this historical event, honoring, "Past Most Worshipful Grand Master Angelo W. Jones".

The dedication program initially started in the third floor hall room named in honor of two Past Grand Masters of Illinois Prince Hall Masons—Past Grand Master Ashby Carter (1945-53) and Past Grand Master James H. Black, Sr. (1975-77). Following the program dedication ceremony the event was then moved to the opposite end of the program hall for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, the Dedication of the "Prince Hall Legacy Library" and the presentation of Plaque from Union Lodge No. 155 for the Re-Naming of the Hall to Past Grand Master Angelo W. Jones Hall.



At least 40 Prince Hall Masons attended this gala event of which the Master Ceremonies was Worshipful Brother Timothy Davis, Past Master, Garden City Lodge No. 59. Worshipful Brother Raymond Kimbrough, Past Master, King David Lodge No 100, gave the Invocation, and Worshipful Brother Hanif Morris, Past Master, Keystone Lodge No. 15 presented the History of the "Prince Hall Legacy Library". These brethren did an outstanding job. In attendance at this gala affair was Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Master; Right Worshipful Brother Steven Coleman, Grand Senior

Warden; Right Worshipful Brother David Thomas, Grand Treasurer; Right Worshipful Brother Michael D. Ramey, Grand Secretary; and Right Worshipful Brother Keith Roach, Grand Auditor. In a rare public appearance was my friend Most Worshipful Brother Jerry "The Ice Man" Butler, Past Grand Master, the 41st Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons. In my numerous conversations with Past Grand Master Butler regarding this event and while I was in route to the Grand Lodge, he contacted me the same day stating he wanted me to give him a ride because he wanted to attend this auspicious occasion honoring his former Deputy Grand Master. Past Grand Butler was well received and much brotherly love was given to him by the brethren. Past Grand Master Butler later told me that he truly enjoyed the program and enjoyed fraternizing with the Brothers.



Also in attendance were brothers of King David Lodge No. 100 lead by its senior member Worshipful Brother Charles J. Stewart, Past Master, who has over sixty years of service as a Prince Hall Mason. King David Lodge was the Lodge for Past Grand Master Jones. Sister Zandra Prince, Worthy Grand Matron, Eureka Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star (OES) was in attendance and was introduced by Brother Keith Roach, Worthy Grand Patron. Sister Prince spoke elegantly on the honoring of Past Grand Master Jones. Sister Jennifer Norris, Treasurer, King David Chapter No. 90, OES accompanied by her daughter represented King David Chapter. Mrs. Ingram Wallace, a cousin, represented the Jones Family.

Right Worshipful Brother Steve Coleman, Grand Senior Warden introduced Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow. Grand Master Barlow stated that he was honored to be apart of the Dedication Ceremony of the "Prince Hall Legacy Library" and the honor of re-naming the Hall for "Past Most Worshipful Grand Master Angelo W. Jones." He stated when he was a Grand Auditor, it was Past Grand Master Jones who encouraged him get on line to eventually become Grand Master.

In closing, a big thank you goes out to the Dedication Committee, namely, Worshipful Brother Ivan Cole, Eternal Light Lodge No. 156; Worshipful Brother Raymond Kimbrough, King David Lodge No. 100; Worshipful Brother Tim Davis, Garden City Lodge No. 59; Worshipful Brother Hanif Morris, Keystone Lodge No. 15 and Worshipful Brother Arthur Williams, Cable Lodge No. 119. Brothers, you did a stellar job.

**By Worshipful Brother Lloyd Womack, Grand Historian**

# PGM Henry Short Annual MLK Day Bowling Event across Illinois



In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family came together within each district to provide an opportunity for youth to come together, engage in physical activity while learning about the impacts of Dr. King. The 4th District gathered at Bel-Air Bowl in Belleville (above). The 1st District gathered at Bluebird Lanes in Chicago (below). All districts not only provided educational presentations on Dr. King but also fed the youth participants and taught several how to bowl.



## **Farewell Salute to U.S. Army Specialist Henry "Mitch" Mayfield Jr.**

Join Us As We Declare  
 Tuesday, January 14, 2020  
 as  
**Henry  
 "Mitch"  
 Mayfield Jr.  
 Day**

**Yellow Ribbon Memorial  
 in honor of U.S. Army Specialist  
 Henry "Mitch" Mayfield Jr.**

11:00 a.m.  
 Meet at VLAJ Municipal Ctr.  
 (3601 W. 183rd Hazel Crest, IL)  
 to receive yellow ribbon and  
 instructions.  
 \*Area schools will take part with a  
 moment of silence at 11:00 a.m., also.

