

Prince Hall Masonic Journal

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

The Son of Prince Hall
PRIMUS HALL

BENJAMIN BANNEKER
American Hero

H. LORRAINE JETER
In Loving Memory

TIME REWIND:
Historical Gallery
at the Grand East

**SOMEONE YOU
SHOULD KNOW:**
Zenobia Mills

Spring 2021



Mid Year 2021
Virtual Session

**Fathers & Sons
in Masonry**





Editorial

*By Right Worshipful Brother
Daryl L. Andrews*

What greater joy can fathers have than to see their sons follow in their footsteps? There are many who know this feeling all too well. Many, now, not only call their fathers “dad” but also call them “brother”. This affirms that youth do, in fact, pay attention to what adults actually **do**. Actions speak louder than words. Apparently, the works of charity and the solemnity of a strong brotherhood have spoken volumes to some driving them into action. This certainly was the case for Primus Hall who followed his father and many others as seen in this edition.

In the Illinois Jurisdiction, there are many who have served diligently who have gone on to glory. There’s always been a special place in my heart for Sister H. Lorraine Jeter whose service in multiple bodies was tremendous. It was certainly a pleasure for me to see her in the audience when I was ordained a Deacon at my church in 2006 and to have had her support for this publication for a number of years. She will be missed along with Right Worshipful Brother James R. Jones, II, Past Master Jerry Madison, #91 and the many others with whom I have crossed paths.

May peace be unto their ashes and may their examples of dedication and service be replicated by us.

History and Health remain critical parts of this publication. I certainly appreciate the time, energy and effort provided by our columnists who work to keep us all focused on OUR-story. Benjamin Banneker’s contributions are worthy of more notoriety as are the efforts of African American Revolutionary War soldiers. Contributions of Illinois Prince Hall Masons also need to be spread to a wider audience. While we remember them in the Galleries of the Grand East and in Norman’s Nook, we can spread their efforts all over. To do so, we must remain in good health, mentally and physically, thus, the need to ensure that health matters remain discussed in these pages.

Although COVID-19 has wrought havoc throughout the nation, it has provided opportunities for the Prince Hall Masonic Family to show its true colors. Over 10,000 hours of effort has been expended in providing relief to those in need. Brethren have cut lawns for senior members; delivered food, clothing, services to thousands; and mentored youth. The greatest thing that one can do show love. Love isn’t just an emotional term. It is the sentiment that drives charity. Charity, in fact, is love in action. Keep up the great work!

In closing, I am now on year number 16 as editor of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal. My how time flies. The reward for me has always been reporting on the excellence of our organization and bringing light into areas where darkness may have existed. It is my hope and prayer that this edition continues to provide that same light and provide a solid framework that the editors of the future may follow. Fiat lux!!!

“Cherish the Day”

By Brother Markell Mooney

A Dedication to the victims of 9/11

I thank Sade for telling the world
to cherish the day

Who would believe that when the
twin towers fell

Eight years before that she stood
across from them on

Top of The world telling us to
cherish the day

Guitar in hand

Voice singing to the world curious
hearts as they watch

Her many stories high

A beautiful ballad that tells us to
appreciate life

A beautiful song that tells us to
love one another

A beautiful spirit stood over the
universe

To simply tell us to cherish the day



*To purchase "Words Of Life" book
of poems send your email request
to kelloggy76@gmail.com*



Office of the Grand Master

By Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow

Fraternal Greetings:

As I write this missive, this will be my last from the office of Grand Master. I would like to say “Thank you” all who have encourage and support me as your elected leader. My goal was to provide the best leadership I knew how as your Grand Master. I’ve tried to make the best decisions for the good of the order at all times. I ask you to continue to support this Grand Lodge and organization to further enhance the image of Prince Hall Masonry! Let us continue to move this great fraternity into the next century and always adhere to the obligation we all have recited.

Fraternally

*Most Worshipful Brother
Aubrey K. Barlow
Grand Master*

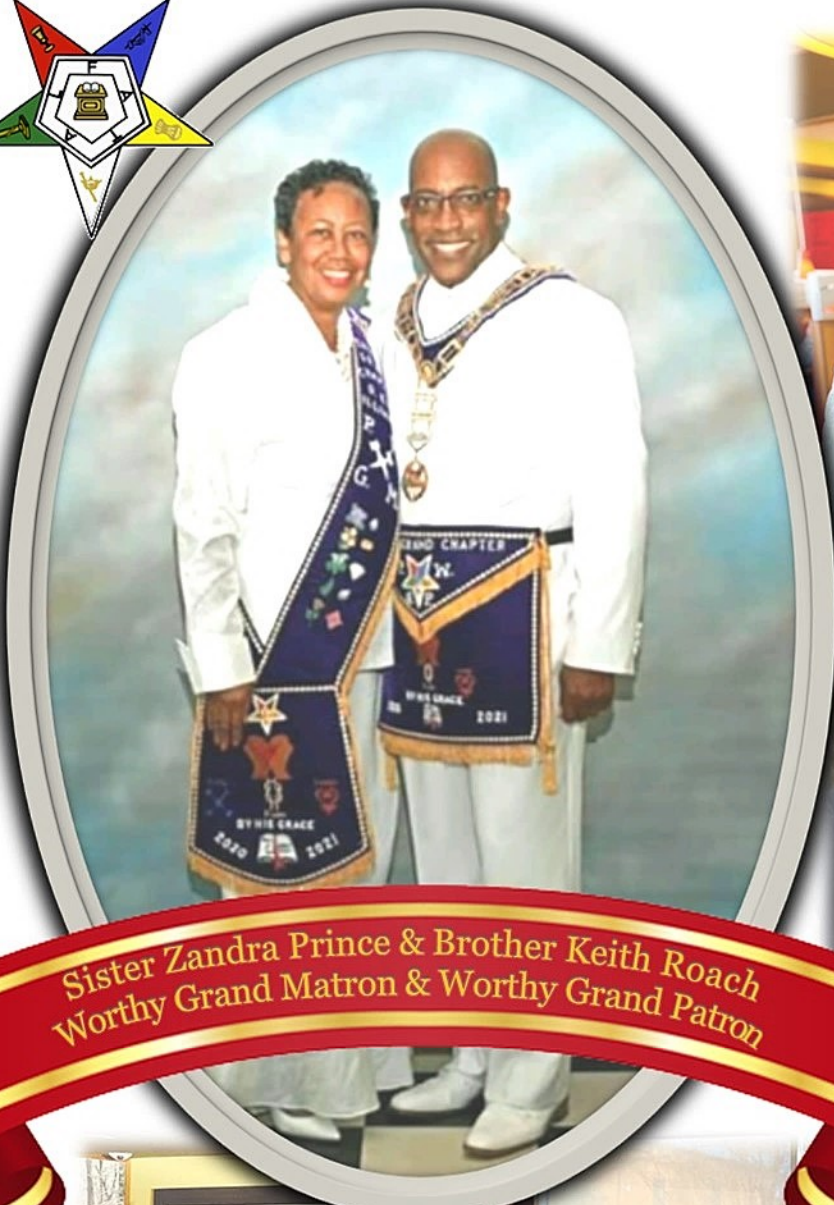


Rest in peace Rev. Brother Clyde W. Cooper Sr.,
Deputy Grand Master Emeritus of the Most
Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois.

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Eureka Grand Chapter



Sister Zandra Prince & Brother Keith Roach
Worthy Grand Matron & Worthy Grand Patron





Order of the Eastern Star

"If there's anyone that's done more for the Illinois jurisdiction and its members, I haven't met them yet." - **Roland G. Simon**

"It was 2008 after the Grand Lodge Public Installation. Sis. Jeter saw me and said "You are on your way baby!! Make me proud!" From that point on, she became a mother figure to me in the Fraternity... Always greeting me with "Hey Baby!" It's very common to say that someone, but with her it always felt genuine. Her time and contributions to our Order will never be duplicated!" - **Kevin Ellis**

"Sister Jeter told me to be myself and things will fall into place." - **Richard Falzone**



Sister H. Lorraine

Jeter began her fraternal career on July 10, 1971, by initiation into Talma Chapter #2. She later served the Chapter in its highest position as the Worthy Matron in

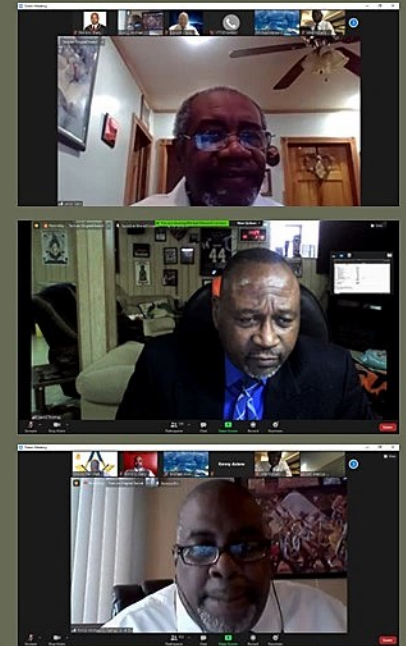
1975, along with her brother, James L Williams as Worthy Patron. During their tenure, the camaraderie between North Star Lodge #1 and Talma Chapter #2 was renewed. The annual North Star/Talma Chapter Cookout was initiated and is continued to this present day. PWGM H. Lorraine Jeter has served her Chapter, Talma #2 since 2005, and is the current Secretary to date.

Sister H. Lorraine Jeter served Eureka Grand Chapter as Grand Secretary from 1980-1985. She was elected to the position of Associate Grand Conductress in 1985, and subsequently served as Worthy Grand Matron in 1992 and 1993. Equally, in 1992, Sister Jeter was elected President of the Midwest Regional Conference of Grand Chapters and Eastern Stars; in 1993, elected Vice President, Prince Hall Conference of Grand Chapters and Eastern Stars; 2000, she was elected Executive Secretary, Midwest Regional Conference of Grand Chapters and Eastern Stars and Assistant Executive Secretary, Prince Hall Conference of Grand Matrons and Grand Patrons, position she currently held until her passing.

Rest in peace and power to our beloved Sister H. Lorraine Jeter.



2021 Annual Mid-Year Virtual



The Annual Mid-Year Session of the Most Technology Team. This event was well attended by Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois was members from across the Illinois Jurisdiction and held virtually on March 6, 2021 by Zoom Conference was a welcome site as the COVID-19 pandemic has Call under the management Past Master Michael prevented many from seeing one another face to Howard of the Grand Lodge Information face. As with other organizations, this mode of

Congratulations to the Most Excellent Companion General Grand Conf. of Grand Chapters



**Most Excellent Companion
Damon P. Anderson Sr.
General Grand High Priest**

Congratulations to the 2020 Queen of Arabic Court #21, DOI



**Daughter Detria Matthews
Arabic Court #21
Daughters Auxiliary to AEAONMS**

Session of the Grand Lodge



connectivity has helped to ensure that the membership remains aware of the current state of the Grand Lodge and identify the next steps from the eyes of leadership and the respective Grand Lodge Officers.

The virtual session opened with prayer by Past Master Leroy R. Gary, Grand Chaplain who rendered praise to our Heavenly Father. Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Master, then offered words of welcome and directed the necessary roll calls to begin. Following the Roll Call of Grand Officers by Past Master Carl Richardson, Assistant Grand Secretary and the Roll Call of Lodges by Past Master Antonio T. Terry, Assistant Grand Secretary, Most Worshipful Brother Barlow proceeded with his allocution covering acts that occurred since the prior session. It was well received. After receiving questions from the Craft, the financial officers of the Grand Lodge presented their financial reports.

Right Worshipful Brother David Thomas, Grand Treasurer reported on the solid financial state of

the Grand Lodge as it relates to the Treasury. All finances are in order placing the Grand Lodge in a position of stability. The operations report provided by Right Worshipful Brother Michael Ramey, Grand Secretary corroborated this and provided insight into all of the processing that has occurred through the mid-way part of the Masonic Year. The Grand Auditors subsequently confirmed the totals presented by both.

Following the reports of the officers, the floor was opened for questions to which several of the more than 300 attendees contributed. After closing the formal meeting with prayer, breakout sessions, a new feature offered by Zoom Conference, were utilized to organize the Worshipful Masters Club and the Wardens Club under the direction of Right Worshipful Brothers Steven Coleman and Tony Stafford. These events concluded Mid Year 2021.

Special thanks to the Information Technology Team for a job well done — Michael Howard, Mike Tyler, Daryl Andrews, Earl Young, and Brian Beatty. May your good works continue.

