

Prince Hall Masonic Journal

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

Spring 2009 Edition



**GEORGE
MIDDLETON**



**PRESIDENTIAL
SALUTE**

PHAMILY CHARITY

Over \$50,000 in Scholarships Donated in 2008

Illinois Masonic Contributions Uplift Our World

**Statewide and
National Leaders
from Illinois**

**Inauguration:
A Washington
Experience**

**Spotlight:
PHamily Charity
Across the State**

**Education:
Bridge to
Freedom & Light**

A DREAM REALIZED!!!

*"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live
in a nation where they will not be judged by the color
of their skin but by the content of their character."*

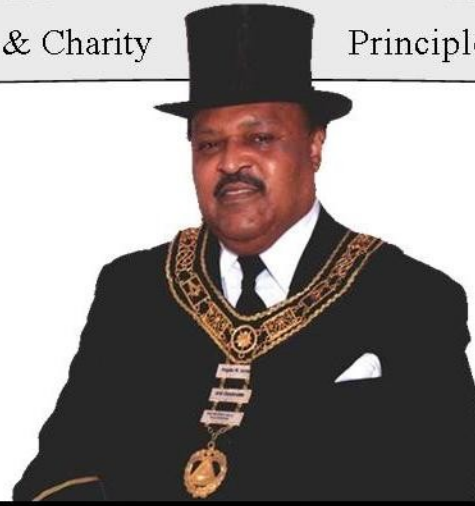
- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



**The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
Free and Accepted Masons
State of Illinois and its Jurisdiction
Salutes
The Honorable Barack Obama
President
of the United States of America**

Faith, Hope & Charity

Principles that Endure



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SERVE OTHERS?

- "The change we need won't come from government alone. It will come from each of us doing our part in our own lives, in our own communities. It will come from each of us looking after ourselves and our families but also looking after each other. You know I – it's been awhile now – we've made a virtue out of selfishness, there's no virtue in that. We made a virtue of irresponsibility and we need to usher in a new spirit of service and sacrifice and responsibly." - **Barack H. Obama**
- "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." - **John F. Kennedy**
- "Everybody can be great... because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." - **Martin Luther King, Jr.**
- "Service is what life is all about. Service is the rent we pay to be living. It is the very purpose of life and not something you do in your spare time." - **Marian Wright Edelman**
- "Reverence for Life affords me my fundamental principle of morality, namely, that good consists in maintaining, assisting, and enhancing life and that to destroy, harm, or to hinder life is evil. Affirmation of the world -- that is affirmation of the will to live, which appears in phenomenal forms all around me -- is only possible for me in that I give myself out for other life." - **Albert Schweitzer**
- "One act of beneficence, one act of real usefulness, is worth all the abstract sentiment in the world." - **Ann Radcliffe**
- "Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile." - **Albert Einstein**

Editorial

The purpose of this issue is to place a focus on service and education. Educators are social entrepreneurs whose input assists others in becoming successful. Knowledge is power and her transference to others extends that power. We find solutions to today's issues from lessons of the past. We learn new aspects of our organization from a review of individual and group accomplishments. We transfer power to others through our various works of charity and this is service at its finest. In this edition you will meet several educators within our Masonic Family, review examples of service provided by the Masonic Family and learn of the impacts of Masonic pioneers on our organization today. By showcasing these pieces, we hope to encourage more service-oriented behaviors that the results may translate into benefits for the communities in which we serve.



Daryl Andrews
Editor

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Wor. Brother Bill Harlan—**Associate Editor**
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Sister Aisha Ato, WM—**Associate Editor**
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| Past Master David Bonds | Past Master Art Howard |
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Right Worshipful Brother Roland G. Simon

| | |
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| Sister Arnita Harris | Past Master Tony Stafford |
| Past Master Sam Hurd | Past Master Larry Tamer |
| Past Master Tyrone Jackson | Brother Chris Hassan Tremble |
| Sister Yvette Jones | |

Feedback from Fall 2008 Edition

♦ "I'm of the opinion that this may be the best edition that I've seen of the past editions that I've seen (visually) in the Illinois Jurisdiction. The articles have all been great and I look forward to more!"

♦ "Who knew that all of those members were from the Illinois Jurisdiction. I certainly didn't know that 'Mr. Cub' was a Mason of the Year. Great info!"

♦ "The cover was a bit crowded but the information was excellent. Keep up the good writing."

♦ "Did other Lodges exist in Alton prior to Dunbar #97?" - **Yes. G.T. Watson #2 and B.F. Rogers #12**

♦ "Who is doing the artwork? The cover looks great. It may be time for you guys to write some books."



In Loving Memory of Most Worshipful Brother Howard L. Woods, Past Grand Master



WHEREAS, it has been the Will of Almighty God to remove from amongst us Past Grand Master Howard L. Woods from this transitory existence to a state of endless duration thus striking another link from the fraternal chain that binds us together; and

WHEREAS, Past Grand Master Howard L. Woods had served the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Arkansas in various capacities with honor and distinction for over 40 years. His leadership roles included serving as Worshipful Master of Trinity Lodge #33, being a member of all the other Houses of Freemasonry, and most notably serving as Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Arkansas for 23 years spanning from 1982 through 2005 and the Officers and Members of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction and Its Jurisdiction are proud to be able to say that he is an Honorary Past Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons of the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Past Grand Master Howard L. Woods was so admired throughout the country from coast to coast, he had the privilege of having honorary citizenship in Massachusetts, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Missouri, Kentucky, Nebraska, Minnesota, California, Tennessee, Texas, Louisiana, Kansas, and many cities throughout Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Due to Past Grand Master Howard L. Woods extensive knowledge to Masonic history and the word of God, he found himself a leader in both concentrations and traveling all over the country and various parts of the globe to offer very insightful lectures to those of us that wanted to learn. He would always say "a good Mason, while studying should have his rituals in one hand and his Bible in the other", and having been a minister and Masonic professor, we have but to take due notice and govern ourselves accordingly; and

WHEREAS, Past Grand Master Howard L. Woods somehow found the time to serve his community as well as his fraternity by being a Former President of Pankey Elementary School PTA, Former Chairman of Roland Community Action Council, Charter Chairman of the Human Development Center (Alexander) Advisory Committee, Title Nine Public School, Lifetime member of the NAACP, Member of the Urban League of Arkansas, and Honorary Colonel for Arkansas State Police; and

WHEREAS, Past Grand Master Howard L. Woods earned the respect and admiration of former Presidents Ronald Reagan and William J. Clinton, we can say without question that he is the most revered Prince Hall Mason of our time second only to Prince Hall himself; and

WHEREAS, Past Grand Master Howard L. Woods' untiring dedicated work and spirit has exemplified as outstanding testament and path to be followed by his brothers for this and many generations to come;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Officers and Members of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction do hereby express our sincere thanks, love and appreciation for his dedicated and distinguished service and contributions;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution will be placed in the archives of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction and a copy given to the family and that this Grand Lodge be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days.

Presented this 8th day of January in the Year of 2009

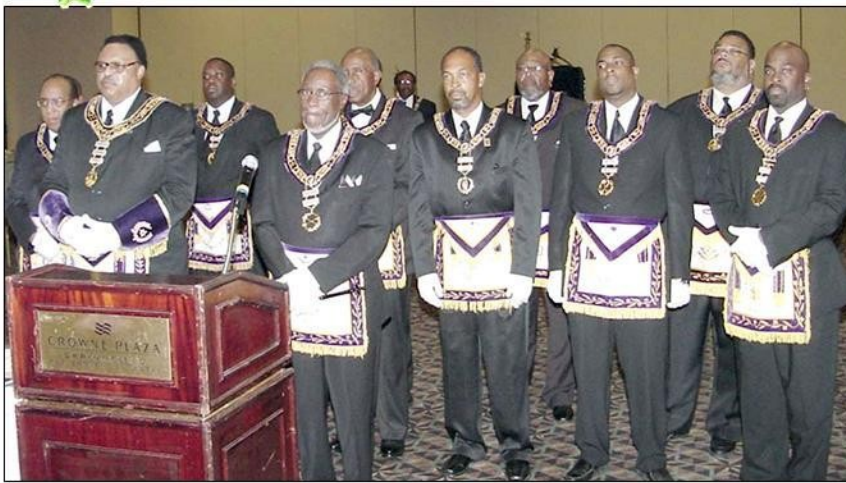
Most Worshipful Brother Angelo W. Jones
Grand Master, Prince Hall Masons
State of Illinois & Its Jurisdiction

Right Worshipful Brother Roland G. Simon
Grand Secretary



The Leadership of Illinois

Meet the Elected Grand Lodge Officers, National and State Heads of Houses from the Illinois Subordinate Bodies



Unification 2008— Elected Grand Lodge Officers Installed (left) - M.W. Bro. Angelo Jones, Grand Master and the elected Grand Lodge officers are presented at the altar for installation by W. Bro. Charles Caples, Sr., Grand Marshall. **Father Installs Son (right)** - No father and son duo have ever achieved as many accomplishments as Charles Caples, Sr. and Charles Caples, Jr. in the history of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge. Both served as Worshipful Masters during the same year, as Worthy Patrons during the same term and both were nominated for the 33rd degree together. The pinnacle of their joint accomplishments, to date, was realized at the 142nd Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of Illinois when Charles Caples, Sr., Grand Marshall, installed his son as the newly elected, 4-Year Grand Trustee.



Sister Shalonda F.W. Patterson and Bro. Fred Bradley, III
 Worthy Grand Matron
 & Grand Patron
 Eureka Grand Chapter OES



Pictured 1 to r: Melvin Crawford, MEGHP HRAM; Enoch Clark-Bey, GTIM RSM; Joseph Ryan, REGC KT; Walter Anderson, Eminent Prior, KYCH; Melvin Frierson, Deputy of Illinois,



Pictured 1 to r: T.J. Collins, Imperial Deputy of Illinois, AEAONMS; Dianna Caston and Darryl Williams, MAGAM and MWGJ, MAPHGC HOJ; Clara Jackson, RGPM, LOCOP; Louis



Greene, Advisor, PYCH; Jesse Smith, MNGPC and Advisor, HTC; Dollie Sanders, SLLGR, OGC; Rachel Carter, Deputy of Illinois, DOI.

