

The Official Publication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois

Prince Hall Masonic Journal

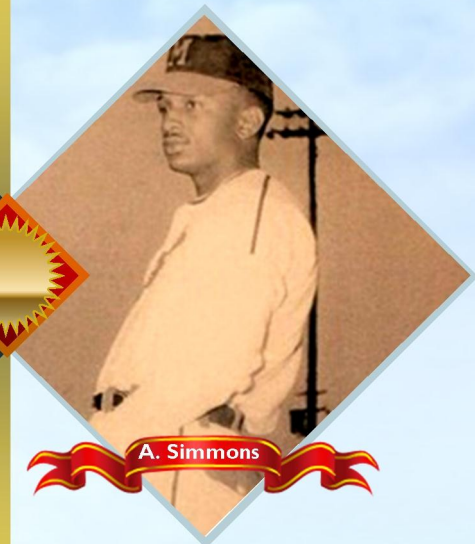
SUMMER 2014 EDITION



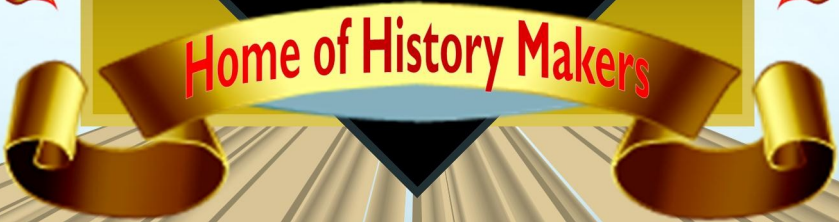
ILLINOIS



A. Bolden



A. Simmons



African American Heroes

FEATURED ARTICLES IN THIS EDITION:

- Legacy: Prince Hall Masons of the Past Opened the Door for the Obama Presidency
- Black History Month: Continuing the Legacy Series & African American Heroines
- News from the Midwest Regional Conference & The Phylaxis Society Annual Session
- Registration Forms and Information for the 2014 Annual Unification Session
- Great Things in Springfield—NAACP Award & Central Lodge Gains Historic Status

~ PHOTO SUBMISSION OF THE EDITION ~



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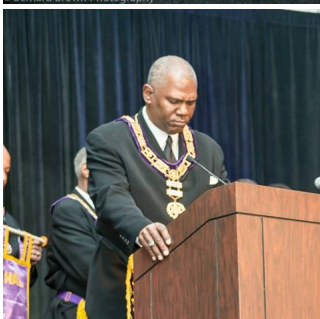
On May 3, 2014, the Grand Lodge of Illinois and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois celebrated a grand display of unity between the two bodies by participating, jointly, in the Cornerstone Laying Ceremony for the Advocate Illinois Masonic Hospital. Pictured above are the Elected Grand Lodge Officers from both Grand Lodges. Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!



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~ FROM THE GRAND MASTER OF ILLINOIS PRINCE HALL MASONS ~

It has truly been a long, hard, cold, gloomy winter that just seems to not want to go away. There have been brief glimmers of summer but nothing over an extended period of time to really get excited about. However, considering the weather, our good charitable work and the fraternal bonding done in the month of May, we have kept on our true course of "Masonic service to mankind."

With our Grand Unification Session fast approaching, we are working to make the registration process as simple and as easy as possible. On-line registration using PayPal saves a tree, is easy and secure. You can also purchase Mega Raffle Tickets, make a donation to the Benevolent Fund or make a Donation to the 5 Year Building Plan. You can do your souvenir book pictures on-line too. If you so choose, you may also download the form and mail it or drop it off during your next visit to the Grand East, where we are always glad to see you. While on the website take note of the other forms available, including the Prince Hall U.S. Postal Stamp Project form.