Congratulations to Charles Holiday Jr. Cornerstone Lodge #91



**Best wishes in your new role as
Executive Director of the
Chicago Board of Elections**

Final Salute to Miss Eureka 2019-21



Sister Tyra Watson

1958—Masons of of the Most Worshipful Prince



2019-2020
Dr. James E. Lanier, #3



2011
Roland G. Simon,
#135



2012
Homer Walton,
#109



2013
Kenneth Page,
#3



2014
Michael D. Ramey,
#59



2001
Dwayne A. Smith,
#133



2002
Ron Wilson,
#17



2003
Patrick Parks,
#98



2004
Frank Logan,
#119



2005
Charles Holiday Jr.,
#91



1987
Wadell Brooks,
#107



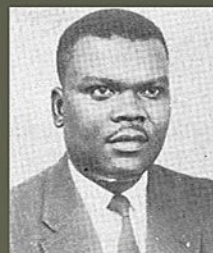
1988
Doty Nash,
#100



1989
Jerry Butler,
#1



1990
Roderick Hawkins,
#79



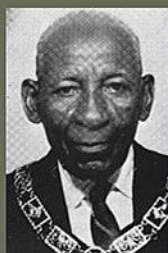
1991
Eddie Grace,
#64



1992
William Norman,
#109



1993
Michael Patterson,
#103



1973
James Miles,
#14



1974
Robert DeCuir,
#133



1975
Robert Evans,
#107



1976
Oscar Edmond,
#35



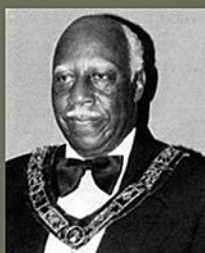
1977
Marvin Williams,
#133



1978
Robert Williams,
#98



1979
Lewis Pinckney,
#7



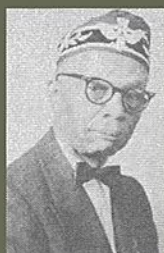
1958
Henry G. Fort,
#88



1959
Ernie Banks, #103
(Northern Illinois)



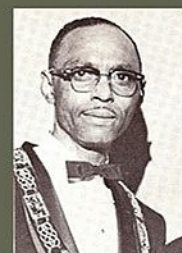
1959
George Cross, #56
(Southern Illinois)



1960
Thomas Kelly,
#103



1961
Kenneth Stratton,
#18



1962
John Russell White,
#18



1963
Joseph Blount,
#68

the Year—2021

Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois



2015
Harry Barnett,
#11



2016
Anthony Atwood,
#108



2017
Tony D. Stafford Sr.,
#128



2018
Hassan Tremble-El,
#153



2020-2021
Timothy R. Davis, #59



2006
Aubrey K. Barlow,
#23



2007
Lloyd Womack,
#121



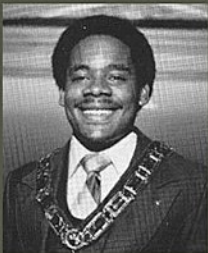
2008
Daryl L. Andrews,
#91



2009
Chris Calhoun,
#155



2010
Carl Garner,
#29



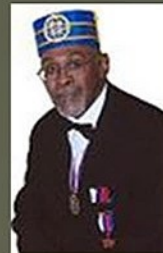
1994
Leroy C. Barnes,
#59



1995
Joseph Hayes,
#29



1996
David Johnson,
#18



1997
Damon P. Anderson, Sr.,
#137



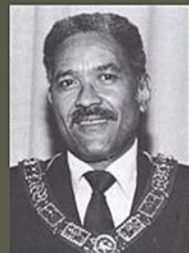
1998
Charles M. Jones,
#80



1999
R. Courtney Priest,
#14



2000
Edward Junkins,
#108



1980
Bernard Teat,
#128



1981
Harry Collier,
#31



1982
James Levy,
#128



1983
R.C. Brown,
#116



1984
Kenneth Ingram,
#1



1985
Willie B. Evans Sr.,
#133



1986
Brian Abrams,
#109



1964
Corneal Davis,
#29



1965
Charles Stewart,
#100



1968
Oliver Nelson,
#31



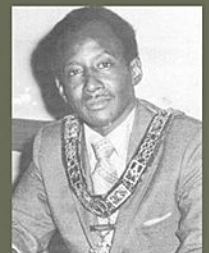
1969
Odell Smith,
#15



1970
George Harris,
#100



1971
Albert Moorehead,
#1



1972
Isaac Washington,
#59



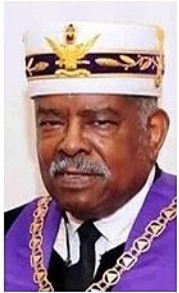
On Saturday, June 26, 2021, the Masons of the Year Club welcomed its newest member—Worshipful Brother Timothy R. Davis of Garden City Lodge #59 of Chicago, Illinois. Davis was welcomed into the club via a banquet hosted in his honor by Garden City Lodge #59.

Under the direction of Past Master Leroy Barnes, Chairman and Worshipful Brother Daryl Bedar, Worshipful Master, the Lodge did a masterful job in honoring one of its own.

The program was executed spectacularly under the direction of Past Master Wendell Tucker Sr., #59. After an opening prayer and introduction a meal of salmon and chicken was served. Entertainment was provided by a DJ and live music by the hands of the Saxman, Robert Chapman, Worshipful Master of Eternal Light Lodge #156 and his band. The fire lit by the designation of Juneteenth as a National Holiday still ran hot in the banquet. A skit under the direction of Tony Stafford was presented to highlight the purpose of Juneteenth and its significance to communities across the nation. A

history of the Mason of the Year Award was provided by Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews (2008 Mason of the Year) after which the parade of Masons of the Year of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois into the room began.

Lead by the Honorary Past Grand Master William L. Norman who was Senior-Most Mason of the Year that was present, the line of 14 proceeded into the room in order of their years of selection and lined across the front of the banquet to recognize its newest member into the club. The President of the Masons of the Year Club, Past Master Christopher Calhoun Sr. (2009 Mason of the Year) addressed the audience while Right Worshipful Brother Michael D. Ramey Sr. (2014 Mason of the Year), presented Davis with the ceremonial white jacket. Right Worshipful Brother Tony Stafford (2017 Mason of the Year) presented Davis with his collar pin. Right Worshipful Brother Roland Simon (2011



Scottish Rite Elevations

By Right Worshipful Brother Daryl Andrews, #91

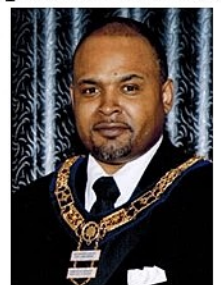
The Orient of Illinois, under the leadership of Sovereign Grand Inspector General Melvin Frierson, Deputy, was among several Orients to introduce new Honorary and Actual members of the United Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, PHA for the Northern Jurisdiction (USC) which is lead by Sovereign Grand Commander, Melvin J. Bazemore. Honorary members have achieved the 33rd Degree and are styled Grand Inspector General. Actual members are styled Sovereign Grand Inspectors Generals and are either Active or Emeriti.

As COVID-19 prevented some activities of the USC in 2020, the Elevation Classes of 2020 and 2021 were coronated virtually at the Annual USC Session in May of 2021. Congratulations to the newest Grand Inspector Generals of the Frederick O. Dobson Sr. Class of 2020 and the Charles W. Hales Class of 2021. The namesakes of both classes are stalwarts in the annals of the Scottish Rite.

Two Honorary members from the Orient of Illinois were elevated to Emeritus status in the USC in 2021. Sovereign Grand Inspector General John L. Richardson and Sovereign Grand Inspector General

Daryl L. Andrews were elevated for their services to the USC. Illustrious Richardson provides his expert services as an attorney at law and Illustrious Andrews serves as the Editor of the Bulletin. Both have served the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois in various roles and have brought the same sense of dedication to the Scottish Rite that is displayed at the Grand Lodge level.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!





Mason of the Year) presented Davis with his medallion. Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Master, (2006 Mason of the Year) presented him with a plaque from the Most

the home of the Mason of the Year Award. Davis follows Ike Washington (1972), Leroy Barnes (1994) and Michael Ramey (2014). Garden City Lodge #59 is saluted for a stellar affair.



Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois in recognition of his accomplishment.

The selection of Davis marked the fourth time that Garden Lodge #59 is



Norman's Nook: **Pythagoras & Evening Star**

By Worshipful Brother William L. Norman, HPGM, #109



This photo is of a ceremony of the 1960 adoption of Evening Star #143, OES by Pythagoras Lodge #134. The Worshipful Master, Stewart Jackson and Julia Carr, Worthy Matron of Evening Star pledge support by vows of the Lodge and Chapter to one another as brothers and sisters in the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family.



Lodge of the Year 2020

EUREKA LODGE #64



By Eureka Lodge #64 Publication Committee—Bro. Satori Jones, Chairman; Bro. Leon Harris, Co-Chairman



Throughout the wholesome instruction of W.B. Tyreese Stafford, Worshipful Master, Eureka Lodge No. 64, F&AM PHA continues to play an instrumental part in hosting community affairs and charitable initiatives. The lodge has focused their goals on using their leadership by influencing our youth, providing mentorship, and helping supply essential needs to our local neighborhoods.

“Black History Family Dinner” was hosted by Bellwood School District 88 February 8, 2020 at the Roosevelt Middle School. Eureka Lodge was invited to converse with students, parents and faculty as well as distributing newly published pamphlets regarding the history of Masonry and Eureka Lodge No. 64.

“Living Black History Event” was hosted successfully by Eureka Lodge No. 64 February 10,

2020 at Proviso West High School with over 250 students. Parallel to our previous 2019 Juneteenth celebration, honoring Black History, students participated in lectures with a panel of successful Men and Women of color specific to the current political arena. Special Guest consisted of Supreme Court Justice P. Scott Neville Jr, Senator Carol Mosley-Braun, Senator Howard B Brookins Sr, Senator Roland Burris, Senator Kimberly Lightford, Bellwood Mayor Andre Harvey, Broadview Mayor Katrina Thompson, & Cook County Commissioner Brandon Johnson. As questions were answered about the difficult past that Black History has endured, our youth was able to learn, interact and eat well during small group workshops hosted by our special guest on the panel.

Grocery Giveaways and Food Distribution have been the

focal points of Community Service during these unprecedented times of despair. Eureka and Plumblin Chapter 109 conducted multiple food drives that included partnerships with the Masters Club, Lodges, Community Churches and many more. With the continued support throughout the year, Eureka and Plumblin Chapter 109 contributed significantly to the success of Eureka Charities 2020 food drives. Eureka Charities serviced the community through our Great Architect’s intention. “I’m extremely proud to be amongst the elite of Brethren, kindred spirits and a movement that makes a difference. As my brothers and I stand together. Under the direction of Bro. Christopher A. Greer, Eureka Charities Chair and Sis. Sharon Chester, Family First, we were able to unconditionally bless over 25,000 households.”



“Zoom Ceremony’s aka: ZOOMEMONY’s” became their mode of comradery, celebration, and acknowledgement of their 2020 accolades. “Eureka’s Virtual Anniversary Repast” was hosted by W.M. Tyreese Stafford and approximately 40 Brothers participated as Bro. P. Scott Neville Jr, along with Eureka Lodge Past Masters fed the lodge wholesome knowledge about the early history of the lodge and their own historical experiences. The “Virtual Award Ceremony” was hosted by W.M. Tyreese Stafford & W.M. Angelina Smith. In conjunction, Eureka Lodge and Plumline Chapter successfully highlighted and recognized the contribution of our Brothers and Sisters to the present success of our Lodge and Chapter status.



Eureka Proud 2020 Acknowledgements:

- *Bro. Christopher Greer starred in the short film OTIS’ DREAM featured on Oprah’s Super Soul program. From the perspective of Rev Dr. Otis Moss III about his Grandfather, Otis Moss Sr was a story that emphasized our Black journey of tormenting struggle leading to today’s privilege and right to VOTE making it an option that our voice be heard.*
- *Bro Justice P Scott Neville Jr was re-elected as the Second Black IL Supreme Court Justice in Illinois history following Justice Charles Freeman, the state’s First Justice of color. “You can have a Fair system, but you have to fight for it everyday.”*



No. 64 has been creative in finding ways to elevate their philanthropy and continue to be a focal part of the community. They have been known to set the standard and lead by example, therefore, making them the “The Exemplar Eureka Lodge No. 64, F&AM PHA”. The lodge plans to continue their hard work looks forward to partnering with ALL PHamily lodges and others to create a united force throughout the MWPHGL.

Transitioned Brethren of Eureka Lodge No. 64:

- P.M. Charles Townsend
- P.M. Leslie Delaney

During the challenging times of the 2020 Pandemic, Eureka Lodge

2021 Lodge Officers:

- W.B. Tyreese Stafford, Worshipful Master
- Bro. Carl Joseph, Senior Warden
- Bro. Satori Jones, Junior Warden
- P.M. Billy Holloway, Treasurer
- P.M. Willie Mack, Secretary



Fathers and Sons

By Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews

Many young men from prior generations sought to follow in the footsteps of their forefathers with a religious-like fervor. For those who had positive, male role models in their lives, it could be quite easy to see how young men might want to follow in their footsteps. For others without a male influence in their lives, they become exposed to those things that are predominant around them. Many of the sons who have joined the Masonic ranks joined for both reasons. Many saw their fathers in a positive light and the Masonic environment around him. Considering this concept, it is not a surprise that many sons have followed their fathers into the ranks of Prince Hall Freemasonry.

Alternatively, there are sons who have joined the Masonic ranks prior to the elders. The activity of the sons in the works of charity have driven elders to pay closer attention to the surroundings of the younger male. In pursuing deeper dives into those surroundings, elders have sought to link into the same, positive environments as the younger males. In doing so, several have joined the Masonic ranks after a son or a younger brother did so.

This cycle should be a grand commentary on the positive aspects of the Masonic Order. It affirms that the order is still active, still alive and well,

still doing what it was meant to do if the ranks swell. It is for this reason that we have taken time in the past few editions of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal to spotlight fathers and sons who also call each other brother.

It was most definitely an honor and a pleasure for Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons to induct his son in to the Masonic ranks in 2021. Consider the initial joy that resided in the Grand Master's heart as his son was raised from a parallel to a living perpendicular. Having seen his father work and elevate by the result of his work to the highest office of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois, it is likely that he will become a Mason's Mason and work with the same veracity to extend the legacy of Prince Hall Freemasonry.

The Brothers Owens were the result of the efforts of the son. Past Master Bruce Owens worked diligently in the Masonic ranks as a member of Charity Lodge #108. With over 20 years of Masonic service under his belt, his father saw his labors and became interested in the Masonic Order. Bruce Owens Sr. was raised in 2017 by Most Worshipful Brother Dwayne A. Smith at which time the father and son duo could begin to call each other brother. The elder is now working in Illinois Freemasonry at the age of 97.



In Freemasonry

The Smith's in Joliet are father and son Past Masters of Stone City Lodge #35. To have reached the office of Worshipful Master means that a brother was well qualified to serve a Lodge by leading it.




Who better to have learned that role of leadership from that from his own father. The Past Masters Smith can now call each other "Worshipful Brother" which is can only be earned through service.

The example presented by the Smiths will most likely become the same pattern followed by the Jones. Kenneth Jones Sr. and Kenneth Jones Jr. are both proud members of Cable Lodge #119 of Chicago. Kenneth Sr. served as Worshipful Master of the Lodge for three terms in 1997, 1998 and 2001. As the current Lodge Secretary, he was elated to raise Kenneth Jr. to the Masonic ranks



in 2014. A recipient of the Grand Lodge Scholarship, he graduated with honors from Howard University in 2017 and is currently employed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). A proud father who has raised a brilliant son, Kenneth Sr. will one day call his son "Worshipful Brother" as well.