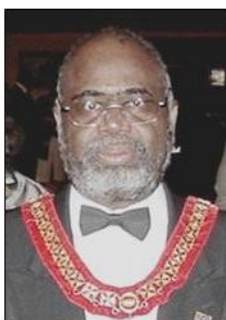


Imperial Potentate—Son of Illinois:

At the 115th Annual Imperial Session, AEAONMS, Inc. in Kansas City, a son of Illinois was elected to the highest office for Prince Hall Shriners. Noble Oliver Washington, Jr., Shawall Temple #165 became the 38th Imperial Potentate, Prince Hall Shriners of North and South America and its jurisdiction. As the former President of the Illinois Masonic Charities Foundation, Noble Washington's service to the State of Illinois and to the national organization is well documented uniquely qualifying him to the new role to which he has been elected and elevated. He is pictured above with Grand Master Angelo Jones, Hon. Past Imperial Potentates Clyde Cooper and R.C. Brown and Noble T.J. Collins, Imperial Deputy, Desert of Illinois.—Photos by Dt. Dianna Caston

Worthy Grand Matron—President of Midwest Regional Conference OES:

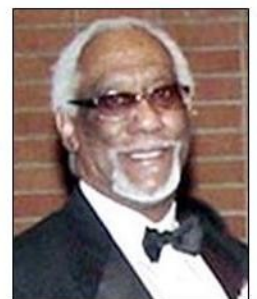
Sister Shalonda F.W. Patterson (right), Worthy Grand Matron of Eureka Grand Chapter, OES, was elected among her counterparts in the Midwest Masonic Region as President of the Midwest Regional Conference of Grand Chapters in March of 2008.



KYCH Grand Master General: The service of Sir Knight Raymond T. Tucker (left) in Illinois includes leadership of the Grand Bodies of all Male York Rite Houses as well as the Heroines of Jericho. As a result, he was elected to the highest office in the land for the KYCH—Grand Master General.

General Grand Conference LOCOP Grand Royal Advisor:

Illustrious Companion Jerome Abner (right), Past Worthy Grand Patron of Eureka Grand Chapter OES (1996-97), was elected to the highest male office of the General Grand Conference Grand Courts Ladies Circle of Perfection—Grand Royal Advisor.



General Grand Conference LOCOP Grand Deputy Matron:

The efforts of Sister H. Lorraine Jeter (right), Past Worthy Grand Matron of Eureka Grand Chapter OES (1992-93) have been Herculean in all of the bodies to which she is affiliated but, to the Ladies of the Circle of Perfection in Illinois, lies one of her greatest achievements. It was under her jurisdiction as Worthy Grand Matron that the Levi H. Morris Grand Court LOCOP was established in Illinois. And now, she is next in line to lead the General Grand Conference LOCOP.



PRINCE HALL AMERICANISM DAY



Prince Hall was born in British Barbados on September 12, 1735 and moved to Boston at a later date. On March 6, 1775, Hall and fourteen (14) other men of color, were raised to the degree of Master Mason in a Military Lodge attached to an Irish Regiment of the English army. This was the early beginning of what has

become the oldest and largest Black Fraternity in America. Prince Hall was an advocate for freedom, and was an active Civil Rights fighter for the Africans living in New England at the time. His faith was shown through his strength in giving. He was a volunteer in the Revolutionary War rendering service at the Battle of Breed's Hill (Bunker Hill) among with several other blacks who fought for American freedom. Following the war, he continued with his Masonic works which expanded the practice Freemasonry among blacks in America in the 18th and 19th centuries. Over 250,000 Master Masons in addition to several Concordant bodies are in existence today over various parts of the world as a result of Prince Hall's advances. The purpose of Prince Hall Americanism Day is to renew our strength, to renew our faith, to renew our hope in the resurrection, and to extend charity to all mankind. For by doing so, we perpetuate the mission of the initiator which continues to inspire us to action.

DANVILLE—Corinthian Lodge #31 of Danville Il hosted the 2nd District Prince Hall Americanism Day Celebration at the Greater Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church. The program was a great success. Five Lodges and a several Chapters attended. Rev. U.P. William, Pastor, brought a heart felt sermon which was appropriate for the occasion. We had in our presence, Past Grand Master Clarence Trotter as our distinguished guest. Worshipful Master Norman Lewis of Corinthian and Worthy Matron Coleman of Golden Rod Chapter

#55 introduced the Lodges and Chapters in attendance and R.W. Bro. Aubrey K Barlow introduced the Grand Lodge Officers and Adoptive Rites. All were able to fellowship prior to the program with a hardy meal prepared by members of the church and the Masonic Family.—*Ron Wilson, #17, District Editor*

CHICAGO—Prince Hall Americanism Day was celebrated at the Grand East on September 14th in grand form. Under the direction of Right Worshipful Brother Charles Caples, Jr., the celebration continued without a hitch despite the torrential rain which pummeled the city. The MC, Past Master Keith Payton of Pythagoras Lodge #134, moderated the program for the afternoon which included wonderful selections from Sister Vicki Walker and a sermon for the ages by Past Master Patrick Parks, #98. Representing Grand Master Angelo Jones, Right Worshipful Bro. William F. Redmond brought forward a commentary of admonishment to the craft present. His words reiterated the importance of our organization's role in building better men and a better society which prompted many to renew their commitments to this path which was pledged long-since ago. —*Daryl Andrews, #91, Editor*

UNIFICATION AWARDEES



Patrice Conley
OES
Miss Eureka



Rhonda Dase
Heroines of
Jericho Queen



Patrice McCastle
GGC Heroines of
Jericho Queen

OES Chapter with the Largest Membership Increase:

- ◆ **Princess Syene Chapter #114**

Lodge with the Largest Membership Increase:

- ◆ **Olive Branch Lodge #94**

Congratulations!!!



SCOTTISH RITE CONVENES IN SPRINGFIELD

The male and female bodies of the Prince Hall Affiliated Scottish Rite of Illinois met at their annual sessions at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in downtown Springfield from 10/17 through 10/19. The Illinois Council of Deliberation opened under the lights of Tyree Consistory #64 of East St. Louis who escorted in the Deputy of the Orient of Illinois, Sovereign Grand Inspector General Melvin Frierson, 33°. The session was well attended as was the session of the Illinois State Grand Assembly Order of the Golden Circle led by the capable hand of Loyal Lady Dollie Sanders. Membership increases in both bodies point to a renewed interest in the Rite which contains a very distinguished membership. This is evidenced by the awards and nominations presented during the sessions:

- **Sharone Walker** of Tri-Cities Assembly of East Moline earned the Order of the Golden Circle Queen award for her benevolent fundraising efforts;
- **Eleven Meritorious Service Awards (MSA)** were given to Grand Inspectors General for their efforts throughout the course of the year including Grand Master Angelo Jones and Past Grand Master Charles B. Taylor;
- **The Scottish Rite Distinguished Member Award**, a new award representing the highest award given by the ICOD, was given to SGIG Ernest L. Johnson for his service and dedication to the Rite;
- A second new award was also introduced in memory of, Frank Summers, the only Sovereign Grand Commander from the Illinois Jurisdiction. **The Frank M. Summers Stellar Award** was given to SGIG Charles Stewart for his untiring efforts on behalf of the Rite;
- **33rd Degree Nominations**—Ten Sublime Princes from across the state were nominated for the 33°.



MASONIC JOURNAL EDITOR—52ND MASON OF THE YEAR

Past Master Daryl Andrews, Editor of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal, was announced as the Mason of the Year for the Illinois Jurisdiction at

the 2008 Unification Session of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois. While James Brown holds the title as the hardest working man in show business, brother Andrews may be considered as one of the hardest working men in Masonic Business of 2008. In addition Editorial duties, he also served as:

- District Deputy Grand Lecturer, First District;
- Grand Webmaster;
- Assistant Grand Historian;
- Worthy Patron, Princess Syene Chapter #114, OES;
- Charter President of the Excelsior-Abrams Chapter. Phylaxis Society—the first chapter in Illinois.

An interesting fact is that his elevation to this award marks the first time that relatives have received the same honor. Exactly twenty-four years ago, Right Worshipful Brother Kenneth Ingram, Grand Lecturer Emeritus, North Star Lodge #1, received the same award. The nephew-uncle relationship was established by the marriage of Troy Andrews (brother) to Brother Ingram's niece some ten years ago solidifying a family relationship that remains in tact. **Congratulations!!!**

GRAND LODGE RAISES SIXTEEN

Last year's trend of double digit raisings by the Grand Lodge Degree team continued with the raising of sixteen Fellowcrafts from #43, #64, #65, #77, #94, #107 and #154. All were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason under the lights of Olive Branch #94 on January 24, 2009 in splendid fashion. Under the direction of R.W. Bro. Dwayne Smith, Grand Lecturer, the degree team did a fine job as witnessed by over forty brothers including M.W. Bro. Angelo Jones, Grand Master; R.W. Bro. William Redmond, Deputy Grand Master; visitors from Oriental #33, AFAM and a host of others:

- P.M. Bernard Brown, DDGM—**Worshipful Master**;
- P.M. Tony Stafford, DDGL—**Junior Warden**;
- P.M. Daryl Andrews, DDGL—**Senior Deacon**.

Welcome Aboard!!!



Southwestern Illinois Installation by Most Worshipful Brother Earl D. Scott, P.G.M.

The Southwestern Prince Hall Masonic Family held its Public Installation of Officers on December 27, 2008 at 11:30 a.m. at the Mason Clark Middle School, 5510 State Street, East St. Louis, Illinois. Past Master Samuel Hurd, Area Coordinator and members of the Past Master Council for the 3rd & 4th Districts administrated the Past Master degree, prior to the Public Installation of Officers. Most Worshipful Bro. Melvin Frierson, Past Grand Master, conducted the Public Installation with the assistance of members of the Past Master's Council, notably, Most Worshipful Bro. Earl D. Scott, Past Grand Master, Past Master T.J. Collins, Past Master Delbert Marion, Past Master Rev. Leon Peterson and Past Master Christopher McKinley. The following Worshipful Masters (pictured above) and Lodges participated:

- ♦ **I.H. Kelly # 11**— Morris D. Taylor;
- ♦ **Joppa # 79**— Fredrick Lathan;
- ♦ **Dunbar # 97**— Ronald Green;
- ♦ **Southern Cross # 112**— James Campbell;
- ♦ **Jericho # 120**— Hernando Brown;
- ♦ **P.G. Porter # 142**— Jerian Outlaw.