For more Info:  
 708-335-9600  
 X117

# Southwest Illinois Installation and Scholarship Banquet

The 36th Annual Installation & Charity Scholarship Banquet of the Southwestern Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family was held on Saturday, January 25, 2020, 7:00 p.m. at the Main Street Brewing Co. 4204—Banquet Catering, 6435 West Man Street, Belleville, Illinois. The Theme for the past 36 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 7 students, at a cost of \$3,500.00. Over the past 36 years, we have presented one hundred twenty nine (138) scholarships to needy students throughout the Metro East and Scott Air Force Base communities.



HPGM Earl D. Scott, P.G. Porter Lodge # 142 and Past Matron Rachel A. Carter, Bright Hope Chapter # 85 O.E.S. P.H.A made the presentations of Scholarship Awards. The scholarship recipients were: Ms Kaci N. Ashford, of Belleville East High School, Belleville, Illinois. She has been accepted to attend Western Illinois University, Macomb Illinois majoring in Nursing Ms Kiara Chapman a third year student attending McKendree University, Lebanon, Illinois.

Her Major Elementary and Special Education. Ms Chelsea A. Harris a second year student attending Lincoln University, Jefferson City Missouri, Her Major, Nursing. Mr. Frederick Hurt, II a third year student attending Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois. His Major, Chemistry, Mr. Ke Yonn Hall Baker who currently attends



Fontbonne University, Clayton Missouri. His Major, Education with Minor in Psychology.; Mr. Kaleb Whiteside, who attends Mascoutah High School, Mascoutah Community Unit School, Mascoutah Illinois. He has been accepted to attend Milliken University, Decatur, Illinois in the fall of 2020. His Major, Business Fashion Designer. Ms Jala K. Howard, a second year student attending University of Missouri, Columbia, MO Her Major, Nursing.

Also was the recognition and presentation of certificates to all the Southwestern Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family Heads of Lodges, Chapters, Courts and Councils Those presentations were made by all Grand Heads of Houses and Appendant and Concordant Bodies of the Illinois Jurisdiction.

M.W. Bro. Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons, State of Illinois and its Jurisdiction presented certificates to the newly installed Worshipful Masters elected for Masonic year 2010. Sis Zandra Prince, Worthy Grand Matron and Wor Bro. Keith Roach, Worthy Grand Patron



## Underground Railroad Program at the Grand East



On Feb.1,2020 the MWPHGL put on a most gracious rendition of the story of the Underground Railroad. RW Bro. Leroy Berry wrote and produced this program with the help of PM Daphne McClain and Sis Shannon Miller. Our Grand Historian Lloyd Womack gave a brief history of Carter G. Woodson who started Black History week. The kids that participated were from our different youth groups within our Fraternity. Great Job!—By **PM Carl Pickett, #109**

did the honors for all 2020 Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons for the Masonic Family. Heroine Brenda Williams, Most Ancient Grand, and Comp. Louis E. Greene, Most Worthy Joshua, presented certificates to the Most Ancient Matrons and Most Worthy Joshuas. Royal Matron Julia Cooper, Royal Grand Perfect Matron, and Illustrious Companion G Cordale Brown, Royal Grand Chief Advisor, Levi H. Morris Grand Court, LOCOP made the presentations to Royal Matron and Royal Chief Advisor. Right Eminent Grand Commander, Ron Wilson, representing Most Excellent High Priest, David Fields presented a certificate to Companion. Hernando L. Brown, Excellent High Priest of East St. Louis Chapter # 20 Holy Royal Arch Mason. Rite Eminent Grand Commander Ron

Wilson presented certificates to Sir Knight Kenneth Bland, Eminent Commander of Crusaders Military Commandery # 38, and Knights Templar and to Companion Duerell Harley, Thrice Illustrious Master of Ellis T. Moore Council # 3, Royal and Select Masters. Sovereign Grand Inspector General Melvin Frierson, Deputy of the Orient of Illinois and Loyal Lady Ruler, Vera Small, State Grand Loyal Lady Illinois State Grand Assembly presented certificate to Scottish Rite and Order of the Golden Circle installed of Tyree Consistory #64 - Commander-In-Chief, Illustrious Kevin Johnson 33° elect, Most Wise and Perfect Master, Illustrious Britt Frierson 33°, and Illustrious Robert Miner 33°, Thrice Potent Master; Order of the Golden Circle Loyal Lady Chanta Love. Noble Armand Harris, Imperial Deputy of the Oasis

of East St. Louis, Illinois presented certificate to Ill Potentate Michael Thomas. Daughter (Dt,) Rochelle Reed, Imperial Deputy for the Dt. East St. Louis, Illinois presented certificate to the Ill Commandress Carla DeBoe.