Other families have surpassed the immediate generational connections and have spanned generations. Grandfathers and great uncles leading the way for their sons and nephews who, in turn, do the same for their sons and nephews, creates a family legacy for service and dedication to the communities in which they live and serve. The Jenkins Family, for example, has a long legacy in Prince Hall Freemasonry. Starting generations ago in the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alabama with great grandfathers and uncles and continuing to today in Illinois. Clinton M. Jenkins joined King David Lodge #100 in June of 1982. He brought in 3 cousins, Fred, Samuel, and Charles in 1987. In 2016, he brought in his two sons, Clinton and Kyle and two nephews, Anthony and Victor. All are proud to be raised in King David Lodge #100.

There are many more father-son Masonic combinations that will be showcased in the near future. Yet the message is clear. Sons pay attention to their fathers. So, as fathers, let's all lead by example and fill our Masonic ranks. 

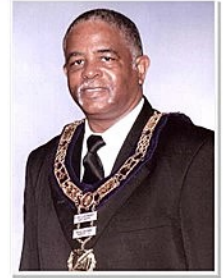




Someone You Should Know

By Worshipful Brother Lloyd Womack, Grand Historian

SISTER ZENOBIA MILLS



A MEMBER OF THE PRINCE HALL MASONIC FAMILY—“Z”—SOMEBODY WE ALL KNOW

As the Grand Historian without prejudice it is with great honor to write this article on my dear friend, Sister Zenobia Mills whom I lovingly refer to in my conversations with her as “Z”. It is not often that a Brother writes an in-depth article about a Sister but, as the Grand Historian, in my opinion, Sister Zenobia Mills is worthy of this article because she has truly earned the recognition and all of the accolades. What adjectives could I use to best describe my friend, Sister Zenobia Mills:

- She is a fair and honest person;
- She is an upright person;
- She calls a spade a spade;
- She does not straddle the fence; and
- She is a loyal and a dependable person.

I could go on and on with the descriptive adjectives about Sister Mills but I think you get the point.

Yes, Sister Mills is an upright person. If you want to hear or know the truth, just ask “Sister Zenobia Mills”. In a builder / carpenter terminology, when she speaks, she “hits the nail right on the head”. Further, Sister Mills is spiritual and a believer in the Great Creator. Yes, Sister Mills is a fair person regardless of who you are: May it be a Prince Hall Masonic Brother, a Sister of the Masonic Family, a friend, or a family member. She is going to tell you “the truth”, whether you like it or not. That’s Sister Zenobia Mills, and that’s a fact.

Prior to my contacting Sister Mills about writing this article on her, I “imagined” what she would say to me and it probably would go like this: “Oh No Brother Wo”: “Brother Wo; Brother Wo; Brother Wo”: Brother Wo why me? My response would be because you are worthy of this interview and article and the Brothers and Sisters would read it in print, “The Truth”. Therefore, Brothers and Sisters here is my interview as told to me by Sister Zenobia Mills, after a lengthy sympathetic plea and a convincing reason she gave in and gave the interview.

- **Mills:** I was born in Bolton, Ms. At 2 years of age my family moved to Chicago, Illinois. I lived and was raised on the West Side of Chicago. I come

from a close knit and loving family of 12 brothers and sisters. In 1964, I was amongst the first 60 African Americans to integrate Austin High School. In 1968, I graduated from Austin High School. As a young person in my earlier years, I had the opportunity to see President John F. Kennedy when he visited Chicago. However, my most delighted memory as a young person was to see Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who walked in a parade on the West Side of Chicago. Further, as an adult, I worked and campaign for Congressman Harold Washington who later became the first African American elected Mayor of Chicago.

- **Womack:** What a celebration and a joy of happiness.
- **Mills:** I am an international traveler. I love extensive travels. My travels were China, Korea, Canada, Jerusalem, Paris, France, the Virgin Islands, Antigua Bay Island, Jamaica, and numerous other Islands. In addition, I have had countless cruises not to exclude travels to other states within the United States of America. My work employment included computer operation for the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad (ICGR). Later, I owned and operated a Day Care Center for children ranging in the age 6 weeks to 12 years of age. In closing out my work employment, I retired as a Nurse working in Hospice.
- **Womack:** How long have you been a member of the Prince Hall Masonic Family?
- **Mills:** I have been a member of the Prince Hall Masonic Family for 40 years. I come from a Prince Hall Masonic Family: Father, uncles, aunts, brothers, and sisters. My father Brother Ben Mills, Sr., was a Mason in Mississippi, Southern Jurisdiction. My brother, Brother Joseph Mills as well as my aunts introduced me to the Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliated. Again, as stated earlier, I have been a member of the Prince Hall Masonic Family for 40 years. I served diligently and supported.



- **Womack:** What Chapter do you belong to?
- **Mills:** In 1981, I joined Evening Star Chapter No. 143, Order of the Eastern Star (OES). I served diligently and supported the Chapter for many years as well as Eureka Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star (OES), specifically, “the Educational and Scholarship Committee”. In 1987, I served as Worthy Matron. Following my years of service, I was awarded the title, “Deputy Grand Matron Emeritus”.
- **Womack:** What other Houses do you belong to?
- **Mills:** As I continue to serve diligently, I am a member of Pride of Monarch Court No. 84, Heroines of Jericho (HOJ). I am a Past Most Ancient Matron. I am a Past Illustrious Commandress of Arabic Court No. 21, An Auxiliary of the A.E.A.O.N.O.M.S. of North and South America and Its Jurisdiction. I currently serve as Imperial Directress of the Dorothy J. Scott “Relaxo Committee”. I also served as Chairperson for Past Imperial Potentate Oliver Washington, Jr., “Testimonial Ceremony”. Moreover, I serve as a member of the Thunderbolts Ceremony Team and I am Vice President of Daughter Paulette Brown, Deputy Imperial Commandress, “Booster Club”. As I conclude my talk about Arabic Court No. 21 and my service, I must mention when I was Illustrious Commandress, my friend, Daughter Carolyn S. Womack (pictured) served on my Commandress Ball Committee and she did an outstanding job. Again, Carolyn thank you for your service.
- **Womack:** You also do charitable works.
- **Mills:** There are many charitable things that I do to include working with the sick and shut in, but I prefer to keep it “private”. Brother Wo, you do understand this, “private”.
- **Womack:** Yes, Loud and Clear.
- **Mills:** Well Brother Wo, that’s about it and thank you for the interview.

As Grand Historian, there is no doubt why I chose to write this article on this amazing person, “Somebody We All Know”, namely, Sister Zenobia Mills. Sister Mills is a very active person within the



Prince Hall Masonic Family and serves unconditionally. Her service and her speaking the truth are clear and unquestionable. Sister Mills is a very private person and now, you the readers of this article now know, “just a little bit more about her”. She is true to character and I am happy to call her my friend. As Sister Womack often says about Sister Zenobia Mills, she is “That One In A Million”, and I do agree and “that’s the truth”.

Special Dedication of Namesake

Photos By Worshipful Brother H. Victor Payne

The Angel of Death has carried many brothers and sisters to that land where our fathers have gone before us in 2020 and 2021. Although they may no longer be with us in body, they remain with us in spirit and they are remembered for their services to Illinois Prince Hall Family and their friendships within. Their labors, being plentiful, shall never be forgotten as they are worthy of emulation. Hence, the dedication of walls at the Grand East, Holy Ground for Masons, in June.



On Saturday, June 26, 2021, memorial walls were dedicated to soldiers of the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family by Most Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow—Right Worshipful Brother James R. Jones, II; Sister Anna M. Cooper and Sister H. Lorraine Jeter. Jones had



been one of the longest serving, elected Grand Lodge Officers in Grand Lodge history. Past Worthy Grand Matron Cooper is remembered for her grace, mentorship, service and leadership. Past Worthy Grand Matron Jeter has a resume that is second to none (*see page 5*). May these walls forever stand as shining monuments to their years of dedication, leadership and service.

Basil the Herb

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



In my research, I found that the “Basil Leaves”, are surprisingly wholesome. Maybe, we forgot about the benefit of the “Basil Herb” from a health perspective. May I continue?

This aromatic herb, “Basil, not only enhances the flavor of foods, but you’re getting some nutritive benefit as well”. The herb contains small amounts of vitamin A (good for vision), vitamin C (important for wound healing), and vitamin K (key to blood clotting), as well as flavonoids, plant compounds that counter the oxidative damage implicated in heart disease and aging.

Also, it is reported that volatile oils in basil have antibacterial effects, and early studies suggest one volatile oil, eugenol, may also fight inflammation.

“Tip”, store basil leaves in a plastic bag with a damp paper towel, and keep it in the refrigerator.

In closing, think “Green” and as always,
“Lets Eat Healthy and Stay Happy”.



Memorial Walls at the Grand East



Upon entering the Grand East, the wall immediately to the East is dedicated to Jones (top right) highlighting each of the emblems that he created which represent all Masonic Houses in Illinois. The entire wall to the East of the elevator banks on the second floor of the Grand East (bottom row) is dedicated to Sister Jeter and will house the photos of Worthy Grand Matrons and Patrons of the future. The hallway to the Credit Union of the Grand Lodge adorns the photo Sister Cooper in recognition of her stellar acumen in administration and leadership. Family and friends joined all in these salutes.

The Holy Bible as it Relates to Freemasonry

By Worshipful Brother Lloyd Womack, Grand Historian

My Illustrious Brethren have you ever given it a thought regarding the importance of the Holy Bible to your Lodge? Did you ever give it a second thought why the Holy Bible is opened to its specific chapter and its importance to a Master Mason? More importantly have you taken the time to read it with understanding? After all, it only consists of 14 short verses. Just asking. Well my Brethren as the Grand Historian let me give to you some points as how the Holy Bible relates to Free Masonry.

First of all, the Bible is the Law of God. It is the sacred book of Christendom. The Bible is properly called "The Great Light of Freemasonry". It is an open book on the altar during the work of the Lodge. The Bible located at the center of the Lodge pours forth from the East, the West, and the South its refulgent rays of Divine Truth. The Bible is used among Masons as the symbol of the will of God however it may be expressed. The Holy Bible contains the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament popular authorized, the King James Version originally published in 1611.

In Prince Hall Masonry, the Holy Bible, just as the Charter, the Compass and Square is an important entity to a Lodge assemblage of Master Masons. It, too, authorizes the Lodge to open for labor. The Holy Bible is placed on the altar. The Compass and Square are placed

properly on the Holy Bible at the said Chapter and a detail explanation is given of its placement.

The specific scripture is very important to the Master Mason because it offers the need of spiritual change and guidance. If you read it with an open mind of understanding and "self interpretation", it will take you on a spiritual journey. The opening verse talks about the Creator in the days of the youth. This Chapter gives hope and requires you to put your trust in something higher than man's five senses. Often when in trouble we forget what we were taught. This then forces us to look to a higher source for help and guidance.

In the Chapter's, fourteenth and last verse it says, "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret, whether it be good or whether it be evil". My interpretation of this verse is that the Great Creator is in charge and for you to be patient, have faith, and trust in his infinite wisdom.

In closing, Brothers these are just a few points of the Grand Historian interpretation of how the Holy Bible relates to Free Masonry and to your Lodge. The Holy Bible has been around for a very long time. The Holy Bible has proven to be a spiritual guide as well as a good source of inspiration. Read the Holy Bible for yourself and gather your own interpretation.

Benjamin Banneker

By Worshipful Brother Lloyd Womack, Grand Historian

“Race prejudice, is merely the logical result of tradition, the inevitable outcome of through instruction to the effect that, the Negro, has never contributed anything to the progress of mankind”. Dr. Carter G. Woodson, “Father of Black History Month”.

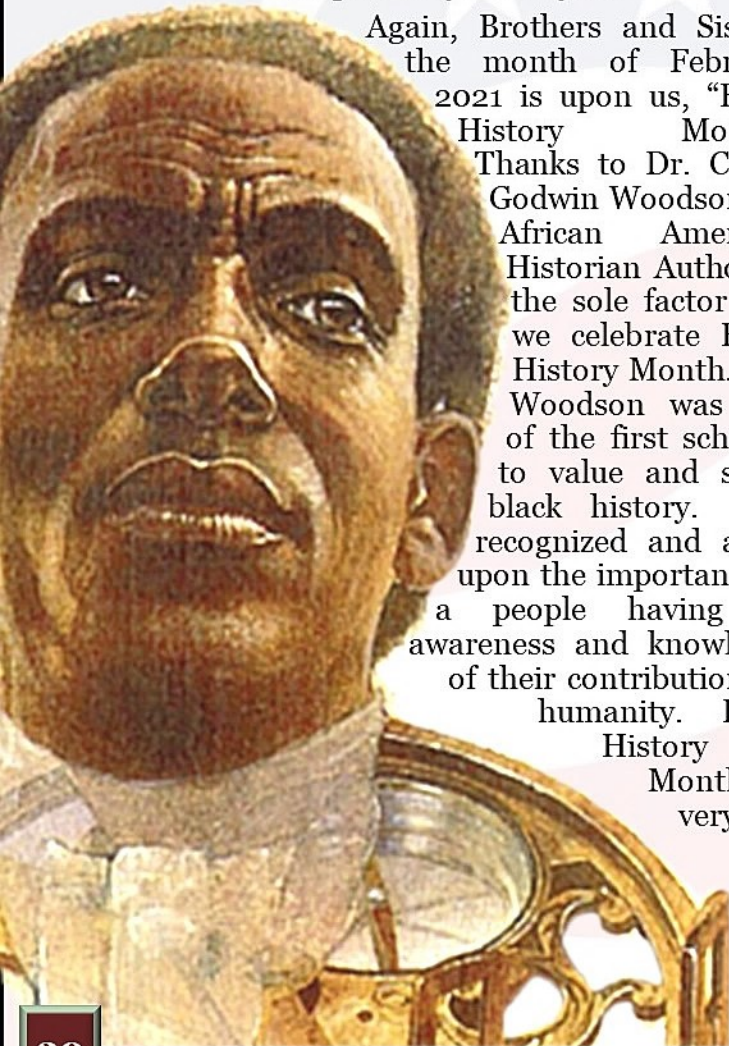
- *Did you know that Benjamin Banneker, an African American, a mathematician, an astronomer, a surveyor, completed the project the design to build our Nation's Capitol, Washington, D.C.? Of course you did. Shame on me for even asking this question.*
- *Ok. Did you know that Benjamin Banneker from memory reconstructed the redrawn plan that provided the frame work for the development of the Capitol City of Washington, DC and saved this dream city from turning into a complete loss? This project the design was completed in 1792.*
- *Did you know because of Benjamin Banneker's genius on September 18, 1793, President George Washington laid the cornerstone signifying the completion of the Project?*

Again, Brothers and Sisters, the month of February 2021 is upon us, “Black History Month”. Thanks to Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson, an African American Historian Author, is the sole factor that we celebrate Black History Month. Dr. Woodson was one of the first scholars to value and study black history. He recognized and acted upon the importance of a people having an awareness and knowledge of their contributions to humanity. Black History Month is a very

important month in the lives of African Americans across this globe. As Prince Hall Masons we cannot talk about Black History Month without talking about Prince Hall, our Founding Father the first Black Man to be made a Mason in America on March 6, 1775 in Boston, Massachusetts. It is because of Prince Hall's labors, dedicated services and sacrifices that the Prince Hall Masonic Family globally exists. In his honor, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois with participation from the Grand Historian's Office annually presents a “Black History Month Program”. Black History Month gives African Americans an opportunity to reflect on the pioneers of their race and the contributions that they have made to society. As the Grand Historian, this leads me too my topic of discussion, “The History of Mr. Benjamin Banneker”, someone we all should know.