Members of Eureka Grand Chapter were in attendance to witness the event. Special thanks to the Past Master's Council and the general public and the Masonic family for your support.



YORK RITE DAY 2009 by Past Master Daryl Andrews, #91

On Saturday, January 17, 2009, the Illinois York Rite Bodies inducted 17 new candidates into the Holy Royal Arch, Royal and Select Masters and Knights Templar degrees at the Grand East in Chicago, Illinois. Companions and Sir Knights from as far South as Carbondale and as far North as Waukegan participated in inculcation. Excellent Companion Ron Wilson, Grand Lecturer of Holy Royal Arch Masons, traveled with a large contingent from Rising Sun Chapter #17, HRAM of Decatur Illinois which included Excellent Companion Haywood Henderson, High Priest of Rising Sun and several others including the Past Grand Auditor and Current Grand Tyler of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois. Wilson's words on the significance of the Royal Arch relative to the York Rite brought forward clarity to several. He stated that "the base part of the York Rite of Freemasonry is the Holy Royal Arch and the efforts of HRAM should be perfected to serve as a springboard to the other York Rite Houses. Overall, the York Rite aligns directly with Christian, spiritual beliefs. The impression we want to leave is that this aint no back alley club!" These sentiments are shared by every York Rite Mason within the Illinois Jurisdiction evidenced by the attendance and level of preparedness of the Chapters who performed the degree work. Overall, all are committed to spreading this message which was impressed, heavily upon the new brethren of the fold.





PRINCE HALL FAMILY IN BOY SCOUTING



By Bro. Norville R. Carter, P.M. North Star #1



Most Worshipful Brother Jerry Butler, Past Grand Master, MWPHGL of Illinois was awarded the District Award of Merit by the Greater Southside District of Chicago Area Council, BSA. Worshipful

Brother Robert E. Woods, Past Master of King David Lodge #100 was also awarded the District Award of Merit. This took place at the Annual Recognition Dinner held on November 21, 2008 at Shiloh Baptist Church, 9211 S. Justine in Chicago. The award is given to men and women who have performed exemplary service to the Boy Scouts of America on the District level. Both gentlemen are well deserving and I watched with great pride as two of the five recipients were Prince Hall Brothers. But the Prince Hall family has others who have received this award in earlier years.

Worshipful Brother James R. Reese, Past Master of King David Lodge #100, and Worshipful Brother Eddie L. Banks, Sr., Past Master of Wayfarer Lodge #128, received it in 2006. Sister H. Lorraine Jeter, Past Worthy Grand Matron of Eureka Grand Chapter, OES-PHA was honored in 1974, and I, Brother Norville R. Carter, Past Master of North Star Lodge #1, in 1970.

Additionally, Worshipful Brother James R. Reese will receive the Silver Beaver Award on Saturday, February 28, 2009 at the 2008 Council Annual Recognition Dinner being held at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza in Chicago. The Silver Beaver is the highest award that a council can bestow upon a leader for service to the Boy Scout movement. I was honored with the Silver Beaver in 1978. These are the ones of which I have knowledge.

There are a number of Brothers and Sisters that are or have been involved with the Boy Scouts for many years. I am the Community Campaign Chairman of the Greater Southside District and I need some help with the Finance Campaign. I am calling on all Scouters, former Scouts and Friends of Scouting that belong to this Prince Hall Family to help out. At least make a pledge to support the Chicago Area Council. There is also going to be an attempt to make Scouting available to the Junior Craft.

SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS DONATES \$2K

At the Annual Installation Banquet for officers of the Southwestern region brothers and sisters of the Masonic, OES, York Rite, Scottish Rite and Shrine bodies received certificates of installation recognizing their elections as the heads of their respective subordinate bodies. All elected Grand Lodge Officers and Past Grand Masters Melvin Frierson and Earl Scott were in attendance to witness the affair coordinated by the leadership of the region. Each of the participating Lodges, Chapters, Courts, Councils, etc. donated to the affair which, in turn, produced \$2,000 to be awarded as stipends to deserving students to continue their college education. All of the students were in attendance it was a wonderful sight to behold the newly elected leadership immediately contribute to others in a charitable fashion. Congratulations!!!

MAJOR LACY RECEIVES HIGH HONORS

Major Lacy, Jr. of Wayfarers Lodge #128 received high civic honors by "AgeOptions" - the "Area Agency on Aging of Suburban Cook County" with the mission to



connect older adults with community-based resources and options. At its 34th Annual Recognition Luncheon, Lacy, who was nominated by the Village of Hazel Crest, was praised as a volunteer Computer Science teacher where he teaches basic computer skills and graphic design. As lead instructor, he has expended countless hours to distribute vast amounts of knowledge for the past two years. His sense of service and excellence in department undoubtedly comes from his tenure as a highly decorated Vietnam veteran. For one to be nominated by a village, certainly provides evidence that this award was more-than well deserved.





A Summary of Service Contributions by the Illinois Masonic Family in 2008

Photo Courtesy of Holy City Lodge #150

"Blessed is he that considereth the poor; the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble. The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies." - Psalms 41:1-2



What is the true, practical purpose of our organization? It is, quite simply, to improve the world in which we live. Helping others provides evidence that the Prince Hall Masonic Family is actually performing the work of James as outlined in his book of the Holy Bible. Without works, our faith is meaningless. Without faith, there is no hope. Therefore, our labors in charity, display our faith in the Creator as outlined in His Holy Word which produces hope in a better tomorrow from the things that we do today. For let us labor joyfully that the fruits yielded by our efforts may nourish our youth. For we must train them up in this way that they may never depart from them and that they may perpetuate our cause.



Faith

....the substance of things hoped for

In 2008, the practical purpose of Freemasonry was exhibited through various social and educational projects by the entire Masonic Family of Illinois. Grand and subordinate bodies introduced efforts to raise funds for scholarships to their various constituencies well before the start of the Masonic year. Their efforts helped to reach milestones in funds collected by the Unification Session of 2008. The Grand Bodies of Knights Templar, Heroines Templar Crusades, Royal & Select Masters, Knights York Cross of Honor, Princess York Cross of Honor, Ladies Circle of Perfection, Royal Arch Masons, Heroines of Jericho, Order of the Eastern Star and the Grand Lodge produced a bounty of scholarships and support for the various communities in which the Prince Hall Masonic Family makes her home. The Grand Lodge donated twenty-three \$1,000 scholarships to students; the Hazel Stillwell Scholarship Committee under the leadership of Sis. Vicki Yarborough raised over \$10,000 through various means for 25 scholarship donations; and the multitude of Adoptive Rite Scholarships brought the sum total of all educational donations to well over \$50,000 in 2008. These efforts provide evidence of the level of dedication that the Illinois Masonic family has for the education of our youth.

While these counts reflect donations at the Grand

levels, the contributions done by subordinate bodies were also tremendous. When you consider the relative cost of school supplies and clothing donated to orphans and families in need at community shelters and other charitable organizations for educational purposes the \$50,000 figure is easily surpassed. To attempt to place a dollar figure on mentorship is an unattainable task as the donations granted also include words of hope and inspiration and advice on practical methods to help others improve their current states of life. In many instances, these pieces mean more than physical gifts as they produce hope and opportunities for others to become independent and re-enter that world that has turned many away in a better prepared state. To place a dollar figure on this type of assistance would be a wasted exercise as it is worth more than gold. However, it is safe to say that the financial contributions at the subordinate levels equal the Grand donations equal or surpasses that amount.

Other charitable labors were embarked upon to raise funds to fight diseases that impact all communities. Individual Lodges, Chapters, Courts, Temples, etc. banded together to raise funds to fight cancer and autism. The 2008 American Cancer Society Walk and Roll event benefited greatly from the participation of this union. Over \$8,000 was raised by the Prince Hall



Ashby Carter Lodge #138 of Waukegan donated backpacks filled with a multitude of pens, pencils, paper, folders and other school supplies for students at Charles Earle Elementary. After speaking on Freemasonry for a bit, they mentored the youth.

Hope

.....a belief in a positive outcome



Cornerstone Lodge #91 in a joint effort with the Past Masters Council of the 1st District coordinated by P.M. James Barsh of Monarch Lodge #99 donated approximately two truckloads of clothing, fifty backpacks filled with school supplies to the It Takes A Village Foundation (left); Holy City Lodge #150 cleaned William Penn Elementary School and provided certificates and awards of achievement to the outstanding students (right) and locked down the entire city block to clean the community.

Masonic Family of Illinois to fight Cancer. A gift from Past Grand Master Melvin Frierson also helped to bolster this amount as the proceeds from a testimonial affair honoring him were donated to the American Cancer Society. Lodges in the Second District also participated in the Autism Walk to raise funds to fight this disease and Chapters across Illinois participated in the "Light the Night Walk" to fight Lymphoma and other cancer related diseases. Funds raised from these affairs easily surpass the \$15K mark.

While the aforementioned efforts focus on reactionary measures to fight diseases others were introduced to focus on preventative measures. The Annual OES Health Fair continues to highlight the need for healthy eating and exercise. The participation of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Men's Health Fair held at

Malcolm X College sponsored by the Thapelo Institute produces free examinations to promote healthy living. Blood Drives sponsored by subordinate bodies provide additional blood that is used by the American Red Cross and other organizations to save lives.

As the Holiday Season typically produces additional opportunities to give, it is safe to say that tons of food and clothing were donated by the Illinois Masonic Family. While the contents are financially measureable, the impacts are exponential and cannot be quantified. In these instances the photos speak for themselves in the succeeding pages. However, the conclusion remains consistent with the lessons of faith, hope and charity supported by our organization. For it is by these lessons that PHamily contributions have helped to lift our world.