We the Special Effort Committee wish to express our sincere appreciation for your support in making this our 36th Annual Installation Scholarship and Charity Banquet a success. We give special thanks and gratitude to the OFFICER FUNERAL HOME for their continued support. The programs this year as in 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.

**By Past Grand Master Earl D. Scott**

Mid-Year 2020 Banquet & Meeting

The 2020 Mid-Year Banquet honoring Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons was held in Normal, Illinois and was well-attended by all from across each corner of the State of Illinois.



After being escorted in by the Honor Guard and the Pledge of Allegiance, the Master and Mistress of Ceremonies stepped forth to manage the evening. After a scrumptious meal, the awards and recognition program began.



In a twist of the events, Grand Master Barlow presented his own awards even though the banquet was set to have him as the honoree. Plaques of achievement were given to several from across the jurisdiction for years of service.



After giving awards, the Grand Master received his just due from the brethren and sisters of the Illinois jurisdiction.



The annual Mid-Year meeting was well attended by Lodges across the state. The Grand Lodge officers reported on the state of the Craft. Efforts to move forward at the Grand East are well underway and the state of the Craft is good.



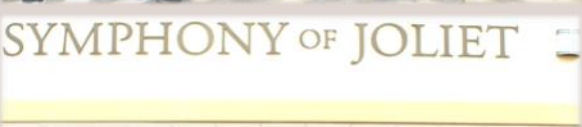
After the presentation of the reports from the financial officers and line officers, the Grand Master opened the floor to brethren to ask any questions and to present any information for the good of the order. The brethren responded in like kind presenting questions on current projects and efforts by Grand Lodge Trustees and Committees and the next steps for Illinois Prince Hall Freemasonry. All questions were answered and all left satisfied with the responses.



Following commentary from the Grand Director of Sessions and the panel, prayers were offered for safe travels home.

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Fourth Quarter 2019-20 & Beyond



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Time 11:00am- 2:00pm or  
until all food is gone

**SOCIAL DISTANCING IS STRICTLY ENFORCED**



SIS. ZANDRA A. PRINCE, WORTHY GRAND MATRON  
BRO. KEITH T. ROACH, SR., WORTHY GRAND PATRON  
MW BRO. AUBREY K. BARLOW, GRAND MASTER







# Let's Talk About Potatoes

By Carolyn S. Womack, Past Worthy Matron, #90

In my research, I found that a potato has lots of vitamins and minerals and a healthy dose of “fiber”. You can bake them, boil them, mash them, and pipe them. Potatoes can be cooked and served countless ways both nutritious and indulgent or somewhere in between. Potatoes can be the “meal” or make a spectacular “side dish”. Here are five different potatoes prepared in various ways to enjoy:

- ◆ **FINGERLINGS**—Fingerling potatoes are of moisture and low in starch, simple preparations let them shine: Boil with salt and garlic; brown in a hot skillet with olive oil, thyme and rosemary; then splash with red wine vinegar.
- ◆ **SWEET POTATOES**—Sweet potatoes served simply as a baked potato substitute, shredded for fritters, or pureed and used in baked goods. They deliver a rich sweetness and a range of textures depending on the variety you select.
- ◆ **YUKON GOLDS**—Yukon gold’s is a medium starchy potato with a dense creamy texture. These potatoes belong in potato salads and frittatas. Roasted or sautéed, they make a wonderful taco filing, along with zucchini, peppers, onions, avocado, and black beans.
- ◆ **RED POTATOES**—Red potatoes with thin delicious skins that crisp up nicely when roasted and tender are flavorful flesh. These are also delicious when steamed and tossed with butter, flaky sea salt, and herbs.
- ◆ **RUSSETS**—Russet potatoes have a high-starch/low-moisture content. This makes them perfect for mashing, for creamy soups, or sliced into thin wedges and tossed with a little olive oil and salt for skinny baked potato fries.

So, one potato, two potato, three potato, (?), “OK”, you remember how that phrase goes. But, for now, “Let’s Eat Healthy and Stay Happy”.



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