We all know that countless African Americans who were enslaved built this great country that we live in called the United States of America. However, there was one African American born in the 18th Century, a free-man living in the slave state of Maryland who knew about the weight of iron shackles but never bore them and never felt the crack of a whip. This African American had significant accomplishments and correspondence with prominent political figures and spoke out against slavery. This African American in April 1792 completed the project design to build our Nation's Capitol, Washington, DC. His name is Benjamin Banneker.

Benjamin Banneker was born on November 9, 1731 in Ellicott's Mills, Maryland to Mary Bannaky, a free African American woman, and Robert Bannaky a former slave. He primarily worked as a farmer his entire life. He died on October 19, 1806 at the age of 74 in Catonsville, Maryland and is buried in Baltimore County. He lived on a farm all his life. He had little formal education. He was a self-taught student of mathematics and astronomy from borrowed books. He had a clear talent for math and machines. On the farm, he taught himself astronomy by watching the stars and learned advanced mathematics again from borrowed books. As an astronomer, he predicated the solar eclipse of 1789. He was also a successful surveyor. He was an almanac author and produced one of America's earliest almanacs. He was given a watch which he took apart to study



American Hero

its workings. He then carved similar watch pieces out of wood. In 1752, while in his twenties, he built a wooden clock, which may have been the country's first natively produced clock.

Mr. Banneker was known for his mathematical, astronomy and surveying skills. He was engaged by Mr. Andrew Ellicott, Surveyor, to help survey the Federal Territory. He was involved with the initial survey of the boundaries of the future Federal District. He drew the lines of the Federal Territory known now as the District of Columbia and produced the complete layout, streets, parks, and major buildings. In 1790, Washington, D.C. was established when an Act of Congress authorized a Federal District along the Potomac River. In 1791, George Washington, President, appointed three (3) Commissioners to supervise the planning and survey of the Federal District and City. One of the Commissioners was Thomas Jefferson a renowned architect, scientist and writer of the Declaration of Independence. He also helped write the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. In 1801, he was elected the 3rd President of the United States. He served two terms 1801-1809. President Washington appointed the team members for the architectural planning of the new city project as follows—Pierre Charles L'Enfant, Architect; Andrew Ellicott, Surveyor, (cousin of George Washington); and Benjamin Banneker, known for his skills as a mathematician and surveyor.

The architectural construction was lead by Pierre Charles L'Enfant a French American Military Engineer who served in the military under George Washington at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania during the winter of 1777-78. During that time, he established himself as an architect and became known for his pencil portraits of officers including Washington. Washington entrusted the monumental task of creating a plan for the new city to him stating he was "better qualified" than anyone.

In March 1791, Mr. L'Enfant and his team designed the original street layout plan for the new city of Washington, D.C. He was born on August 2, 1754. At 23 years of age, he designed the new Capitol City to be located where only forest and plantations stood embodied the democratic ideals and the new nation. On June 22, 1791, he presented the 1st Plan for the Federal City to President Washington who presented it to the overseeing Commissioners for review. The

Commissioners made changes to the plan to the dislike of Mr. L'Enfant. Accordingly, Mr. Jefferson's plan for the new capital showed a modest town with public walks connecting the Presidential House and the Capitol.

In 1792, Mr. L'Enfant, in another meeting with the Commissioners, disregarded their instructions. Following this tumultuous experience, he vowed never to submit to their authority, gathered all of his plans rolled under his arms and left the meeting. Washington had no other choice and was forced to dismiss Mr. L'Enfant for his defiance. Specifically, Mr. L'Enfant also failed to have his Plans Published. Washington learned that Benjamin Banneker had daily notes for the purpose of calculation and transcribed nearly all of Mr. L'Enfant's field notes regarding the planning and survey of the federal District. When Mr. Banneker learned that Mr. L'Enfant had packed everything and departed taking the plans with him, he retreated to his home, the farm, in Ellicott's Mills, Maryland and, within a 3 day period, reconstructed from "memory" the plan which provided the frame work for the development of the city of Washington, D. C. The genius of Mr. Banneker on display, he constructed the plans very near to the original lines. After carrying out the works that he was commissioned to do, which was the development of Washington, D.C., on September 18, 1793, President George Washington laid the cornerstone signifying the completion of the project.

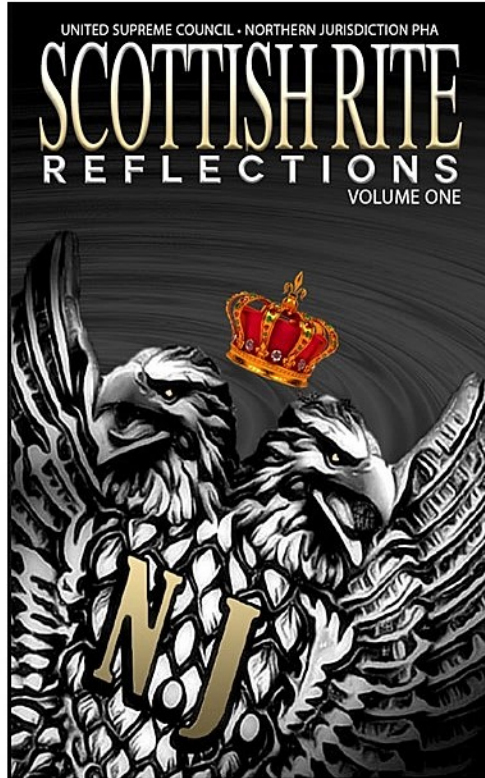
There is no doubt that Mr. Pierre Charles L'Enfant a French American Military Engineer and Architect designed the layout for the Capitol. However, it was Benjamin Banneker an African American who President George Washington, a "Mason", turned to when Mr. L'Enfant abandoned the project and took all of the layout plans. It was left "solely" up to Mr. Banneker to reconstruct the developed plans and he did it from "memory". He saved this monumental task, the design of the Nations Capitol, from turning into a complete loss.

In conclusion, we applaud Benjamin Banneker. He will forever be linked to the design of the nation's Capitol, Washington, D.C. Moreover, several Prince Hall Masonic Lodges throughout this nation were named in his honor.



Books You Should Know

By Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews, Editor



SCOTTISH RITE REFLECTIONS is a stimulating way of looking at Scottish Rite Masonry in particular and Freemasonry in general. This book examines the history, legacies, traditions, philosophies, and experiences through the eyes of Masonic practitioners. The book uniquely addresses the question "what Scottish Rite Masonry means to me". The answer to the question is qualitatively described in articles, essays, poems, and interviews. The aforementioned sources are rich in historical and contemporary Scottish Rite discussions. In addition, the book tells stories about the various positive impacts of the Scottish Rite on the lives of individuals. Brotherhood, friends, leaders, and mentors are integral parts of the stories told. This

impressive document will surely capture your attention and hopefully inspire you to raise questions about the Scottish Rite's mission and doctrine.

[Order today via www.uscnjpha.org](http://www.uscnjpha.org)

THE PRINCE HALL STORY REVISITED by John B. Williams is a must-have book for a Masonic library. The 20th-Century-story told about Prince Hall was based on a book written by William Henry Grimshaw, which has been proven to have errors in it. Williams has identified statements that historians are confident are wrong, and has outlined the logical consequences of removing those errors from the Prince Hall story.

[Order today at www.phstory.org](http://www.phstory.org)



Set the Record Straight

By Worshipful Brother Donnie Merritt, MSgt, USAF, Ret.



I came across a headline that read “Freedom isn’t free, I paid for it.” ...United States Veteran. As a retired Air Force veteran like many of you, I often receive this compliment from my fellow Americans, “thank you for your service.” But, I think there is a need to differentiate three known dates that are most appropriate to appreciate this sentiment. So, let’s set the record straight.

MEMORIAL DAY: According to Wikipedia, researchers like Pulitzer Prize winner, David Blight, tried to raise awareness that “freed slaves decided and requested permission to give a proper burial and decorate graves of unmarked soldiers so that black residents of Charleston would make sure their story was told.” One year later, commemoration was noted that *women* laid flowers on the graves of soldiers of the Civil War. Three (3) years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, Decoration Day “*was established as a day to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers.*” Later, in 1971 by an Act of Congress, May 30th, Memorial Day, was declared a national holiday.



ARMED FORCES DAY: According to military.com, On August 31, 1949 Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of Armed Forces Day, to create a same day event of Army, Navy and Air Force days. In an excerpt from the Presidential Proclamation of Feb 27, 1950, President Harry Truman stated: “Armed Forces Day, Saturday May 20th, 1950 marks the first combined demonstration by America’s defense of its progress, under the National Security Act, toward the goal of readiness for any eventually...”. Many military installations and municipalities are generally open this day as it is not a federal holiday. This day pays honor to those *currently serving*.



VETERANS DAY: America will typically, and I take liberty to add silently, observe Veterans Day on 11 November, 2020. According to Govinfo.gov, this observance was originally known as Armistice Day, set to honor the end of World War I in 1918. Proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson, 11 November 1919 honors “*military veterans*” who served in the United States Armed Forces. In 1938, through an Act of Congress, November 11th was made a legal holiday.



So, let’s get it right. The *only* day active duty military have precedence is Armed Forces Day! They should not and cannot be granted all three days. So, when you see me standing in the line on Veterans Day for a selected free/discounted meal or dessert at Applebee’s, Bob Evans, Buffalo Wild Wings, Denny’s, Golden Corral, and others identified on military.com, as we use to say, “make a hole”!

★ PRIMUS HALL ★

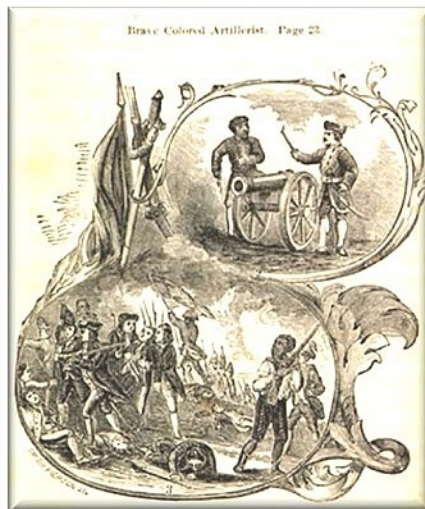
*'To whom much is given,
much will be required'*

Luke's passage from Luke 12:48 would define the life of Primus Hall. From his servitude to Ezra Trask, to his rise in upward mobility under Quarter Master General Timothy Pickering. Primus's life was one of service to others. He was one of the most important African Americans of the Colonial Period. Many eyewitnesses to history documented his vast accomplishments. Primus Hall's legacy is one of bravery, philanthropy and education. A veteran of the Colonial Army, he fought in several of the most significant battles under George Washington. From the testimony in the case H.R. 318 25th Congress 2nd Session January 4, 1838, the portrait of primus and his life comes into focus.

Much of what we know about Primus' life was from sworn testimony under the hearing for pension benefits in 1836. He was born February 29, 1756. He states that his mother was a slave named Deliah bonded to Ezra Trask and his father was **Prince Hall**. In a record request to the Department of Vital Statistics for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, a record of birth or marriage of Prince Hall would not have been recorded, because a union between a slave and a freeman would not have been recognized. Primus throughout his life denied he was ever a slave but apprenticed to Ezra Trask. Primus states that his father Prince Hall left him to the Trask family in exchange for vocational training as a shoemaker. (1) According to Primus he would be

freed on his 21st birthday when he would be legally responsible for himself. Many writers of the period have written in firsthand about Primus and refer to him as Prince Hall's son.

Defenders of Freedom



The Colored Patriots of the American Revolution / William Cooper Nell

The legacy of African Americans in Colonial Boston is without precedence. The first martyr for the cause of freedom was Crispus Attucks. Attucks a local dock worker was out front in a protest against the British Army. Of the five Americans killed that day, it is Crispus Attucks' name that is most remembered. Prince Estabrook was a local slave in Lexington, Massachusetts. Estabrook served under the Lexington Militia commanded by Captain John Parker. At dawn on April 19, 1775, he was one of the Lexington Minute Men awaiting the arrival of the British Regulars at the Buckman Tavern. In the battle which followed, Prince Estabrook was wounded on Lexington Green. Through circumstances and destiny, he thus became the first black soldier to sustain injury in battle

during the American Revolution. (2) Peter Salem who was given his freedom by Major Lawson Buckminster and soon enlisted and served for 5 years. He is considered by William Copper Nell, a hero of the Battle of Bunker Hill. (3) Prince Hall is rumored to have enlisted in the Continental Army. The records of the 6th Massachusetts show a soldier named Prince Hall. Of the 5 men listed in Boston named Prince Hall, 4 had served in the Continental Army. Prince Hall was well known within the Boston Community as an advocate and petitioner to the Colonial Court. These men would be of the best known in the African American community and would have a profound effect on the life of Primus Hall.