In 2008, the brethren of Olive Branch Lodge #94 opened bank accounts for several well deserving students of Mary P. Moody Christian Academy at TCF Bank in Chicago, Illinois(right) - The brethren also mentored the students expressing the importance of saving money for the future. This is the type of lesson that will endure.



Charity

....the works of faith that create hope



The Illinois Masonic Family participated in the American Cancer Society Walk and Roll event to raise funds to fight cancer (above) and the Autism Walk to raise funds to fight Autism. Both efforts raised almost \$9K for the fight of these diseases.



In 2008, Union Lodge #155 taught youths to read and took steps to prevent violence in the community. Brothers Christopher Calhoun, Erwin Staples, and Latee Bauswell (pictured below) participated in Emmett Till Academy's annual "Real Men Read" program. "The genesis of Real Mean Read was a program at McCosh Elementary School, now Emmett Till School, where then-principal Barbara Eason-Watkins launched a similar program in 1988. The school at that time was one of the lowest achieving schools in the city, particularly among African-American male students. The school also had no male teachers from kindergarten through third grade. Eason-Watkins invited men from churches, businesses and universities to read to students, who until then had few positive male role models in their lives."



Union's Adopt-A-School coordinator Bro. Chris Calhoun participated in the **National Safe Kids Campaign-Violence Prevention Walk** Held in the Greater Woodlawn Community. The aim was to identify problem areas and provide possible solutions to the increased violence that has plagued our communities. Bro. Calhoun led a group of concerned parents, community activist and Chicago Public School faculty members through the streets of the community in order to get a more in depth view of the problem our youth face. The event was well attended and the concerns of the community forwarded to the respective elected and appointed city officials.—W. Bro. Adrian Cooley, #155



Relief

.....works of faith that fill needs



Stone City Lodge #35 and Ruth Chapter #9 fed over 250 people in the Joliet Community during the Thanksgiving Holiday as a part of its annual feed-the-needy program. Brothers from Keystone Lodge #15 and surrounding Lodges and Chapters of the 2nd District helped Stone City and Ruth to pack the boxes (above) with food items for the Joliet residents. Ruth Chapter #9 (below) served hot meals for those residents in attendance.



Past Masters Kerry Fitch and Bruce Owens volunteer with the AT&T Pioneers at Ronald McDonald House. Two buckets of pop can lids were also donated to the recycling efforts of the charity on behalf of the Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons for the State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction.



Service

....the works of love for one another



Union Lodge assisted the faculty at Emmett Till Academy with its annual Thanksgiving charity effort by providing the muscle to unload 600 turkeys for delivery to the Woodlawn community. Past Master Michael Humphrey passes a turkey to the principal (above-left). Brother Sean Queen of Cornerstone Lodge #91 helped to mentor and deliver gifts to children over the Christmas Holiday in conjunction with the Santa-Letters program. (below).



ADDITIONAL HOLIDAY DONATIONS

P.G. Porter Lodge #142: P.G. Porter Lodge #142 delivered 20 baskets of food and sides dishes to the Belleville community. Each box contained approximately \$30 is supplies.—*P.M. Sam Hurd, DDGM, Area Coordinator;*

Rufus Mitchell Lodge #107: Rufus Mitchell Lodge #107 provided fruit baskets to the residents of the Glen Lake Terrace Nursing Home located minutes away from the Lodge Hall in Waukegan. Baskets, containing apples, oranges, light snacks and other treats were hand delivered to each of the 180 residents—*Brother Larry Tanner, Worshipful Master;*

Keystone Lodge #15: Keystone Lodge #15 hosted their annual holiday food drive to present families in the Aurora area with Holiday Hams, canned goods and other non-perishable items.—*Brother Antwon Hollaway;*

Elijah S. Betts Lodge #23 (ESB): ESB spread the holiday spirits with the city of West Bloomington, families in the general Bloomington area, Sheridan School, Project Oz and Fade'm Babershop on the Westside of Bloomington:

- Bro. Mike Cribbs delivered a Christmas tree for the *West Bloomington Christmas Tree Trimming Party* that was held on 12/6 at the Community Garden;
- WM Brad Johnson, Bro. Billy Walker and I delivered Christmas baskets to the families of *Ms. Monique Townsend* and another to *Ms. Joanne Beard;*
- Bro. Michael Johnson and I provided the Principal of *Sheridan School* with 25 sets of hats and gloves for children without the proper winter wear on 12/15;
- Bro. Cribbs and I purchased Christmas gifts for a family provided to the Lodge by *Project Oz* in Bloomington;
- ESB provided free hair cuts for all the children in the community from ages 14 and under through the *Fade'm Barbershop*. Thanks to PM Crittenden and his staff for servicing 30 neighborhood youths at \$10 each.

—*R.W. Bro. Aubrey Barlow, Grand Auditor*

Compassion

.....a desire to alleviate distress



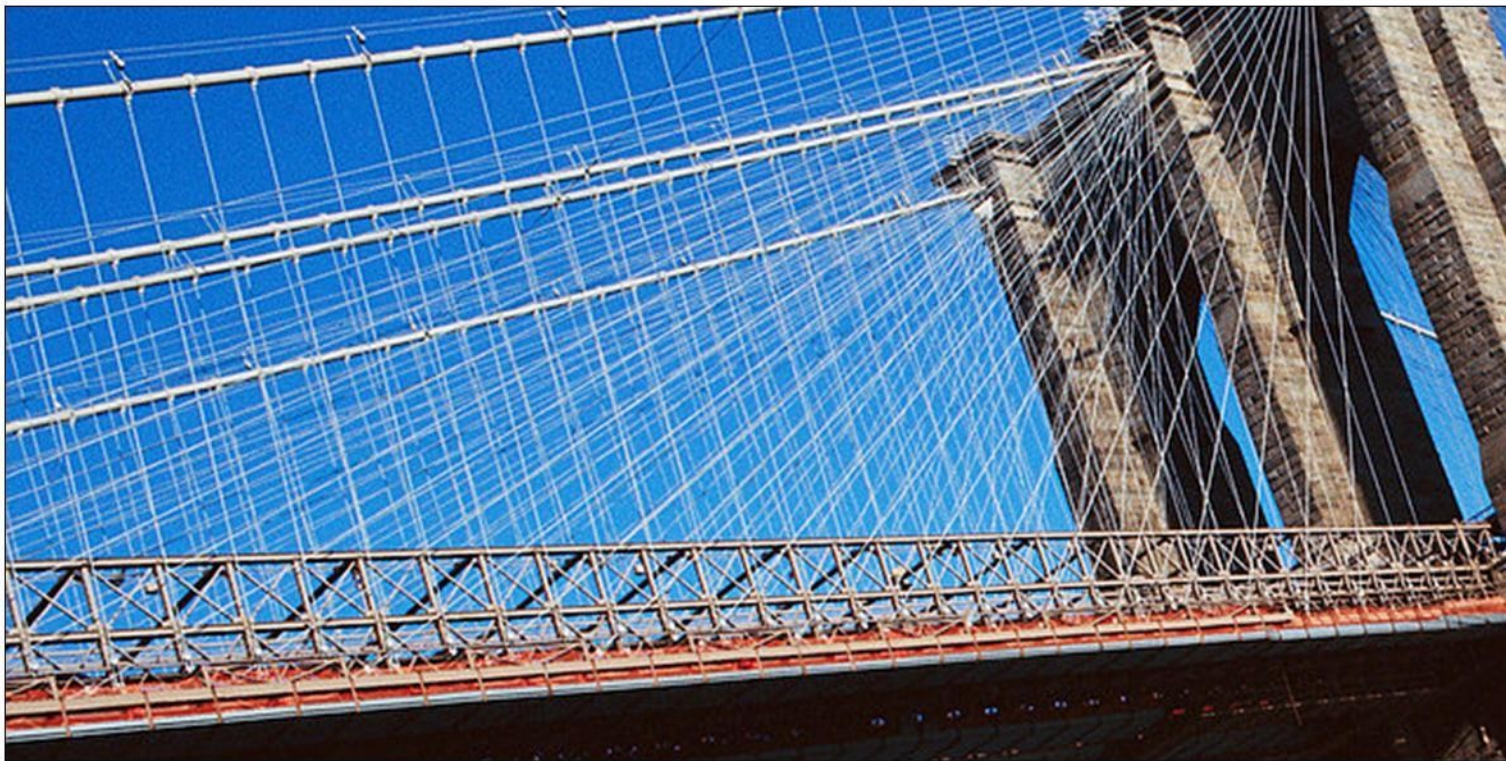
Blankets, Scarves, Gloves & Hats Give Away

The blankets for the homeless came to me about ten years ago when I was doing a delivery route in lower Wacker Drive in downtown Chicago. A homeless man asked me for a furniture pad and said that this would go a long way to keep his body off the cold ground. This touched my heart and I said I had to do something to help God's people who were down there.

I tried unsuccessfully to start this drive on my own but just could not get it off the ground. However, during an interview by Immanuel Lodge #153 to become a Mason I was asked about my thoughts on charity and if I had anything I wanted to do. I went on to tell them about the wish of mine and P.M. Michael Only informed me that not only was this possible but also that he would help me make this happen. On December 24, 2008 at 6:00 AM in addition to my family, brothers from Immanuel #153, Sons of Solomon #154 and other jurisdictions delivered 45 bags containing hats, scarves, blankets and gloves to homeless on lower Wacker Drive and around Chicago. At that point, being raised only 18 months, the act helped me to understand what true Masonry was really about.

I called on my Brothers to help me spread some Love and Hope to some people who really needed it the most, and they answered the call. So to each of them I would like to say Thank You for showing a young Brother what true Masonry is really all about.

Bro. Henry Mayfield of Immanuel Lodge 153



Often times I am taken for granted, sometimes neglected and misunderstood in the several ways in which I can be leveraged for success. I am often stored in hallowed halls on bookshelves covered in dust sometimes engaging in conversations with spiders who continue to spew their pesky webs on me. I can also be accessed from the world-wide wonder known as the internet and can be translated into virtually every language. I have been passed through conversations from Jesus Christ, Albert Einstein, Isaac Kelley, Hazel Stillwell, Malcolm X, Obed Vanderburg, Shalonda Patterson, Angelo Jones and other purveyors of religion, wisdom and science to those who would lend me their ears. I do not discriminate—male, female, black, white, young, seasoned—as physical attributes do not play a factor. I have a lot to offer and would make a nice catch for anyone.