Most Worshipful Brother Millard V. Driskell—Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons



~ EDITORIAL ~

Efforts to celebrate African American History were prevalent throughout the course of the 2013-2014 Masonic Year. This edition will showcase those events as well as interviews performed by a group of brethren that share the same feelings on the preservation of our history. Take time to review each of the articles in this edition. It is up to us to keep our history alive and ensure its accuracy. History is the backbone of who we are. Also please continue to submit your feedback from the prior editions. I will continue to post them in upcoming editions as shown below:

- "Never knew *Nelson Mandela* was a PHA brother and that *Winnie Mandela* was a sister. This just confirms that I made the right choice when I decided to come over to a PHA Lodge. I know I am in the right."
- "The last edition was packed with current, historical and history-making articles. *Aunt Jemima?* I always thought she was a fictional character. First Grand Master of Washington —*a son of Illinois? Ernie Banks*—Are you serious? He is Mr. Cub. Our jurisdiction has a great deal to be proud of."
- "In this day and age, we need to see more articles on MORALITY. There are so many mixed messages that are being sent through media that are immoral. That article and the article from the edition before the last one (*MENTALITY OF MISERY*) are the types of articles I like to read...WE need to read."
- "Keep publishing the list of the Five Year Plan Donors. As a concerned Prince Hall Mason, I want to say thanks to those folks and encourage everyone else to get on board." (**List of donors is on the next page**)
- "I got a copy of the first edition of the Journal. Do we have an archive?"
- "KEYSTONE WAY—Great job to Keystone Lodge #15"
- "Do a follow up on recipients of Grand Lodge Education Donations. Where are they now?"

Please feel free to forward submissions for the next edition of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal to Journal@mwphglil.com in PDF or Microsoft Word format by **December 15, 2014**.

Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews—Editor



Plan NOW to Attend Upcoming Sessions Hosted by the Illinois Jurisdiction

Scottish Rite:
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 of Freemasonry
 Northern Jurisdiction
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
 May 2015

Phylaxis Society:
 The Annual Sessions
 of The Phylaxis Society
 and Phyllis Auxiliary
 —Masonic Research Society
NORTHBROOK, ILLINOIS
 April 2016

York Rite:
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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
 May 2016

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~ CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ~

By virtue of the authority vested in Most Worshipful Brother Millard V. Driskell, Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons of the State of Illinois and Its Jurisdictions and in accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws and Ceremonies of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, State of Illinois, Article XIV, Sections 2, 3, 4, & 5, p 61, all Past and Present Grand Lodge Officers, all Past Masters, all Worshipful Masters and all Wardens who hold allegiance to this Grand Lodge, were summoned to assemble on Saturday, February 15, 2014, at 10:00 am, in the Abraham Lincoln Hotel, located at 700 East Adams Street, Springfield, Illinois, to convene for our Constitutional Convention and other fraternal and legal matters that affect the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, State of Illinois and Its Jurisdictions. The convention was a huge success by any standard. It was well attended, harmonious and very orderly. All legitimate concerns were answered fully and the subjects regarding the Constitution, By-Laws, Burial Ceremony, Standard



Business Operation Procedure Manual and Protocol Manual were all addressed and clarified. The efforts given by Past Grand Master James Black, the Jurisprudence Committee and the By-Laws subcommittee led by Past Master George McCrowey in reviewing every single word of the Constitution and Bylaws, determining recommendations for corrections and presenting recommendations for addition was a tedious task which took multiple months and hours to complete. The time consumed was due to the fact that the last revision of the Constitution and Bylaws occurred sixty-six (66) years ago in 1948. The appreciation for these efforts were expressed by the Craft who attended in abundance. The goal to obtain consensus on the changes was achieved smoothly with the exception of only two (2) issues of the hundred or so that were presented. These will be addressed at the 148th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge in July of 2014. Once approved by the body, the revisions will be submitted for print and ready for distribution to the Craft.

Editorial Team and Contributors

- Most Worshipful Brother Millard V. Driskell—**Grand Master**
- Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews—**Editor**
- Most Worshipful Brother Earl D. Scott, HPGM
- Right Worshipful Brother James R. Jones, II
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Please contact our editor at Journal@mwphglil.com for more information.

The printing of ads in future editions of the Masonic Journal are subject to the review of the editor.