The Sons of Africa - Petitioners of Freedom

On the evening of December 16, 1773, the meeting minutes for St. Andrews Lodge, recorded that the meeting was cancelled do to lack of quorum. In one of the biggest coincidences in American History, those same members under the name of the Son's of Liberty, would throw cases of tea into Boston Harbor. Many of those members were no stranger to Prince Hall and other members of Boston's Black community. (4) The Felix Petition was filed on January 6, 1773, and submitted to the Hon. Thomas Hutchinson, Esq; Governor of Massachusetts Bay. This was the first petition made by an African American to the Court in Massachusetts. The sole signature on the document was signed as Felix. In the beginning of these petitions, there was

American Patriot of the Revolutionary War

great fear of the men who were seeking a response from the court. They called themselves the 'Sons of Africa' and "A Lover of True Liberty".

Prince Hall would be a significant spokesman for the cause. He would petition the court several times, in particular, his petition would gain the attention of Abigail Adams the future First lady and one of the early abolitionists. Many of the whites in Boston called this movement "A conspiracy of the Negroes". Abigail would be one of the first women in the America's to hold public office. She would serve as magistrate for Governor Thomas Gage. Fearing fortune lives of Prince Hall and other signers of the petition, she would write her husband John Adams, who at the time was in France precurng financing for the revolutionary war. In her letter she writes the following:



By Past Master
Gerald A. Urso,
MWUGL of
Florida, PHA

of "a conspiracy of the negroes," referring to the June petition signed by Prince Hall and others and presented to Thomas Gage, the newly appointed governor of Massachusetts. She wrote that "it always appeared a most iniquitous scheme to me to fight ourselves for what we are daily robbing and plundering from those who have as good a right to freedom as we have. (5)



Massachusetts Historical Society



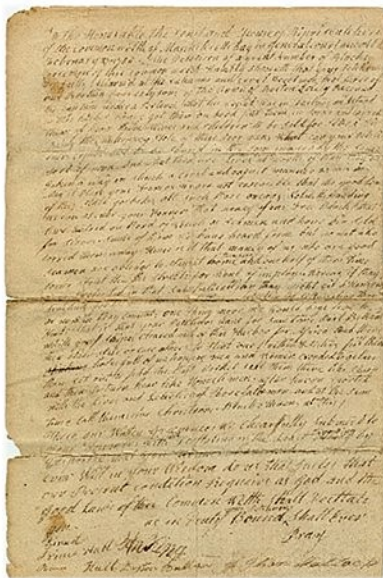
Petition 1/13/1777

On September 22, 1774, Abigail Adams wrote to her husband John

While enlisted in the army alongside Prince Hall,

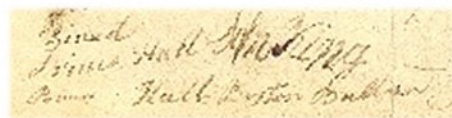


Primus would be a co-signer on the Petition January 13, 1777. It is of particular interest that Primus was now twenty-one years of age and would sign the petition as Primes Hall and not Primus Trask. The letter had a change of tone as the petitioners were simultaneously fighting for their own freedom as well as the freedom of Americans against the British Government. Also, in 1777, Prince Hall and eight other black Bostonians presented yet another petition to the General Court, appealing to "A people Not Insensible of the Secrets of Rational Being Nor without spirit to Resent the unjust endeavors of others." Although very similar in language to the one rejected by Governor Thomas Gage in May 1774 -- a number of phrases, in fact, were lifted verbatim -- the new petition was quite different in tone, impatiently noting the fact that "your petitioners have Long and patiently waited the event of petition after petition ."As it had five times before, the legislature failed to act affirmatively on the petition, referring it instead to the Congress of the Confederation.(6)



January 4, 1787 Prince Hall Petition / Harvard EDU

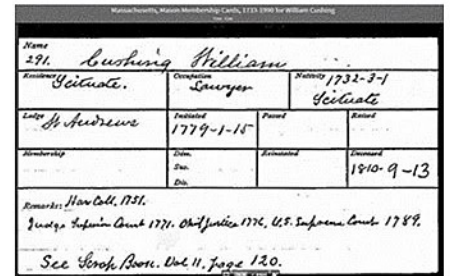
The petition of January 4, 1787, was significant as it may have been written by both Prince Hall and Primus Hall. This was directed at the treatment of African Americans living under fear of slave catchers in the colonies. Three such citizens were captured in Boston and were sent to the Caribbean to be sold. The front page of the letter is signed by Prince Hall and Primus Hall and the balance of the petitioner's signatures are on the back. The letter had a profound impact as fugitive slave laws were repealed in Massachusetts. The Petition of a number of Blacks, freemen of this commonwealth humbly showed: "That your petitioners are justly alarmed at the inhuman and cruel treatment that three of our brethren, free citizens of the town of Boston, lately received. The captain, under pretense that this vessel was in distress on an Island below in this harbor, having got them on board, put them in irons, and carried them off from their wives and children, to be sold as slaves. This being the unhappy state of these poor men. what can your petitioners expect but to be treated in the same manner by these same sort of men? What then are our lives and liberties worth, if they may be taken away in such a cruel and unjust manner..."(7)



Signature Prince Hall Primes Hall. January 4, 1787 Prince Hall Petition / Harvard EDU

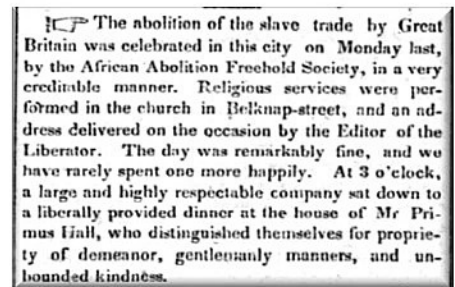
Massachusetts Courts would find listening and attentive ears to the petitions from the Son's of Africa. The Quock Walker decision in particular sounded like church bells on a Sunday morning for the petitioners.

Quock Walker, a slave in Worcester County Massachusetts, sued for his freedom and filed assault charges against Nathaniel Jennison. Jennison then sued the Caldwell's for employing Walker, and a jury declared that Quick Walker was a free man. Jennison's appeal to the State Supreme Court was heard by Chief Justice William Cushing, a member of St. Andrews Lodge in Boston.(8) The appeal was dismissed. The Chief Justice's decision would reverberate throughout the entire commonwealth. By the standard framed in the Massachusetts State Constitution the Judge declared Walker free.



M.W.G.L. of Massachusetts

When it was first announced that articles were before parliament on the abolition of the slave trade by Great Britain, Primus enthusiastically hosted a reception in his home. It was cause for celebration. The event was published in the Liberator on July 21, 1832. However, it would be another year before the end of the slave trade in 1833.



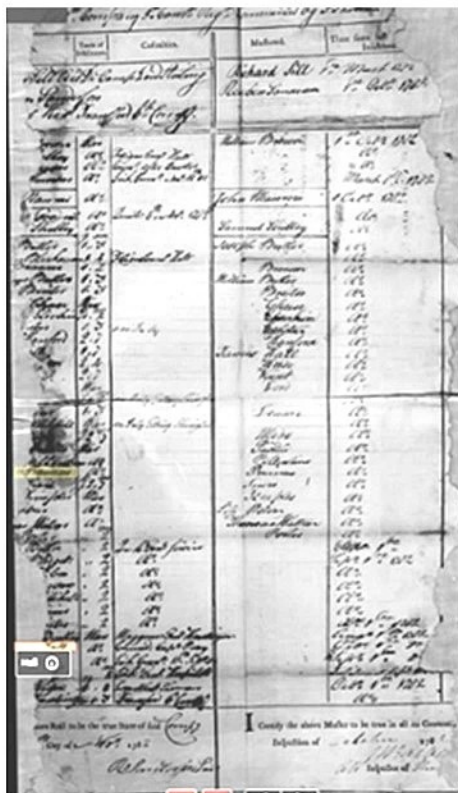
The Liberator Boston, Massachusetts Sat, Jul 21, 1832 - Page 3

The abolition of the slave trade by Great Britain was celebrated



celebrated in this city on Monday last, by the African Abolition Freehold Society, in a very credible manner. Religious services were performed in the church in Belknap-street, and an address delivered on the occasion by the Editor of the Liberator. The day was remarkably fine, and we have rarely spent one more happily. At 3 o'clock, a large and highly respectable company sat down to a liberally provided dinner at the house of Mr. Primus Hall, who distinguished themselves for propriety of demeanor, gentlemanly manners, and unbounded kindness.(9)

**Military Service
Revolutionary War**



Registry of the 5th Massachusetts fold3.com

Primus enlisted in the war at age 19 and joined Prince Hall as members of the 5th Massachusetts Regiment. It is on

his military records where he uses the name Primus Hall alias Trask. The 5th Regiment waited out the Siege of Boston and then deployed to New York. He fought in the Battle of Harlem Heights and White Plains. Under testimony Josiah Hussey states the following:

"The Petition of Primus Hall alias Trask a colored man and a Native Citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts respectfully represents That your Petitioner served as a Soldier in the Revolutionary War with Great Britain, and was in actual service Nineteen months and an half as a private Soldier and was in several skirmishes and Battles with the Enemy, particularly at White Plains in the State of New York and at Trenton and Princeton in New Jersey when the Hessians and British were taken at those places, At the latter place He made Prisoners of two of the Enemy with his own hands after pursuing them over half a mile."

Primus participated in the Siege of Yorktown, and present for the surrender of British General Charles Lord Cornwallis. On October 17, 1777, ten days after the Second Battle of Saratoga, Primus was present for the surrender of General John Burgoyne as he surrendered his sword to General Horatio Gates. Primus Hall was present at Washington's crossing of the Delaware and the battle of Trenton. (10)

The following is testimony of Elijah Flint son of Captain Samuel Flint:

I Elijah Flint of Danvers do testify and declare that I am seventy three years of age; that I am the reputed son of Capt. Samuel Flint formerly of this town, who with his first Lieut. Herrick of Beverly were killed while engaged with their company of Militia, Oct. 7th 1777 at Stillwater or Bhemis' Heights, at the Capture of

Gen. Burgoyne and his Army and I do further declare that I know personally and have long known Primus Trask, since called Primus Hall, a colored man, who was brought up in the family of Ezra Trask, formerly of Beverly but subsequently of Danvers; that it has been and now is matter of notoriety that said Primus was engaged as a soldier in the service of his country in the Revolutionary war, that this has not been disputed within my knowledge; and I do farther declare that it has been currently reported that said Primus was present in the battle in which said Capt. Sam'l. Flint was killed; and farther, that I always considered said Primus a man of good character for truth and veracity. Danvers Oct. 7, 1835 (11)

On the onset of the War of 1812 Primus Hall answered the call of duty. He was assigned to the fortification of Boston Harbor. Renamed Fort Independence by President John Adams the fortification was essential in protecting the city of Boston from British invasion. (12)

After the war, Primus requested to steward himself under the Quarter Master General of the Continental Army, General Timothy Pickering. In a letter to his wife Pickering details his first encounter with Primus. He wrote his wife, "I have luckily met with a likely negro fellow who has lived several years in Salem ... He desired to live with me as a Servant ... He said he would not have tendered me his service, but that I was a New England man, & he knew my character." and further that "he was so intelligent to be capable of learning anything.". (13) In the standards of the time this would have been a significant opportunity for advancement for Primus Hall. This relationship would have presented Primus to many of the founding fathers.

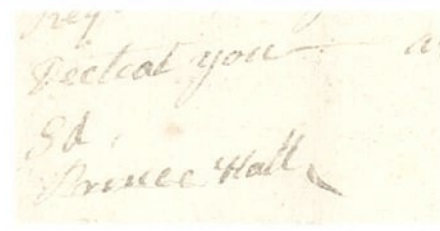
There are several accounts with

Primus and George Washington. On one account Primus and General Pickering were sleeping when Primus heard stomping feet. Primus with his curiosity peeked and noticed General Washington stomping his feet to keep warm. Primus offered the General his bedroll. Hours later Washington noticed Primus sleeping while sitting on a box. Washington invited Primus into the tent, and they shared a makeshift bed made of a blanket and hay.

Another account from Godey's Lady's Book for June, 1849, to which it was communicated by Rev. Henry F. Harrington : while in camp, when Washington felt he needed exercises, Hall set up a sort of jump rope for him, fastening one end to a stake and holding the other taut at his own chest. This anecdote gave an amusing picture of the nation's founding father engaged in play 'with true boyish zest.' It revealed little about Primus Hall, other than he seemed to be at General Washington's beck and call. (14)

African Lodge #459

Primus Hall was a member of African Lodge #459. Not much is known on how involved he was in the lodge. Financial records show a financial statement with his name. In Prince Hall Life and Legacy by Charles H. Wesley, Wesley details the 1st normal school was started in Prince Halls home then later in the home of Primus Hall. The Financial records of African Lodge #459 show a receipt to Primus Hall. Primus was well traveled, especially during his time with the Quartermaster General and that may account for him not taking a more active role in the Lodge.