**My name is Ed
short for Education.**

Webster's Dictionary defines me as

“the act or process of imparting or acquiring general knowledge, developing the powers of reasoning and judgment, and generally of preparing oneself or others intellectually for mature life.” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. elaborated on my function and goal which is “to teach one to think intensively and to think critically... Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.” I am most proud of the fact that I have become self-perpetuating as I have been able to operate like the several Intelligence Agencies across the world. I have agents who have dedicated themselves on life-long missions to teach me. Though several may be under-paid, they endure because they love me and I give a gift that keeps on giving—intelligence.

I am a giver.

Armed simply with a piece of me, several have gained higher heights within their various professional and social worlds. Maria Stewart used me in 1832 as the first black woman to engage in public political debates. Alexander Twilight used me to graduate college and become the first black elected offi-

cial in America in 1836. Harriet Tubman used me to escape Slavery and navigate the Underground Railroad. People have seen me in action and want a bit more of me as I tend to breed a want for them to gain more of what I have to offer. One word describes these things that I know I inspire—“desire”—and combined with intelligence, desire breeds will-power to achieve future goals.

I Empower.

I provide insight into the vast arrays of ignorance turning gray areas into blacks and whites. I am also a framework for continued learning that may be applied to future gray areas. As such, what I am can be leveraged for current issues and future successes. When used, I spark action which yields incredible results—light—freeing many from the mental and physical strains of the slavery of ignorance. I am as ancient as days but also fresh as a newborn babe. I can be utilized by all.

I am the bringer of light.

While I believe in showing my



Education

Bridge to Freedom and Light

By P.M. Daryl Andrews, #91

abilities, I must admit that my past relationships have been hot and cold. Hot in the sense that those who have used me often return for more. Cold in that some shun out of the fear of the pursuit of knowledge. Don't you be afraid though. I am building new relationships by highlighting my successes which will generate more heat.

Allow me to elicit my pedigree. I will highlight my benefits to you in your particular context— Prince Hall Freemasonry - and introduce you to several of my agents who belong to the Prince Hall Masonic Family of the State of Illinois. Once you hear these testimonials you will want to join my team— **the Educators**—and help to perpetuate my cause.

The very nature of the design of Freemasonry is progressive in the sense that those who serve accordingly to her tenets improve in the areas of leadership and follow-ship. Within the Prince Hall Masonic Family true leaders are true followers who represent their constituencies to the best of their

abilities. To accomplish this effectively, positive relationships between a humble leader and the organization must be established. Leaders can accomplish this by:

- ♦ **Listening to the Craft**—Don't talk. Listen. How can one represent others effectively without understanding their points of view?
- ♦ **Listening to God**—"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD and depart from evil." - Proverbs 3:5-7. Why shun wisdom that can be leveraged for success?
- ♦ **Following as Directed**—"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves....." - 2 Chronicles 7:14. If one is not a humble follower, how can one be a humble leader?

True followers are true lovers of the organization to which they have

pledged themselves and must be solid supporters of the leadership educational process for future considerations.

It is critical for the craft to hold her leadership accountable to the aforementioned ideals as this practical education will not only further develop the leader but also the expectations of the craft.

- ♦ The craft **should** expect to be represented accordingly and must continue to reinforce these values on their leadership to ensure their repeatability. After all, the craft elects its leadership to serve.
- ♦ The elected leader **should** expect to serve accordingly. After all, participation in the Prince Hall Masonic Family is **voluntary** not mandatory and very few will follow a tyrant. At one point, the leader was a regular member of the craft and should recall the expectations as he or she held on the leadership at that time.

♦By becoming a better communicator and manager, the leader **should** expect harmony as a result and should continue to promote its maintenance which will inspire others to continue their labors. You see, harmony brings folks - chaos pushes them away.

The resulting improvements in the leader and the craft can be leveraged in the planning and execution of future endeavors.

It is understood that Ideas tend to flow smoothly when the craft is in harmony. Inclusiveness tends to produce a free-flow of fresh, creative ideas. The freedom to express the ideas creates a

productive environment. Collective agreement on the course of action by the group tends to yield participation. As such, all of these factors contribute to the long-term success of an organization by building a strong base for the future.

Ultimately, current leaders shape tomorrow's pathways. As such, it is critical that all elected and appointed Masonic leaders and followers be educated accordingly. This can be done most effectively by those who have been trained to perform this task. Masonically, Grand Lecturers are elected and appointed to fulfill these duties but in the community the professional educational community serve as

key contributors to this process. The Prince Hall Masonic Family is blessed to find many within her very midst. Yes, indeed, several from your august body are members of my winning team. Meet the Educators of the Grand, Subordinate and Concordant Bodies of the Illinois Masonic Family:



Current and Former School Superintendents / Directors Educational Organizations

Most Worshipful Brother Rufus Starks

Past Grand Master 1972-74

Southern Cross Lodge #79
East St. Louis, Illinois
Former Superintendent of East St. Louis Schools



Most Worshipful Brother Rufus Starks (pictured)

Past Grand Master
Joppa Lodge #79, East St. Louis
Former Superintendent of East St. Louis Schools

Worshipful Brother Dr. Willie Mack
Eureka Lodge #64, Chicago
Former Superintendent of Harvey Schools

Dr. Lela Bridges-Webb
Emblem Chapter #140, Waukegan
Superintendent of Harvey Schools

Right Worshipful Brother Clyde W. Cooper, Sr.
Deputy Grand Master Emeritus
Wayfarers Lodge #128, Chicago
Director of Instruction and Instructional Support
National Alliance of Black School Educators

Worshipful Brother James Mitchell
Hiram Lodge #14, Chicago
Director Scottish Rite Research Institute - Phylaxis Society
Professor, City Colleges of Chicago

Principals / Administrators

Worshipful Brother Dr. Fred McNeal
Plumline Lodge #116, Chicago
Mayo Elementary School

Sister Michelle Miller
Meridian Chapter #86, OES, Chicago
Marcus Garvey Elementary School

Sister Verona Portis
Pride of Harmony Chapter #144, OES, Chicago
Benjamin Banneker Elementary School

Sister Patricia A. Green-Johnson
Wisdom Chapter #99, OES, Chicago
Kershaw Elementary Magnet School



Sister Sherry Pirtle
Charity Chapter No. #112, OES, Chicago
Special Education Instructional Coach Chicago Public Schools

Professors, Associate Professors and Teachers



Sister Weatau Barsh
Past Worthy Grand Matron
Eureka Grand Chapter OES
2006-2007

Meridian Chapter #86, OES
Chicago, Illinois

Retired Teacher
Marcus Garvey Elementary

Brother Nicholas Bell
Harmony Lodge #88, Chicago
Percy Julian High School

Sister Mary Blackwell
Silver Link Chapter #139, OES, Harvey
Chicago Board of Education

Brother Robert "Bob" Booker
Alpha and Omega Lodge #121, Robbins
Lionel Hampton School of the Fine & Performing Arts

Brother Johnathon Boyd
Charity Lodge #108, Chicago
Chicago Public School System

Sister Anna Brothers
Silver Link Chapter #139, OES, Harvey
Marcus Garvey Elementary

Sister Mary Dase
Meridian Chapter #86, OES, Chicago
Paul Robeson High School

Sister Tammy Hampton
Grand Trustee
Eureka Grand Chapter OES

King David Chapter #90, OES
Chicago, Illinois

Associate Professor
University of Illinois-Chicago



Sister Charissa Isom
Silver Link Chapter #139, Harvey
Avalon Park Elementary School

Sister Valandra Jones
Electa Chapter #1
George Manierre Elementary School

You see, many of your organization have traaveled through the theoretical and practical training curriculums I offer and have earned credentials which document their abilities to teach what I have to offer to the rest of the world. They work tirelessly and their labors of love yield gifts in every season. Consider what the world would be without teachers, without those purveyors of knowledge, without those on whose lips we camp to receive bundles of witty anecdotes, facts and, sometimes funny phrases. Yes, indeed, education can appear through laughter. Teachers teach through this form and many other methods. As long as the lesson is absorbed by the student, their job is done, the student has learned and the student grows. Without education, growth could not occur.

When it is all said and done. I am an oxymoron by nature. I am simple to some and complicated to others but there is no confusion in that which I offer—life and growth. Try me and you will succeed!!!

Sister Antoinette Kimball
Silver Link Chapter #139, Harvey
Professor, Harold Washington College

Worshipful Brother Dr. James Lanier (See Page 33)
Central Lodge #3, Springfield
Professor, University of Illinois-Springfield

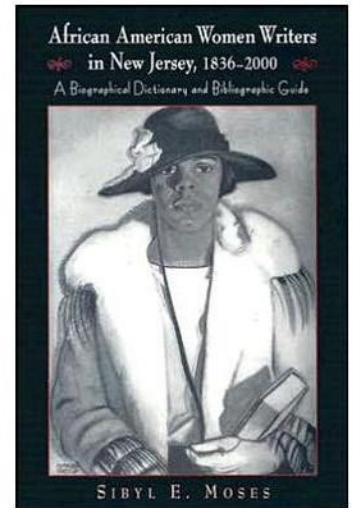
Sister Mary Ann Lloyd
Silver Link Chapter #139, OES, Harvey
Special Education Teacher

Worshipful Brother Jerry Madison
Cornerstone Lodge #91, Chicago
Teacher at Orr High School

Dr. Sibyl E. Moses
Princess Hagar #7, OES
Chicago, Illinois

Associate Professor
Catholic University of
America and Author

*"African American Women
Writers in New Jersey, 1836-
2000: A Biographic
Dictionary and Bibliographic
Guide"*



Brother James Parham
King David Lodge #100, Chicago
Chicago Vocational High School

Worshipful Brother Jerald Prince
Universal Lodge #65, Chicago
Retired Teacher at Whitney Young High School

Worshipful Brother Jimmie Rogers, Sr.
King David Lodge #100, Chicago
Teacher at Jane A. Neal School

Sister Tarae Simons
Silver Link Chapter #139, OES, Harvey
Marcus Garvey Elementary

Worshipful Brother Ramel Warner
Charity Lodge #108, Chicago
Teacher



Empowerment Zone – Overcoming Adversity through Faith



“The Joseph Assignment: Success in the face of Adversity”

by Okey Enyia

In the beautiful words of wisdom writer James Allen, “There is an appointed season when inspiration meets opportunity and one will move toward his destiny to fulfill his divine purpose.” For me, there is no greater pleasure than the ability to use my intellect and abilities to alleviate human pain and suffering. The personal gratification I receive from working with and caring for others is a major motivation behind my desire to become a physician. Furthermore, becoming a physician will allow me to participate in one of the most intimate dialogues between people. In this role, I will be able to empower individuals to take better care of themselves and those around them.

“Resolute” is how I would describe my mindset over the past nine years with respect to my journey to medical school. As a college junior, I took the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) for the first time, confident that I performed well enough to be competitive. I was excited at the prospects of starting medical school the following year. I applied to medical school for the first time my senior year in college and was unsuccessful. Despair set in as I realized that my dream would not come to pass as I had planned. I consulted with an advisor who provided insights into what it would take to become a competitive applicant. I then enrolled in a MCAT review

course and participated in a Summer Medical and Dental Education Program.

I applied to medical school for the second time and again was unsuccessful. So I decided to engage in research, teaching, and consulting. These opportunities, however, did not provide the sense of satisfaction that I looked for in a career. I then enrolled in another MCAT review course as I worked part time and made up my mind that I would do whatever it took fulfill my dream of becoming a physician. After further reflection, I decided to apply to a post-baccalaureate program to better prepare for medical school.

I applied to the post-baccalaureate program, got an interview, was waitlisted and ultimately rejected. The interviewers recommended that I retake a couple of courses and reapply. In an effort to demonstrate that I was sincere about my aspirations, I left my job and moved to Carbondale, Illinois. After retaking the courses and reapplying to the program, I was placed on the waiting list a second time. At this point, I had grown despondent because I left a good job close to home to pursue a dream that had eluded me for several years and my hope was all but gone. Could it be that I would never experience the privilege of a physician-patient relationship? By God’s grace, I persevered and finally received word that I was granted acceptance into the program in March of 2005. The lesson I learned was that there is always a blessing behind closed doors and the uncommon dream is usually the exact opposite of your present circumstances.

As a non-traditional student, the adjustment from the corporate arena back to the academic environment proved to be particularly challenging. In fact, the story of my life since moving to Carbondale, Illinois, was akin to the Biblical account of Joseph the Dreamer. One truth I learned from his life is that things come to us in seasons.continued on page 34



History of Tuscan Lodge's Building

By Brother Okey Enyia, #44

The Tuscan Lodge Hall was designated on Carbondale's list of Historic places in 2007. It has both cultural and historical significance to the state, region, and community as, from a community perspective, it was the first prominent African American structure conducting commerce in the City's Historic Town Square. The regional and community significance of the building was further demonstrated during Segregation, when the Lodge hall served as a "cultural" safe haven for the African American community. The building housed a beauty salon, a teen center, and a grocery store on the first floor, as well as a cabstand. It was also during this time that the Illinois Central Railroad served as the main mode of transportation for established and budding artists. So many artists would stop in Carbondale to bed down for the evening. A number of those artists would even perform in the building including Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway, The Eddie Randall Band with Miles Davis and blues man Clarence Carter. On the state and even the national level, Carbondale's Tuscan Lodge #44 served as a Mid-western cross roads for culture and history connecting the larger cities of Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis, and Nashville. The renovation of the Lodge building is important so that it can continue to convey the history of African American culture and provide a viable space for organizations and businesses to make a contribution to the community.

Building Description: Due to the sheer size and height of the Masonic Lodge building, it is literally the anchor of the historic town square. It was included in the sur-

vey of Carbondale's historic properties and the Lodge is in the process of applying for local historic landmark status through the Local Historic Preservation Commission. The building was designed in the Italianate style but has seen extensive alterations in its recent history. The brick structure was built in 1893 and has two floors totaling 5,700 sq. ft. On the first floor, the building still retains her circular stained glass windows and the entrance retains its original cast iron sill and cast iron pilasters manufactured by the Christopher and Simpson Company of St. Louis, MO. The flooring on both the first and second floors are comprised of thick hardwood planking. The stairway, to the second floor, opens to a spacious floor plan that offers a picturesque view of the Historic Town Square through large rectangular windows. The windows run the length of the building's southern and western exposures and meet at a corner window that measure 6'x10'.



The building has been vacant for the past eight years and is continually weathering structural damage due to the elements of the seasons. Since that time, the Lodge has made several attempts to restore the building, but rehabilitation costs and building code requirements have posed some initial barriers. In March of 2005 the Lodge building was nominated to the Landmark Preservation Council of Illinois' Ten Most Endangered List. As a result of the media attention, there has been a commitment of support offered from the Lt. Governor's Office, Southern Illinois University's Department of Architecture and Design and the community at large.





My Washington Experience

By Sister H. Lorraine Jeter, Past Worthy Grand Matron, Eureka Grand Chapter OES



"A moment that will define a generation. This is the meaning of our liberty and our creed, why men and women and children of every

race and every faith can join in celebration across this magnificent Mall. And why a man whose father less than 60 years ago might not have been served at a local restaurant can now stand before you to take a most sacred oath." - words spoken by President Obama in his inaugural address and given before the largest audience ever assembled for a presidential inauguration shall forever resonate with me.

2:02 am January 20, 2009 my niece, Javon Daffeh and I departed from her home in Windsor Mills, MD to make our way to Washington, DC for the Inauguration Ceremonies of the 44th and America's first African-American President Barack

Hussein Obama.

3:17am we arrive at the Metro Train station. My handicap sticker in hand we parked - didn't have to get in the line that was forming to enter the parking lot. We met a very comical person, Cecil from New York. This very, very cold morning, he kept everyone laughing with his stories and his jokes as we waited for the 4:00am train to Washington.



Niece of Sis. Jeter, Javon Daffeh and Cecil from New York waiting on the train to D.C.

We arrived at the Capitol Mall at 4:30am, well before sunrise, along with 2 million plus other onlookers to secure our picture perfect spot for the moment we shall always remember.

The crowd stretched out past the Lincoln Memorial. From my position, 4th and Jefferson, a young man took his position in a tree at the street curb. To keep warm we chanted "Obama! Obama!", clapped our hands and did our own special dance.

Persons of all colors, faiths, and creeds gathered on this very cold morning to witness an event that many never believed would happen in their lifetime. The dawn of a new era would be happening at 12 Noon and the rich and the poor, celebrities and non-celebrities, Reggie Jackson, the other #44, persons from London, Beijing, Kenya, India, Johannesburg and just about every place you can name, we would be witness to it together.

As I talked to persons I met you could feel the sense of pride everyone felt. This day we were all family. And patience was the word for the day. With all the crowd no one got angry. All were smiles. And all helped each other. I had a portable chair which I share with the ladies I met. I was just too excited to

stay seated. With camera in hand, I took my pictures.

At approximately 10:30am the parade of dignitaries began taking their places. With our flags in hand, which had been given to all present, we cheered for our favorites. The arrival of the Obama Family, daughters Sasha and Malia and First lady Mrs Michelle Obama the crowd and the flag just went wild.

Senator Dianne Feinstein - CA gave the call to order and welcoming remarks. The musical selections by the San Francisco Boys and Girls Chorus brought a hush to the gathering as we prepared ourselves to witness history. Aretha Franklin's rendition of My Country Tis of Thee electrified the crowd. The musical selection by composer John Williams with Itzhak Perlman (violin), Yo-Yo Ma (cello), Gabriela Montero (piano) and Anthony McGill (clarinet) was simply wonderful. The poem by Elizabeth Alexander, just my opinion, was ok. The invocation by Dr. Rick Warren and the benediction by Dr Joseph E. Lowery with historical sprinklings, set the ecumenical opening and closing tone for the ceremonies.

12:04pm President-Elect Barack Hussein Obama, with his beautiful wife, Michelle holding the Lincoln Bible, the 13 and 21 star flags both of which flew during the era of slavery behind him, family, government officials, friends, and a sea of supporters on the Mall, placed his left hand on the Lincoln Bible and raised his right hand to take the oath of office to become the 44th President of the United States of America.

The crowd chanted "Obama! Obama!"; we cried; we laughed, we danced; we hugged each other; we kissed each other; I said quietly Praise the Lord! Thank you Jesus! And I said to my self, "nothing is

impossible for my grandson and granddaughter to accomplish." Limitless opportunities are available to all. A moment I shall never forget. A moment I thanked God that I was able to witness.

Even though Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. flubbed the words of the oath, around the world all paused as Barack Hussein Obama became President Barack Hussein Obama. Black, White, Hispanic, Asian, old and young, immigrant and native born, the moment resonated to each in its own very special way. A sense of history and excitement defined the day.

Note: I looked this up: The presidential oath of office is required of a new president before he can execute his powers, and the Constitution is clear that its 35 words must be spoken exactly. Although constitutional law experts stated the flub was insignificant, President Obama did a do-over to keep critics from saying he didn't meet the constitutional standard. Calvin Coolidge and Chester A. Arthur are previous Presidents who did do-overs.

Our President outlined challenges in what he called "this winter of our hardship" - a collapsing economy, wars on two fronts, a lack of confidence in government and enemies eager to destroy the American way of life. A new era of responsibility is required of us. He promised we will remake this country and the world.

The inaugural ceremony complete, we, the 2 million plus had an immediate challenge before us - the bus people, get to their bus; those on the train, get to your train stop; get to a refreshment stand for something to eat; get to a restroom; get to the parade site if possible.

As each made his way to his destination, patience was still the

word of the day. As Javon and I made our way through the crowd we laughed, my legs and feet felt as though they weighed tons, some were still crying, we talked about the joy we felt being present. As one person got to his destination we hugged and said good bye. We shared email addresses, of course.