Financial Records African Lodge #459

African Meeting House

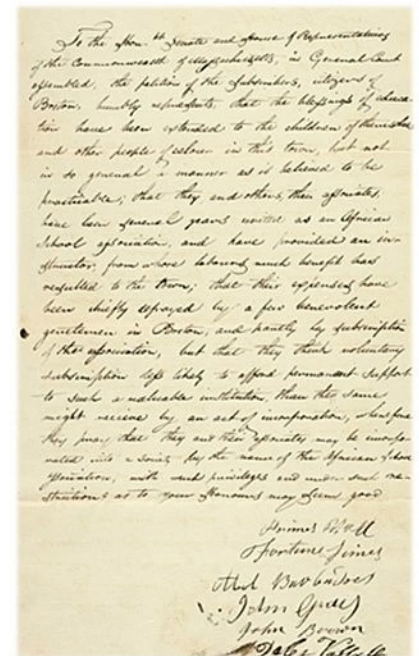


THE COLLEGE.
 Pursuant to a notice published in the Liberator, October 28th, a meeting was held at the African School Room, on Monday evening, Nov. 7th, on the subject of the College, proposed by the Philadelphia Convention. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Samuel Snowden; after which, Mr Primus Hall was called to the Chair, and Mr J. T. Hilton appointed Secretary. The meeting was addressed by several gentlemen, among whom were Messrs Hall, Roberts, Barbadoes, Putnam, Cole and Cutler, Mr Remond of Salem, and the Rev. Mr Snowden, all of whom were in favor of the establishment of the Institution herein spoken of. The company were also happily favored with the presence of the venerable Richard Johnson of New-Bedford.
 The proposition of the council of the 28th ult. to form a State Society, to raise funds in aid of the said Institution, as requested in the proceedings of the Convention, was by a vote unanimously accepted. It was also voted, that notice be given through the Liberator, inviting the several towns throughout the State to send one or two delegates to unite in forming a Society in aid of the aforesaid object, which meeting will take place at the African School Room on Tuesday, the 29th inst. at 7 o'clock, P. M.
 Voted, That the agents of the Liberator, residing in this State, be requested to make these proceedings known, and to exert their influence in impressing upon the minds of the people the importance of the object.
 It is hoped that an object fraught with so much good to the colored population of America, will not otherwise than arouse the sleeping energies of their souls, promptly to lend their aid and influence wherever they may be; and to endeavor to enforce upon each other's minds the many advantages to be derived from the establishment of an Institution like that in contemplation, whose effect upon long rooted prejudice will be like the playing of the Summer's sun upon an icy substance.
 Voted, That Messrs Garrison and Knapp be politely requested, by the Secretary, to give publication to these proceedings, for three weeks in succession, in their useful paper.
PRIMUS HALL, Chairman.
J. T. HILTON, Secretary.

The Liberator Boston, Massachusetts
 26 Nov 1831, Sat • Page 4

The school that was located in the home of Primus was moved to the African Meeting House. The African Meeting House, also known as First African Baptist Church, First Independent Baptist Church and the Belknap Street Church, was built in 1806. It is now the oldest black church edifice still standing in the

United States. Thomas Paul, an African-American preacher from New Hampshire, led worship meetings for blacks at Faneuil Hall. Paul, with twenty of his members, officially formed the First African Baptist Church on August 8, 1805. Elisha Sylvester was a teacher at the school. Sylvester a friend of John and Abigail Adams. Abigail was known to have taught black children in Boston to read and this may explain the relationship of Elisha Sylvester and Primus Hall. (15) Primus was also the first African American to form a board of education. He solicited funds from local tradesman and seaman on Boston Harbor. The school relied on donations from wealthy white benefactors and tuition paid by the families who sent their children. It was not until 1812, by continued activism and petitioning, that the African School finally received public funds for education. Primus enlisted students from Harvard University to teach at the school. Primus also wanted to prepare African American students for college.



1812 Petition to
 The Massachusetts Assembly.



On May 2, 1786, Primus Trask Hall was married to Phebe Robson by Rev. Stephen Lewis at the Christ Church, now commonly known as the Old North Church. She died in 1908. Primus then married Martha Gardner on January 17, 1808. Martha would pass away on January 20, 1817. Primus Hall was married to Anna Clark on October 29, 1817. (16) Ann Clark after Primus' death would petition for Primus' benefits. (17) Primus fathered seven children over the course of his three marriages.

Hall died on March 22, 1842 in Boston. William Lloyd Garrison who Primus supported in his abolitionist causes, would write and publish his obituary in the *Liberator*:

Primus Hall—April 8, 1842

Here is a notice of death of Hall from the Boston Transcript, in which Hall is listed as 84 at death. "Mr. Hall was well known, particularly to the younger portion of our citizens, to whom he was in the habit of recounting scenes of the revolutionary war, especially the capture of General Burgoyne, and the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, at both of which he was present. He was attached to the Quartermaster General's Department, and for about two years was in the military family of General

Washington, of whom he spoke with that fervor of attachment which was common to all who were personally acquainted with that great man. He has departed full of years, to meet, we trust, the reward of a good and faithful servant." (18)

Primus Hall captivated the children of Boston in the later years of his life. He was one of the few living people in Boston who knew the 1st President of the United States. In the heart of the Boston Commons, crowds gathered and hung on every word as he spun tale after tale of the battles of the Revolutionary War. Over thirty veterans wrote sworn affidavits testifying to his military service. Primus was a founder of First Independent Baptist Church and was a champion of education. He was an abolitionist and even his several real-estate transactions would make its way to the pages *Liberator*. His petitions to the courts made him a marked man by slave owners and bounty hunters. Primus was in the company of the founding fathers and stood on the grounds of the most famous battles in American history. Many writers of the period knew Primus personally, such as William Cooper Nell and William Lloyd Garrison. Both would write about Hall in firsthand accounts. He

married in Old North Church and many of the footprints where he stood in those great edifices still stand today. Faith, Hope and Charity, which are said to be the three Principal Moral Virtues. Primus Hall was its greatest examples of a Man and Mason.

About the Author

Honorable Brother Gerald A. Urso MPS serves as Grand Historian for the Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge of Florida. He is a Past Master of Sollie Mitchell Lodge #377 in Jacksonville and Shining Light Lodge #401 in St Petersburg, Florida. Illustrious G.I.G. Urso serves as the Historian and Lecturer for the Florida Council of Deliberation. He curated at the Ritz Theatre and Museum in 2019 the exhibit entitled "Leading Black Masons and Eastern Stars Building the Social Construct in Florida from Civil War to Jim Crow". He is the professor of History for the Walter Gully, Jr. University of Instruction. In 2016, he was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Real Rosewood Foundation in Archer, Florida. He is a volunteer teacher at the Jacksonville Urban League, member of the Florida Historical Society and Jacksonville Remembrance Project. He is a member of the Lux e Tenebris Chapter of the Phylaxis Society. The sources for this work include:



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2. Inscribed on monument to Prince Estabrook.
3. The Colored Patriots of the American Revolution, With Sketches of Several Distinguished Colored Persons: To Which Is Added a Brief Survey of the Condition And Prospects of Colored Americans Electronic Edition. Nell, William Cooper
4. Paul Revere / George Daniel MacGregor Pushee III, Virginia College
5. Letter from September 22, 1774 Abigail Adams to John Adams Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston
6. <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/part2/2h32.html>
7. <https://iif.harvard.edu/manifests/view/drs:48568740811>
8. Harper, Douglass. Emancipation in Massachusetts, Slavery in the North
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12. William Cooper Nell (1855). The Colored Patriots of the American Revolution
13. Margot Abolitionism and the Politics of Memory in Massachusetts: Abolitionism and the Politics of Memory in Massachusetts.
14. Godey's Lady's Book Louis Antoine Godey (1804-1878)
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18. <http://theliberatorfiles.com/primus-hall/>



Monument to Black Soldiers of the American Revolutionary War, Savannah, Georgia

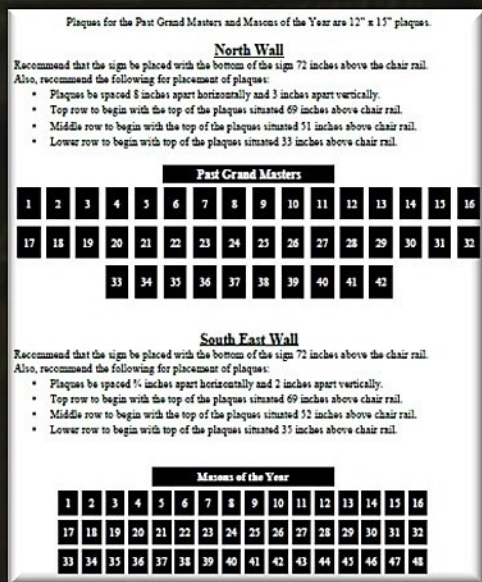
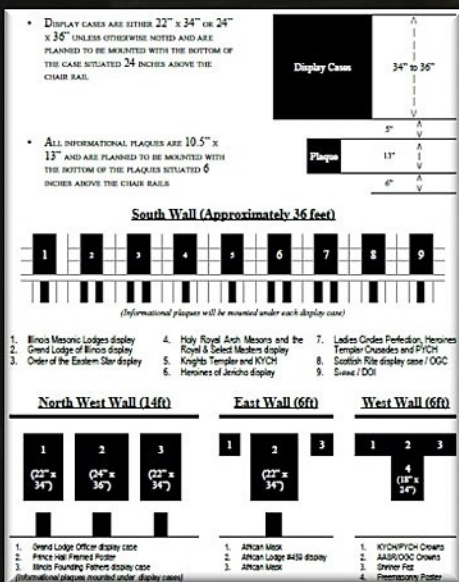
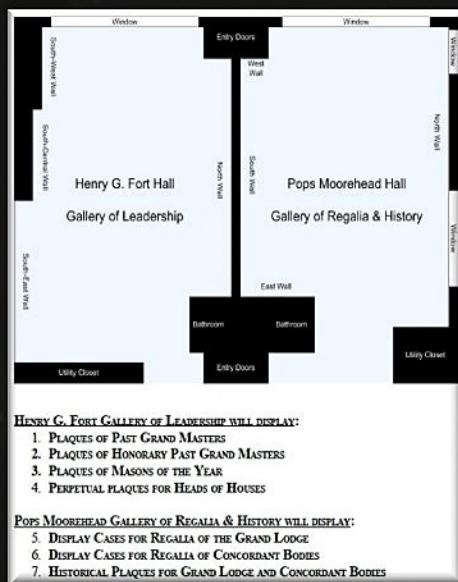
Historical Galleries

Many questions have been rendered by new and old members of the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family regarding the genesis of the historical galleries that adorn the walls of Pops Moorehead Hall and Henry G. Fort Hall at the Grand East. Although the galleries were introduced over a decade ago in 2010, their genesis actually began years earlier due to visits at the famous DuSable Museum in the City of Chicago. In fact, it can be traced back to 2004.

In 2004, Most Worshipful Brother Jerry Butler sought the opportunity to host public Grand Lodge events in venues that represented the African American community. DuSable Museum in Chicago, Illinois is a preeminent venue which represented this criteria to the fullest. Working through Right Worshipful Brother Steven R. Coleman, this venue was secured and became the site of a Prince Hall Americanism Day Celebration. Members from non-Prince Hall affiliated organizations were also invited as an olive branch for potential discussions relative to Masonic legitimacy. Although those conversations were not fruitful, a secondary premise arose based on the fact that there was not a deliberate exhibit which showcased Prince Hall Freemasonry although many of the citizens showcased in the museum were actually Prince Hall Masons. This catalyst set the stage for efforts to capture and showcase Prince Hall history in a public manner.

In 2009, the idea to introduce the possibility of placing a permanent exhibit in the DuSable Museum was revisited by Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews. He obtained permission from Most Worshipful Brother Otis W. Cromartie to meet with DuSable Museum to investigate the requirements for building an exhibit on Prince Hall Freemasonry. With permission granted, he was referred to Coleman for consultation due to his relationship with the museum. Together, they met with DuSable Museum leadership and reported back to the Grand Lodge. In his report, Andrews noted that there was a significant cost associated with creating an exhibit within the museum's standards and recommended that Pop's Moorehead Hall be used as a temporary place to showcase the various artifacts. This request was granted which set design and implementation processes in motion.

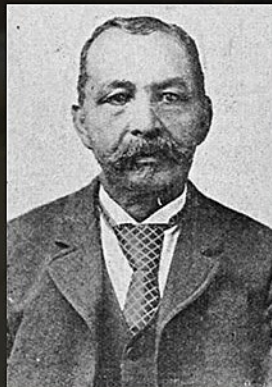
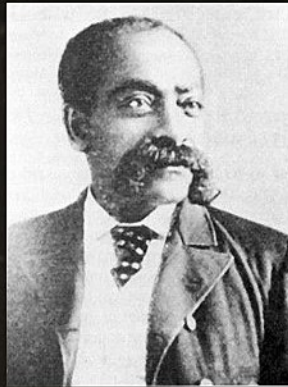
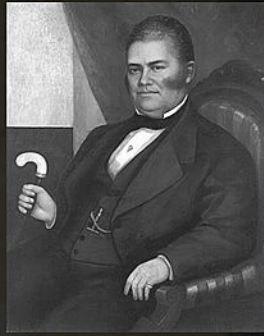
The Historical Committee team took on the challenge in the Fall of 2009 to design, construct and implement the project with the assistance of many hands within the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family. The core team lead by Andrews consisted of Coleman; Carl Pickett, #109; Sister Sharithea Cherry, #153; Sister Tammy Hampton, #90, and Sister Jasmine Brewer, #114. As efforts progressed, the team expanded to include Carl K. Garner, #29; Walter "T-Bird" Anderson, #88; William Alston, #68 and others. Calls were sent



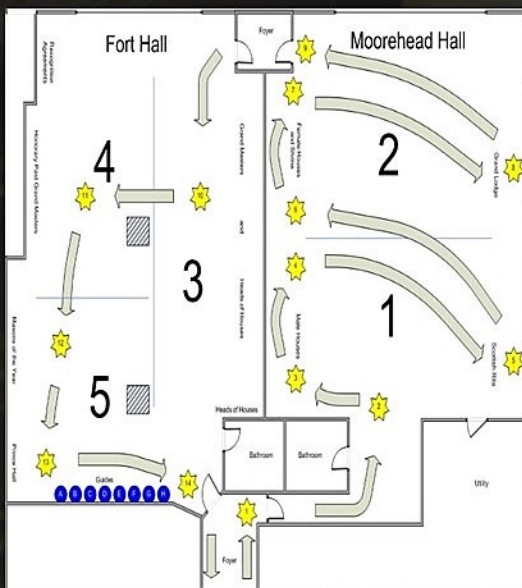
at the Grand East

out by letter to the membership at large and to the Heads of Houses to provide artifacts, histories, photos of historical significance and financial donations. By the Spring of 2010, a multitude of items were received from every Illinois Masonic body. Display boxes were ordered and prepared by Andrews and Pickett. The designs for the galleries were created by Andrews and Pickett. Construction expertise of Anderson, Garner and Alston ensured the plans were implemented accordingly.

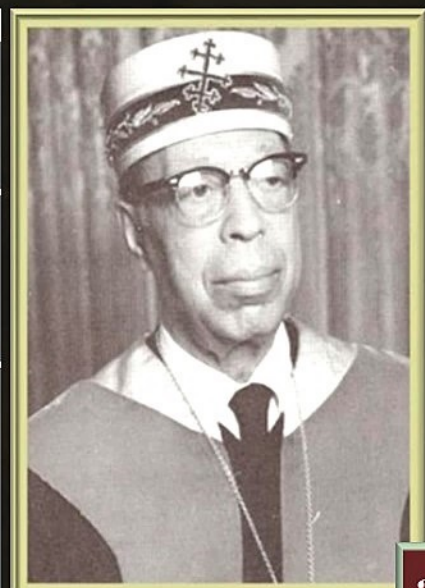
The construction concluded in early June of 2010 utilizing the funds and resources that were donated and lent by the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family and the estates of brethren who had gone on to glory. All proceeds utilized to construct the galleries were received from funds that were donated by organizations and individuals from across the Illinois Jurisdiction and could not have been accomplished without the support of Sisters Cherry, Brewer, Hampton and H. Lorraine Jeter. The costs to prepare the artifacts for display exceeded \$10,000. Yet, the labor of love to move the effort forward extended further than dollars could measure.



The wall cases, themselves, were ordered from a manufacturer which provided a great rate for the bulk purchase. With fiberglass covers for each box in place, the contents were protected. They were solidly hung under the direction of Anderson, Garner and Alston. Custom cases were also built free of charge and hung by Alston as well to house the swords that protect the portrait of Prince Hall on the Northwest wall of Moorehead Hall. Specific donations were also obtained from **John Jones Lodge #7** who lent the portrait of John Jones, Past Grand Master of Ohio (top), who was the first black elected to political office in Illinois. This portrait along with those purchased from the Library of Congress—Most Worshipful Brothers Benjamin F. Rogers (middle), our very first Grand Master; and Richard Howell Gleaves (bottom) who extended Masonry to Illinois—adorn the North Wall of Moorehead Hall. The photos of Scottish Rite leaders were placed to their right including the portrait of Past Sovereign Grand Commander Frank M. Summers, the only Sovereign Grand Commander of Scottish Rite Masons from Illinois (below).



Key Points for Guides and Lecturers	
<p>Area #1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guides will direct guests through the foyer which will be lined with photographs to the Pope Moorehead Gallery to begin the presentation of the History and Regalia of the Grand Lodge and its Concordant Bodies. The Guide will review the beginnings of Prince Hall Freemasonry within America and highlight the linkage between the Founding Fathers and the Prince Hall Affiliated Grand Lodge of Illinois. The Guide will introduce the York Rite Lecturer to discuss the regalia and history of the Holy Royal Arch, Royal and Select Masters, Knights Templar and KVCH. The Guide will introduce the Scottish Rite Lecturer to discuss the educational aspects of the Scottish Rite. The Scottish Rite Lecturer will review the aspects of the Scottish Rite and introduce the Order of the Golden Circle. Upon completion, the Scottish Rite Lecturer will return the group to the Guide. 	<p>Area #3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Guide will introduce the Grand Masters of the Illinois Jurisdiction and the Heads of Grand Concordant Bodies.
<p>Area #2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Guide will introduce the OES and Female York Rite Lecturers to discuss the OES, HDL, LOODP, HTC and PVOH. The Guide will introduce the Shrine Lecturer who will discuss the regalia and history of the Shrine and the Daughters of Isis. The Guide will introduce the Grand Lodge Lecturer who will discuss the regalia and history of the Founding Fathers of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. The Guide will conduct the audience to the Fort Gallery and introduce the leaders of the bodies for which the history and regalia has been revealed. 	<p>Area #4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Guide will review the Recognition Agreements and introduce the Honorary Past Grand Masters of the Illinois Jurisdiction.
<p>Area #5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Guide will introduce the Masons of the Year. The Guide will culminate the tour with the Founder, First Grand Master and personal Mason of the Year, Prince Hall. The Guide will lead the guests to the elevator banks to the second floor dining hall for refreshments. 	<p>Area #5</p>



Photos of Past Grand Masters, Honorary Past Grand Masters and Masons of the Year were obtained from the archives of Brian L. Abrams Sr. and William L. Norman, Souvenir Ad Book from Masonic events and past editions of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal Publication. These images were transformed into plaques and attached to the walls in Henry G. Fort Hall. The Heads of Houses were placed on the East Wall in Fort Hall and the framed portrait of Prince Hall, custom built by the hands of Anderson and Alston, adorned the South Wall of Fort Hall next to the Masons of the Year. Altogether, the project

and the resulting displays in both Halls covered the entire diaspora of Prince Hall Freemasonry in Illinois.

The galleries were opened to the Prince Hall Masonic Family in June of 2010 with a brilliant ceremony that showcased the importance of the effort and its potential impacts for future generations of Prince Hall Masons. After the presentation and refreshments, the ribbon cutting ceremony was unveiled and tours were given through each of the galleries in order to present the works to an audience which consisted of the Prince Hall Masonic family and many



many citizens from the public. Members were regaled in each station of the gallery highlighting the history of their specific body in Pops Moorehead Hall. Subsequently, the tour groups were shifted to the gallery of leadership in Henry G. Fort Hall to view and learn the history of each Past Grand Master, Honorary Past Grand Master and Masons of the Year. The grand displays of history were extremely well received resulting in multiple public and private tours in the years that followed.

Unfortunately, not enough funds were raised to reserve exhibit space in the DuSable Museum.

Yet, the galleries continue to grow in their present locations in the Grand East. As a Grand Master passes the chair or a new Honorary Past Grand Master is anointed, his portrait is affixed on the wall of Henry G. Fort Hall. The portraits of new Masons of the Year are affixed annually on the southern wall of this hall as well. As new regalia presents itself, the cases on the walls of Pops Moorehead Hall are refreshed and refilled. As such, the historical galleries are not stuck in stone but are living monuments to the history and leadership for the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family.



MWPHGL HISTORICAL GALLERIES

OF LEADERSHIP, HISTORY AND REGALIA

MWPHGL HISTORICAL COMMITTEE:

Right Worshipful Brother Daryl Andrews, #91, Chairman
 Right Worshipful Brother Steven R. Coleman, #99
 Worshipful Brother Carl Garner, #29
 Sister Jasmine Brewer, #114, OES
 Sister Shariatha Cherry, Imani Chapter #153, OES
 Worshipful Brother Adrian Cooley, #155
 Sister Tammy Hampton, #90, OES
 Worshipful Brother Charles Holiday, Jr., #91
 Worshipful Brother Tyrone Jackson, #100
 Worshipful Brother Carl Pickett, #109
 Worshipful Brother Sean Queen, #91

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION:

Right Worshipful Brother Walter Anderson, #88
 Brother William Alston, #68
 Brother Kyle Andrews, #91
 Brother Troy Andrews, #91
 Worshipful Brother Lawrence Walker, #91
 2010 Worshipful Masters Club - Chris Callhoun, #155, President
 2010 MWPHGL Wardens Club - Earl Young, #116, President



HEADS OF GRAND CONCORDANT BODIES:

Sister Paulette Brown, Worthy Grand Matron, OES
 Brother William Jackson, Worthy Grand Patron, OES
 Most Exc. Comp. Melvin Crawford, Grand High Priest, HRAM
 Sister Sheryl Walton, Most Ancient Grand Matron, HOJ
 Brother Jesse Smith, Most Worthy Grand Joshua, HOJ
 Most Ill. Comp. Enoch Clark-Bey, Grand Thrice Ill. Master, RSM
 Sister Clara Jackson, Royal Gr. Perfect Matron, LOCOP
 Ill. Comp. Walter Anderson, Royal Grand Advisor, LOCOP
 Sister H. Lorraine Jeter, GGC Gr. Matron, LOCOP
 Ill. Comp. Jerome Abner, GGC Gr. Royal Advisor, LOCOP
 Sir Knight Joseph Ryan, Rt. Eminent Grand Commander, KT
 Sister Dorothy Wood, Grand Princess Captain, HTC
 Sir Knight James Blanton, Ill, Grand Royal Advisor, HTC
 Sir Knight Walter Anderson, Eminent Prior, KYCH
 Sir Knight Raymond Tucker, Grand Master General, KYCH
 Sister Norma Reid, Eminent Prioresse, PYCH
 Sir Knight Louis Greene, Grand Chief Advisor, PYCH
 Most Illustrious Melvin Frierson, Deputy, Orient of Illinois, AASR
 Sister Clarice Walker, State Grand Lady Ruler, OGC
 Daughter Anna M. Cooper, Deputy of the Desert of Illinois, DOI
 Noble R.C. Brown, Deputy of the Desert of Illinois, AEAONMS

HENRY G. FORT GALLERY OF LEADERSHIP



The MWPHGL Gallery of leadership is dedicated to the memory and leadership of Most Worshipful Brother Henry G. Fort who was selected the very first Mason of the Year by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois in 1958 and also served as the 23rd Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons for the Illinois Jurisdiction from 1963 to 1965.

ALBERT MOOREHEAD HALL OF HISTORY & REGALIA



The MWPHGL Hall of History and Regalia is dedicated to the memory of Worshipful Brother Albert "Pops" Moorehead who was selected Mason of the Year in 1971, selected Patron of the Year by Eureka Grand Chapter, OES and served as Temple Manager of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois.

DEDICATED JUNE 26, 2010 A.D., 6010 A.L.

Right Worshipful Brother Millard Driskell, Deputy Grand Master
 Right Worshipful Brother Dwayne A. Smith, Grand Senior Warden
 Right Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Junior Warden
 Right Worshipful Brother Vincent N. Sykes, Sr., Grand Treasurer
 Right Worshipful Brother Roland G. Simon, Grand Secretary
 Right Worshipful Brother Damon P. Anderson, Sr., Grand Relief Secretary
 Right Worshipful Brother Michael Patterson, Grand Lecturer

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



Right Worshipful Brother Leroy Berry, Grand Auditor
 Right Worshipful Brother James Jones, II, Grand Auditor
 Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews, Grand Auditor
 Right Worshipful Brother Cordale Brown, Grand Trustee
 Right Worshipful Brother Michael D. Ramey, Sr., Grand Trustee
 Right Worshipful Brother Charles Caples, Jr., Grand Trustee
 Right Worshipful Brother Lester Powell, Grand Trustee

GOLD DONORS

In recognition of Donations from \$250.00 to \$500.00

Right Worshipful Bro. Millard Driskell <i>Deputy Grand Master</i>	Right Worshipful Bro. Dwayne Smith <i>Grand Senior Warden</i>	Right Worshipful Bro. Aubrey Barlow <i>Grand Junior Warden</i>
Right Worshipful Bro. Roland G. Simon <i>Grand Secretary</i>	Right Worshipful Bro. Michael Patterson <i>Grand Lecturer</i> DDGM/DDGL 1 st Dist.	Right Worshipful Bro. Walter Anderson <i>KYCH Eminent Prior</i>
Alston Construction William Alston <i>President</i> Oriental Lodge #68	Sis. H. Lorraine Jeter <i>Past Worthy Grand Matron</i>	MEPHGC HRAM State of Illinois Melvin Crawford <i>Grand High Priest</i>
P.M. & Sister John & Paulette Brown <i>Garden City #59</i>	Arabic Temple #44 AEONMS Robert Taylor <i>Potentate</i>	Worshipful Bro. Carl Pickett <i>R. E. Moore #109</i>
Past Master Montie Reynolds <i>North Star Lodge #1</i>	P.M. & Sister Leroy & Jeannette Gary <i>Hiram Lodge #14</i>	Past Master Carl K. Garner <i>Mt. Hebron #29</i>

PLATINUM DONORS

In recognition of Donations of \$500.00 or More

MOST WORSHIPFUL BROTHER OTIS W. CROMARTIE, SR.
EUREKA GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
MASONS OF THE YEAR CLUB
PAST MASTERS COUNCIL - 1ST DISTRICT
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BROTHER DARYL L. ANDREWS
E&J CONSTRUCTION - ERNEST WILLIAMS #14, PRESIDENT
BROTHER GENE CHANDLER, #1, SENIOR WARDEN
MOST ILLUSTRIOUS PRINCE HALL GRAND COUNCIL ROYAL & SELECT MASTERS
DREW SALES - DEPLESSIE "SONNY" DREW, #65, PRESIDENT
JZ ENTERPRISES - PM & SIS. JERALD & ZANDRA PRINCE

SILVER DONORS

In recognition of Donations up to \$250.00

Right Worshipful Bro. James R. Jones, II <i>Grand Auditor</i>	Past Master Bruce Owens <i>Charity Lodge #108</i>	Past Master Samuel Galvin <i>Stone City Lodge #35</i>
Worshipful Bro. Sean Queen <i>Cornerstone Lodge #91</i>	Brother Kyle Andrews <i>Cornerstone Lodge #91</i>	Brother Troy Andrews <i>Cornerstone Lodge #91</i>
<i>Hiram Lodge #14</i>	<i>Cornerstone Lodge #91</i>	<i>Monarch Lodge #99</i>
Richard E. Moore <i>Lodge #109</i>	Holy City <i>Lodge #150</i>	Union <i>Lodge #155</i>
Sunshine Chapter #115 OES	Imani Chapter #153 OES	Modern Princess Court #65 HOJ

SOURCES OF HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

African Lodge #459 / Prince Hall - MWPHGL of Massachusetts, edited by Daryl Andrews
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Order of the Eastern Star - "History of Eureka Grand Chapter OES" by James White, updated by Brian Abrams and William Norman, edited by Sister Mildred Lloyd
Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons - "Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons" by Charles Holiday and Daryl Andrews
Grand Court Heroines of Jericho - "The Bible" by Most Worshipful Bro. Howard Woods; Information compiled and edited by Sis. H. Lorraine Jeter

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 Grand Master

ATTESTED:

APRIL 7, 2010 A.D., 6010 A.L. BY:

Roland G. Simon

Right Worshipful Brother Roland G. Simon, 33rd
 Grand Secretary

COMMUNITY SERVICE Is LOVE IN ACTION



*Charity is like an unsung anthem
Harmonizing everything we see.
A gift can be a work of silent witness,
Remembrance, reverence, unsought forgiveness,
Intention, labor, time, philanthropy.
The worth is measured only by redemption,
Yielding nothing but the grace to be.*

- Nicholas Gordon



ESTELLA CHAPTER NO. 3
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
STATE OF ILLINOIS
PRINCE HALL AFFILIATE

FEED THE NEEDY
SALVATION ARMY WARMING CENTER

Members of Estella Chapter No. 3 prepared and provided meals to over 75 people at the Salvation Army Warming Center on February 17, 2021. The meal consist of moscaccioli, salad, rolls, cookies and lemonade. Due this pandemic meals are greatly needed at this Warming Center.