Arriving back home, my body is still in the getting back to normal process. But the experience was worth it. As my Pastor Dr Otis Moss, III said in his experience of the inauguration - President Obama offered America a prayer, a call, and a challenge to grow tall enough to wear the elusive, inclusive crown of democracy. President Barack Obama's administration is writing a new song for America to sing. President Obama will call our country to play a new "Love Supreme" in the key of "D" for a renewed democracy.

With the support of us all, Barack Hussein Obama was elected President. **YES WE DID!**

With the support of us all, President Barack Hussein Obama can meet the challenges before him.

YES WE CAN!





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- Weddings
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- Showers
- Graduations
- Anniversaries
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Miniature Turtles



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Grand Lecturers' Corner



*R.W. Bro. Dwayne Smith
Grand Lecturer, MWPHGL*

“Introductions”

Understanding the proper use of titles will aid us in introductions. In Blue House Masonry all Master Masons have the title of Brother. All who have been elected and installed as Worshipful Masters including Past Masters have the title of Worshipful Brother. Any Brother who has been elected to an office in the Grand Lodge has the title of Right Worshipful Brother. The title of Most Worshipful Brother is reserved for those who have had the privilege of being elected and installed as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge. With that understanding it is easy to make introductions using the

following formula — Title + Name + Position — examples:

| <u>Title</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Most Worshipful Brother | Angelo Jones | Grand Master, MWPHGL F&AM, State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction |
| Right Worshipful Brother | Dwayne Smith | Grand Lecturer, MWPHGL F&AM, State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction |
| Worshipful Brother | Joshua Hamilton | District Deputy Grand Master, MWPHGL F&AM, State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction |

In The Order of the Eastern Stars, the same formula is used, however, there are only two titles for The Order of the Eastern Star, that being Sister or Brother:

| <u>Title</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> |
|--------------|-------------------------|---|
| Sister | Shalonda F.W. Patterson | Worthy Grand Matron, Eureka Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star |
| Brother | Fred Bradley, III | Worthy Grand Patron, Eureka Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star |
| Sister | H. Lorraine Jeter | Past Worthy Grand Matron, Eureka Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star |

We hope that you might find this information useful when introducing Grand Officers.



*E.C. Ron Wilson
HRAM Grand Lecturer*

“York Rite of Freemasonry: The Holy Royal Arch”

What has attracted so many brethren to seek further light in Royal Arch Masonry? In your journey through the three degrees of Symbolic masonry and as you have learned the proficiency lecture for each degree, no doubt many questions have arisen concerning the meaning of the ritualistic ceremonies, the historical implications and the "why" of the legends of Freemasonry.

Many believe the Sublime Degree of Master Mason to be the ultimate degree of Freemasonry and all others to be added and explanatory. Most students of Freemasonry agree that the story of the Craft as presented in the three degrees is incomplete and that the degrees of the Royal Arch complete the story and answer many of the questions in the mind of the newly made Master Mason.

Royal Arch Masonry contains some simple, plain statement of Truth, easily understandable and helpful in our relation to life. Lodge symbolism deals with lessons of the material side of life. The Chapter degrees, and particularly the Royal Arch, deal with the spiritual side of life. Offering the true completion of the ancient Craft, Royal Arch Masonry is, therefore, the logical step for every Master Mason to take. . Naturally, this is as it should be, because a man is not a Master Mason until he receives the Master's Word and he can only receive it in the Royal Arch.—**Visit www.yrilpha.com for more information.**



Dr. James Lanier is Someone You Should Know



Dr. James Lanier, 33^o

Central Lodge No.3 — Springfield

Who is an Airman in the United States Air Force— a veteran of the Vietnam War? Who is the first Black to receive Full Professorship at the University of Illinois—Springfield? Who is a former Referee for the United States of America Olympic Boxing Team? Who is a lifetime member of the NAACP and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated?

Dr. James Lanier of Central Lodge No.3, Springfield, Illinois is someone you should know.

How many years in Masonry do you have?

About 30 years. I was raised in 1978 in Central Lodge #3 of Springfield, Illinois.

What initially drew you to Freemasonry?

I first inquired about Freemasonry at the University of Florida after viewing brethren dressed differently from everyone else. After talking with the men, I made application and received the first degree in Florida in 1973 but could not finish the remaining degrees as my studies at the University of Florida came to an end. I moved to Springfield in 1978 and befriended Rufus Wallace who was the Worshipful Master of Central Lodge No. 3. At the time, I did not know he was a Mason nor did I know he was the Worshipful Master of a Lodge. I eventually found that he was a Mason as well as his title as Worshipful Master. So I applied to receive all three degrees in 1978 and was raised in 1978.

In addition to your service to the State of Illinois, your educational background appears to be rather extensive. Tell us about your educational

experiences in the pursuit of higher education.

I received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics and Sciences from Edward Waters College of Jacksonville, Florida in 19xx. From there I continued graduate studies at Michigan State University where I graduated in 19xx with a Master of Arts degree in Student Personnel Services and Vocational Rehabilitation. I completed my post-graduate studies back in Florida at the University of Florida where I received a Ph. D. in Psychology and Counseling. In my Doctoral studies, I was the winner of the “Wiley Memorial Award” from the University of Florida which is designated for the most outstanding Doctoral Dissertation.

Your Masonic resume is also very extensive. To which houses do you belong?

I am a member of all male Masonic bodies within the Illinois Jurisdiction including the following:

- ◆ Past Master, Central Lodge #3
- ◆ Past High Priest, Rising Sun Chapter #17, HRAM
- ◆ Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest, MEPHGC HRAM
- ◆ Past Thrice Illustrious Master, E.T. Moore Coucil #3, RSM
- ◆ Past Eminent Commander, Commandery #17, KT
- ◆ John W. Thompson Priory #3, KYCH
- ◆ Past Commander in Chief, Menelik Consistory, AASR
- ◆ Past Potentate, Kamar Temple #65, AEAONMS

What transitions have you witnessed in the Illinois Jurisdiction?

Membership has decreased and th morale is a bit down compared to previous years. We have to re-energize somehow. We have an excellent Grand Master at this time which brings hopes that this will get better.

I understand that you were a Boxer at one point?

I first got into boxing in the Air Force where I also met Past Grand Master Clarence Trotter who boxed for another base. After leaving the service I continued in the boxing ranks and helped out in training fighters. I became the chairman of the Illinois Amateur Boxing Association and a manager for a number of fighters. I eventually became a referee for the United States of America Boxing Team.





George Middleton

By Brother Aaron G. Brown, #121, Assistant Grand Historian, MWPHGL of Illinois

I believe that in Prince Hall Masonry we don't discuss the immensely rich history that we possess quite enough. We often make sure that we know the ritual and the many other Masonic proceedings that we practice but how often do we discuss the many great Masonic leaders and teachers in Prince Hall Freemasonry that have paved the way and who have served as a beacon of light for us to model to be the great organization that we are.

It is from these leaders that, I believe, we have existed for well over two centuries. We honor our tremendous founder Prince Hall and notably so; his tenacity and very profound leadership has equipped our lodges and our fraternity, and from the lodge room we have extended our olive branch to our churches, communities, and other organizations in the African-American community that exist all over the world. Through the management practices and the education that Prince Hall Freemasonry provided our leaders of the past we were able to do paramount things for the future. For

example, Richard Allen the founder of the African Methodist Episcopal church was the appointed treasurer by Prince Hall himself working under the authority of the charter of African Lodge #459, Prince Hall established African Lodge #459 of Philadelphia on March 22, 1797. Allen started Bethel Church and today it is known as Mother Bethel, Masonic emblems can be found in the stain glass windows of the church and this is evident that Richard Allen was close to his Faith and his Freemasonry. I'm sure given the era he probably didn't have much exposure to parliamentary procedures, handling and recording money transactions or an additional form of teachings besides the Church that Freemasonry offers one to be strong and prudent. Although it is assumed that he picked up some training from the Methodist Church, he was very restricted in the leadership room and thus started his own church.

I believe Prince Hall Freemasonry gave him an edge to move forward and one cannot help but to learn from his lodge if practiced.

Additionally, the lodge is still educating our leaders to become great managers and organizers while being creative and innovative in present day and in this century.

It is my desire to expose another leader that belonged to our most ancient and honorable fraternity that many of us probably haven't heard of. Undoubtedly, Prince Hall was our strongest leader, founder and the best of the best. However, we have had other leaders within our ranks to discuss. Nobody can match Prince Hall but I think we need to dialogue on other Prince Hall Masons as well. One such notable Prince Hall Mason I'd like to mention is George Middleton. He was the third Prince Hall Grand Master in our history after Nero Prince decided to sail to Russia for an economic opportunity.

George Middleton was an early community organizer. He started the Boston African Benevolent Society in 1796, an organization that provided financial relief and job placement for members – primarily widows and orphans. In 1808 he published an anti-slavery statement along with Prince Hall stating, "Freedom is desirable, if not, would men sacrifice their time, their property and finally their lives in the pursuit of this?" This statement could have sprung from Middleton's military career. Middleton was one of 5,000 African-Americans to serve in the military on the Patriot side of the Revolutionary War. Although, there is little evidence of Middleton's military career some evidence has survived and it is confirmed that he served as a Colonel and Commander of the Bucks of America in the Continental Army, a Boston-based unit of the Massachusetts militia composed of African-American soldiers.

According to records there were only two all African-American units in the war supposedly. However, we do know that after the war Governor John Hancock a Freemason himself and his son, John George Washington Hancock presented Colonel Middleton and his company with a flag to commemorate and to

honor their service (*shown opposite page*). The flag is a white silk flag, featuring a leaping buck and a pine tree, the symbol of New England. The flag still exists today as proof that these trail blazers existed and it is owned by the Massachusetts Historical Society.



When the American Revolutionary War began in 1775, black soldiers – both slaves and freemen – served with white soldiers in the integrated militia units in the New England colonies. Later that year, these New England militia units became the nucleus of the newly created Continental Army, the national army of the colonies. The presence of black soldiers in the army was controversial and the Commander-in-Chief, George Washington also a Freemason decided to stop enlisting black soldiers. Washington soon reversed this decision because of manpower shortages and because the British had started encouraging slaves to run away and join the British.

The Bucks of America was the name given to the all African-American Massachusetts company. There is the possibility that other members of this unit were – like Middleton – members of Prince Hall Freemasonry.

Middleton was a violinist, a horse breaker, and coachman. He gained considerable recognition for his accomplishments serving his community. As early as 1800, Middleton fought and petitioned for equal school rights for African-American children. He was recognized as the third Grand Master in 1809, later known as Prince Hall Masons. Middleton married Elsey Marsh on 11 March 1781 at Trinity Church. After the Revolutionary War, African-Americans began to form their own small community in a town called the North

Slope of Beacon Hill in Boston, Massachusetts – Middleton being one of the first. Middleton bought some land on Joy Street and with a friend built a home. Middleton’s former home at 5 Pinckney Street is on the Boston Black Heritage Trail. Middleton passed to the Grand Architect of the Universe in 1815 and was apparently not survived by wife or children. As a leader concerned with education and the needs of his community, George Middleton was among the earliest in a long line of African American activists on Beacon Hill.



The Middleton-Glapion house, built in 1787, is currently the oldest standing, wood structure home in Boston.

References:

- <http://www.nps.gov/archive/boaf/georgemiddleton.htm>
- “Revolutionary Participation”, from the Massachusetts Historical Society
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GeorgeMiddleton>
- <http://www.nps.gov/boaf/historyculture/george-middleton-house.htm>
- Boston African American National Historic Site – George Middleton
- The Massachusetts Historical Society
- <http://www.africawithin.com/bios/princehall.htm>
- <http://www.africanlodge459.org/history.htm>

Joseph Assignment Continued:

Here was a young man who, at the outset, was mistreated, rejected, and falsely accused. But before Joseph could enter his place of purpose as governor of Egypt, he had to acquire a deeper revelation of what it meant to be humble. One would think that he would have become bitter; instead, Joseph grew in compassion for his loved ones and became a blessing to the whole region.

was mistreated, rejected, and falsely accused. But before Joseph could enter his place of purpose as governor of Egypt, he had to acquire a deeper revelation of what it meant to be humble. One would think that he would have become bitter; instead, Joseph grew in compassion for his loved ones and became a blessing to the whole region.

In retrospect, this was one of the tests I had to pass before entering the next season of my life and I now serve as a resource for all my colleagues. Further, this transition taught me how to persevere in the face of adversity and engage in honest self-evaluation. These attributes, in conjunction with my values and belief system, will undoubtedly sustain me throughout the rigors of the medical school experience and enable me to effect long-lasting change within the community as a servant-leader.

Moving forward, if I were to characterize my first year of medical school in a phrase, it would be “success in the very face of adversity.” I’ve learned that I thrive and look forward to challenges. In fact, adversity is simply confirmation of divine partnership. As a physician, it gives me the greatest satisfaction to know that my work benefits society and that future generations will benefit by enjoying good health. Moreover, my background and education have instilled in me the ethical values and sense of dedication that the medical profession demands.

From these experiences, I have gained a sense of what it means to give unselfishly and derive much satisfaction from knowing that my efforts are worthwhile. After taking the MCAT four times, applying to medical school three times, and applying to the postbaccalaureate program twice, I continue to stand on the fact that in the fullness of time, my dream will be fulfilled and the labor of love will produce seasons of fruitfulness.



Collective Retrospective: Aid and Assistance

The body is the house of God. That is why it is said, "Man know thyself." The kingdom of heaven is within you; and whosoever shall know himself shall find it and God." - Ancient Kemetic Proverb



On January 27th 2009 - A man who fatally shot his wife, five young children and himself. He earlier faxed a note to a TV station claiming the couple had just been fired from their hospital jobs and together planned the killings as a final escape for the whole family. At the bottom of the note, Lupoe wrote, "Oh lord, my God, is there no hope for a widow's son?"

My brothers I believe there was a time that we all reached or succumbed to our darkest hours in our life. Somehow we overcame it and triumphed the trials and tribulations to live and talk about it another day. I believe that it is these things that makes us stronger and it reminds me of our three principle tenets; faith, hope and charity. Our faith may be lost in sight, hope ends in fruition but charity extends beyond the grave.

My brothers as men we are taught to be strong, we are the head of the household and yes some are taught that men don't cry. I can agree with the first two statements but the last one about men don't cry well that goes against nature (God). Crying is a way to release pain, frustration and stress so getting out that cry relaxes the body, the mind and the soul. The cry doesn't have to be a physical tear being shed but it can be a brother merely not carrying a heavy burden alone on his shoulders and asks for help.

As a Master Mason we are taught through ritual and lessons that the body of a brother was lost and that twelve were sent out to find him. Once found, the craft formed a grand procession to endeavor to retrieve it. Upon finding the body, they attempted to raise it up and after a few attempts they were successful. In like manner, we should ever be ready to stretch forth our hand to aid and support a fallen brother.

My brothers with the way the economy and job market is these days we need to increase our five senses and keep an attentive ear. Are you truly your brother's keeper? The lesson of Masonry teaches fraternal brotherhood which should transcend into spiritual brotherhood of mankind. What I am asking all of you is to reach down with your strong grip and raise our brothers and sisters up in the time of need.

*Fraternally,
Brother Chris "Hassan" Tremble
Senior Warden of Immanuel Lodge #153*

Forthcoming Special Issue

THE PHYLLIS

(The Official Publication of The Phyllis Chapter of The Phylaxis Society)

“Civil Rights and Prince Hall Women”

We invite you to contribute and help us solicit articles for a proposed forthcoming issue of *The Phyllis* magazine. Special Issue Number 1 (2009): "The Order of the Eastern Star (PHA), other Prince Hall Women's Organizations, and the Civil Rights Movement"

For this special issue of *The Phyllis* magazine we invite submissions (articles, profiles, photographs, personal narratives, book reviews, etc.) on the various ways in which OES members/chapters, individually or collectively, have supported voter registration drives and other civil rights activities.

- Please ask OES, HOJ, DOI, etc. members to write about their civil rights activities and/or their OES chapter's/HOJ and DOI courts' activities in the struggle for freedom.
- Interview older members who were politically active in the civil rights movement and voter registration drives, NAACP, anti-lynching efforts, school/public facilities' desegregation or integration, etc.
- What did Prince Hall women and Prince Hall women's organizations do in registering our people to vote and how did we support the civil rights movement?
- Please try to differentiate between: (1) a member participating in an activity as a part of an OES effort/activity/policy of the organization, *versus* (2) a member participating as an individual (in her own personal capacity and having no link to OES, the organization).
- We invite stories about living AND deceased members (those who were active long ago in the early 1900's including the 1940's, 1950's, 1960's, 1970's or before). Did you house Freedom Riders; boycott; sit-in, etc.? Did you honor a civil rights worker? Raise funds for the movement? Register voters? Teach people to pass literacy tests?
- Please discuss this request in your auxiliaries/chapters; please also consult with your Grand Historians and knowledgeable members in your jurisdiction.

Please help us to make this historical issue a huge success.

Let's celebrate our contributions!

Please send your article, ideas, and questions to: sibyl.moses@gmail.com or mail to: The Editor, *The Phyllis Magazine*, P.O. Box 14223, Silver Spring, Maryland 20911-4223. Please share and discuss among members of The Phyllis Chapter, OES members in your jurisdiction, and with all Prince Hall women. We invite contributions for all members of the Order of the Eastern Star (PHA). **Deadline for submissions: May 15, 2009.** Thank you.



Worshipful Brother Adrian Cooley, 2009 Worshipful Master of Union Lodge #155 (tan suit), pictured with Senator Dick Durbin (far left), an Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternal Brother and Senator Barack Obama (right) circa 2006. Below: Brother Burrell Lazenby of Cornerstone Lodge #91 (circa 1924) - Great Grandfather of Past Master Norville Carter of North Star Lodge #1.





Are They Proud of We?

By Daryl Andrews

Many have suffered on our behalf.
Would they be proud of what they see?
Would they cheer at the moves we make
or would they turn away in misery?
Would they laugh with us or chastise us
for the things they have seen us do?
Would they frown or smile with pride?
Would each say "I am proud of you?"

Many go through life's daily travail
without thought or state of awareness.
A mindless drought I cannot be for
our ancestors gave for us their very best
to improve our realm and to them we owe
the same sense of strength and purpose
if we are to leave a lasting impression
on those whose hopes rest upon us.

When at last we finally travel to
that cradle from which no traveler returns
and life has left our breathless forms
and we've been stowed in tombs or urns
will we look back from our ancestral poses
in full joy and without misery
secure in knowing that the best we gave
still lives in those who've followed we.

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



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

March 12-15, 2009 * Illinois Jurisdiction Host

At the Midwest Regional Conference meeting there will be workshops, a health fair, vendors with lots of great buys, fun hospitality and great fun meeting officers and members of our neighboring Jurisdictions.

MWRC ILLINOIS JURISDICTION—ACTIVITY CALENDAR

- March 12** **Casino Trip:** Grand Victoria Casino Trip—Elgin, Illinois—6:30PM
Join us on a night of entertainment, food and fun at this most exquisite casino in Elgin.
-
- March 13** **MWRC Luncheon:** Wyndham O'Hare Hotel, Grand Ballroom, Rosemont, Illinois—Noon
- Shop the Magnificent Mile:** Shopping and Sightseeing Tour, Chicago, Illinois—3:30PM
Chicago looks great from every angle, whether you're exploring the city's astonishing architecture during a guided tour or you're enjoying the birds-eye view from the 103rd floor Sears Tower Skydeck and the 94th floor Hancock Observatory. The city's 29 miles of lakefront paths are just one reason Chicago is one of the world's most walkable and beautiful cities.
- Roaring 20's Party:** Wyndham O'Hare Hotel, Grand Ballroom, Rosemont, Illinois—9:00PM
Get your costume together and plan to enjoy a great time. If you wish to participate in the Best Dressed Costume Contest.
-
- March 14** **MWRC Luncheon:** Wyndham O'Hare Hotel, Grand Ballroom, Rosemont, Illinois—Noon
- MWRC Banquet:** Wyndham O'Hare Hotel, Grand Ballroom, Rosemont, Illinois—6:30PM



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