Sis. Barbara Wheatley
Worthy Matron

Sis. Zandra A. Smith
Worthy Grand Matron

Bro. Michael Washington
Worthy Patron

Bro. Keith T. Roach
Worthy Grand Patron

Most Worship Brother Aubrey K. Barlow
Grand Master



**PRINCE HALL FAMILY
CENTRAL LODGE #3 & ESTELLA CHAPTER NO. 3
FEED THE NEEDY
SALVATION ARMY WARMING CENTER**

Central Lodge #3 and Estella Chapter No. 3, fellowshipped together on March 13, 2021 in preparing and providing meals to over 75 people at the Salvation Army Warming Center. We came together to serve our community especially during this pandemic. The meal consist of homemade chili, hot dogs, chips and cookies. The Salvation Army was truly grateful. Central and Estella will continue to serve the Warming Center. Special thanks to our Worthy Matrons son Joseph for his assistance.



**Sis. Barbara Wheatley
Worthy Matron**

**Bro. Michael Washington
Worthy Patron**

**Sis. Zandra A. Smith
Worthy Grand Matron**

**Bro. Anthony Bondon
Worshipful Master**

**Bro. Keith T. Roach
Worthy Grand Patron**

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

ST. JOHNS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL EASTER EGGS DONATION

Central Lodge #3, Estella Chapter No. 3 and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., member's, donated 3000 Easter Eggs on March 23, 2021 to children of St. Johns Children Hospital in Springfield, Illinois. To cheer them up, the Easter Eggs were delivered to staff for distribution to the children.



Sis. Barbara Wheatley
Worthy Matron

Bro. Michael Washington
Worthy Patron

Sis. Zandra A. Smith
Worthy Grand Matron

Bro. Anthony Bondon
Worshipful Master

Bro. Keith T. Roach
Worthy Grand Patron

Most Worship Brother Aubrey K. Barlow
Grand Master



CENTRAL ILLINOIS BROTHERHOOD RETREAT



Retreats allow individuals to relax, to reflect and start new movements with a refreshed mind set. The brothers of the 3rd District did just that this Spring by engaging in a joint fishing trip to fellowship and share ideas on collaborative efforts in the near future. The jurisdiction looks forward to the results of the fellowship between Central #3, John C. Ellis #17, Lone Star #18, Elijah S. Betts #23 and other Lodges in the jurisdiction.



Ruth Chapter #9: Community Service & Scholars

By Sister Roseanne Harris, #9, OES

The sisters of Ruth Chapter #9, OES have been extremely busy in serving citizens in Western Illinois. COVID 19 has had dire impacts on facilities for seniors and Ruth Chapter lended helping hands by donating sanitary napkins and adult diapers to aid those in need. Working with Salud Wellness, the items were distributed accordingly to centers across the area. Congratulations are also due to Sister Christiana Harris, #9 who recently received her Masters Degree from Eastern Illinois University.



Sister Christiana Harris, #9 who recently received her Masters Degree from Eastern Illinois University.

Welcome Star Lodge #36: P.P.E. Delivery

By Past Master George Barmore, #36

Welcome Star Lodge #36 of Rockford, Illinois, in a partnership with the Northern Illinois Food Bank, have been giving out food to the less fortunate in the community for over 5 years. Over 300 families were fed during the winter months in 2020 and 2021 and more during the Spring of 2021. All of the non-perishable food items and other items that were included in the packages were received through donations from different sponsors throughout the Rockford area allowing the Lodge to serve thousands in the city and beyond its borders. Many were served onsite outside of the hall of Welcome Star while others received deliveries. Great work! May our Heavenly Father keep blessing your works.





Tuscan Lodge #44: Gift Cards for Pandemic Relief

By Worshipful Brother Dr. Randolph Burnside, Worshipful Master, #44

2020 proved to be a challenging year for many people due to the pandemic caused by COVID-19. Considering this, the brethren of



Tuscan Lodge #44 endeavored to help 24 families in need during this holiday season. These

families were located

throughout District 4 in Illinois as well as the states of Tennessee, Missouri and Florida, where members of Tuscan Lodge #44 reside. On December 10, 2020, The Brothers were able to provide some holiday cheer in the form of a \$50 gift card. The Brothers were excited to be able to continue serving our community this month in this way even as many are struggling. It is our hope that the gift cards each family received will help to make this holiday season more cheerful and the year more tolerable.



Joppa Lodge #79: Helping Hands for the Homeless

By Past Master Duerell Harley, #79

The Members of Joppa Lodge #79 under the leadership of Worshipful Master Marlon Griffin on December 18th and 19th fed and provided clothing for the less fortunate in East Saint Louis, Illinois. The brothers purchased and donated 75 bags of items to the Eagles Nest Veterans Homeless Center and St. Vincent DePaul Center. The bags included hats, gloves, socks, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, sanitizer, masks and fruit. Joppa returned to St. Vincent DePaul Center on January 23, 2021, under the new leadership of Worshipful Master Jerome Houston and gave away gloves, blankets, socks, skull caps and sack lunches to the homeless. These efforts to provide substance and sustenance aided hundreds in their own efforts to repair their lives during COVID-19.





Cornerstone Lodge #91 & Princess Syene #114

By Worshipful Brother Erik King, #91, Brother Will Irving, #91 and Brother Maurice Palmer, #91

The members of Cornerstone Lodge #91 engaged in multiple efforts to aid citizens of the City of Chicago that were in need. Working in conjunction with Princess Syene Chapter #114, the Lodge's Sister Chapter and Memorial Missionary Baptist Church, hundreds were served covering the period of December 2020 through June of 2021. The duo also partnered to aid the Chicago Food Depository in the month on June. Together they packed hundreds of boxes designated to serve those families in need in the vicinity of the City of Chicago. Great work!!!





Dorcas Chapter #92: Northern Illinois Food Bank

Photos by Sister Tiffany Tanea

The 2nd District showed up and showed out during its day of community service at the Northern Illinois Food Bank. Members, family & friends from Dorcas #92 of Maywood (Host Chapter); Western Light #77 of Aurora; Fox Valley #137 of Elgin and Jephtha Lodge #90 of Maywood prepped over 5,200 pounds of goods. This roughly calculates to over 4300 meals to be distributed to 13 counties in Northern Illinois via 900 agencies. On behalf of the Community Service Committee of Dorcas #92, we thank you all for your participation & support in this initiative!



Queen Vashti Chapter #121: Lower Wacker Drive

Photos by Worshipful Brother Carl Pickett

Chicago's Lower Wacker Drive is home to many homeless citizens in the Chicago vicinity. In order to provide sustenance to those in need, the sisters and brothers of Queen Vashti Chapter #121, Order of the Eastern Star prepared bags of non-perishable food items and toiletries to deliver to those citizens in need. Their efforts served over 50 citizens during the winter season of 2020-2021.



Pictured are WM Vedelia Brown, WP Carl Pickett, and Sec. Saddia Effort of Queen Vashti #121 O.E.S. making sandwiches for Lower Wacker project.





Olive Branch Lodge #94: Centennial

By the Officers and Members of Olive Branch Lodge #94

On October 14, 2020, we were blessed to embrace our 100th year as a Prince Hall Masonic Lodge. On October 14, 1920 Bro. Robert Jackson, Bro. Robert Maxwell, and Bro. Clarence Winston became the first three principal officers of Olive Branch Lodge #94 of MWPHGLIL. From day one, Olive Branch has embodied the meaning of faith, comradery, and service. While Coronavirus mandates social distancing, we will continue to interact thru zoom. The love, laughter, and warmth that's felt during our meetings and even random phone calls, are just as strong as if we putting our suits on every month. For a century, we have actively practiced brotherly love, relief, and truth. We have encouraged each other to be better brothers and better men. As a lodge we will continue to look after our widows, children, and family. With 10 active Past Masters and a strong craft, we are determined to continue to love one another, teach one another, and hold each other up!





Southern Cross Lodge #112: Feed the Needy

By Worshipful Brother Robert Miner, Worshipful Master, #112

Under the Leadership of WM Robert Miner, and DDGM Delbert Marion who coordinated this effort. The Brothers of Southern Cross Lodge #112 gave Food Boxes to needy families in the East Saint Louis, Centreville, and Brooklyn Il. Areas.





R.E. Moore Lodge #109: Finding Moore

By Worshipful Brother William L. Norman, Honorary Past Grand Master

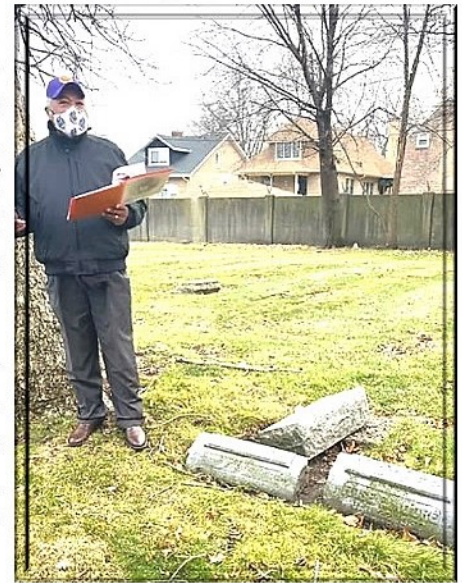


On December 3, 2020, Richard E. Moore Lodge #109 visited Oakwoods Cemetery to find the grave of Ill. Moore. After three hours of searching, they found the graves of Richard E. Moore and, his wife, Rosa in preparation for a special recognition the following week.



Richard E. Moore was the longest serving Grand Secretary in the history of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois, a Past Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge, the first Worthy Grand Patron of Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star (known then as the *Afro-American Grand Chapter*), the first Illinoisan to be elected to the United Supreme Council Northern Jurisdiction, a leader of national and local York Rite Bodies, a Past Potentate of Arabic Temple #44 of the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine and the founder of Arabic Court, Daughters Auxiliary to the Shrine.

Rosa E. Moore was a Past Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. Her accomplishments and efforts in the Order of the Eastern Star are well renown amongst the sisterhood far and wide. Her laudable efforts in leadership and service made her the namesake of Rosie E. Moore Chapter #78, OES or Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star.



The Moores were the quintessential “power couple” of the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family during the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. Their elections to various leadership roles in multiple auxiliaries are a testament to the confidence that the membership bodies held in them. Their examples are worthy of emulation by all and remembrance so that their legacies never die but continue to grow among brothers and sisters alike.

On December 20, 2020, a gathering was held at their gravesites at Oakwoods Cemetery to pay tribute. Due to COVID-19 regulations, only ten members at a time could visit together. During the visitation for each group, HPGM William L. Norman, 33°, of Richard E. Moore Lodge #109, gave a dissertation on the history and accomplishments of Richard E. Moore and his wife, Rosa. These accomplishments include the aforementioned roles in addition to a great deal more of life accomplishments in the church and in the community at large for the Moores. He concluded with a prayer each time asking special blessings upon his ashes and prosperity for the namesake Lodge and the namesake OES Chapter.

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King David Lodge #100: Community Charity Event

By Worshipful Brother Darryl White, Worshipful Master, #100

On March 11, 2021, the brothers of King David Lodge # 100 were privilege in hosting a Community Charitable Event serving the men at Southwood Intervention located in the Englewood neighborhood on Chicago's south side. We were able to distribute Socks, T-shirts, underwear, and personal hygiene items. We also provided these men of Southwood with refreshments to which they were all incredibly pleased. Southwood is a neighborhood oasis for men seeking relief and help in their struggles with addictions. King David Lodge performs 2 or 3 charity events a year and was pleased to take the meaning of brotherhood to another level, as we adopted the men of Southwood Intervention into our inner circle friendship and Brotherhood.



Union Lodge #155: West Chester Service Project

By Brother Oscar Dixon, Senior Warden, #155

The brothers of Union Lodge #155 participated in the West Chesterfield Community Association in a community service project called An Earth Day Spring Clean and Green on Saturday April 17, 2021 from 9:00am until 12:00 noon at the Community House at 9351 South Michigan Avenue.



The clean up was

from 95th in State Street to 91st in State Street. We followed with a community cookout after the clean up services were completed. Earth Day was founded in 1970 as a day of education about environmental issues, and Earth Day 2021 will occur on Thursday, April 22—the holiday's 51st anniversary. The holiday is now a global celebration that's sometimes extended into Earth Week, a full seven days of events focused on green living.





MWPHGL of Illinois
809 East 42nd Place
Chicago, Illinois 60653

Community Service is our Legacy!!!