Sister Sandra D. Smith
and Brother Anthony Atwood,
Worthy Grand Matron and Patron

Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star



The Prince Hall Masonic Journal salutes a phenomenal woman, Sister Sandra D. Smith, Worthy Grand Matron, in conjunction with Sisters and Brothers from across the Illinois Jurisdiction. In honor and recognition of your efforts in service, charity and faith, we extend congratulations to her and to Worshipful Brother Anthony Atwood in their new roles as President and Vice President of the Midwest Regional Conference Order of the Eastern Star.

Who would have known that the banquet (photos shown below) held earlier in 2014 would be a pre-inaugural affair? It is no surprise as the efforts of Eureka Grand Chapter have covered multiple bases. Of the bases, the base of charity has been elevated as a top priority for the 2013-14 Masonic Year. Initiatives have been strategically targeted to have impacts across the entire State of Illinois. Each of the initiatives has proven to be successful. Their successes serve as a basis to confirm that stellar leadership is at work in the jurisdiction for the Grand Chapter.

In addition to charity, education and history are also bases in this diamond of success. With the confirmation that The Phylaxis Society and Phyllis Auxiliary will hold its annual session in the City of Chicago in the year 2016, sisters have gathered together under the leadership of Sister Lena Roberts, Grand Conductress to form the first local auxiliary in Illinois. Their efforts will not only educate but also promote the historical investigation of the Order of the Eastern Star. This will lead to an informed Order and elevate the quality of the membership.

Considering the success of these efforts, it is no surprise that Sister Smith was elected to lead the Conference of Grand Chapters for the Midwest Region. Her leadership abilities and relationships that she has built will ensure a successful term. All in all, this will contribute to the reputation of the Great State of Illinois.

Congratulations.



The Prince Hall Masonic Journal Salutes the late Dr. Maya Angelou and Ruby Dee

Poet Laureate and 2011 Presidential Medal of Freedom Recipient / Actress, Activist and Author

Poet

Playwright

Activist

Author



Birth:

Marguerite Annie Johnson
April 4, 1928
St. Louis, Missouri

Death:

May 28, 2014
Age of 86
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Dancer

Actress

Producer

Professor

Dr. Maya Angelou

"Phenomenal Woman"

Pretty women wonder
where my secret lies.
I'm not cute
or built to suit
a fashion model's size
But when I start to tell them,
They think I'm telling lies.
I say,
It's in the reach of my arms,
The span of my hips,
The stride of my step,
The curl of my lips.
I'm a woman
Phenomenally.

Phenomenal woman,
That's me.

I walk into a room
Just as cool as you please,
And to a man,
The fellows stand or
Fall down on their knees.
Then they swarm around me,
A hive of honey bees.
I say,
It's the fire in my eyes,
And the flash of my teeth,
The swing in my waist,
And the joy in my feet.
I'm a woman
Phenomenally.

Phenomenal woman,
That's me.

Men themselves have wondered
What they see in me.
They try so much
But they can't touch
my inner mystery.
When I try to show them,
They say they still can't see.
I say,
It's in the arch of my back,
The sun of my smile,
The ride of my breasts,
The grace of my style.
I'm a woman
Phenomenally.

Phenomenal woman,
That's me.

Now you understand
Just why my head's not
bowed.
I don't shout or jump about
Or have to talk real loud.
When you see me passing,
It ought to make you proud.
I say,
It's in the click of my heels,
The bend of my hair,
the palm of my hand,
The need for my care.
'Cause I'm a woman
Phenomenally.

Phenomenal woman,
That's me.

Poet

Activist



Birth:

Ruby Ann Wallace
October 27, 1922
Cleveland, Ohio

Death:

June 11, 2014
Age of 91
Rochester, New York

Actress

Author

Ruby Dee

Line of Leaders Who Blazed Trail for President Barack H. Obama

Source from the State of Illinois

Pushing forward despite great adversity is very familiar to the African American community as history outlines numerous examples of growth from troubled soil. This was certainly familiar to those heroes who struggled to secure the rights and privileges inherent to all Americans. It was definitely familiar to those abolitionists who helped carry fugitives to freedom and very familiar to those who lived within the bounds of the Black Codes. Despite the adversity, growth occurred through the spirit of those heroes.

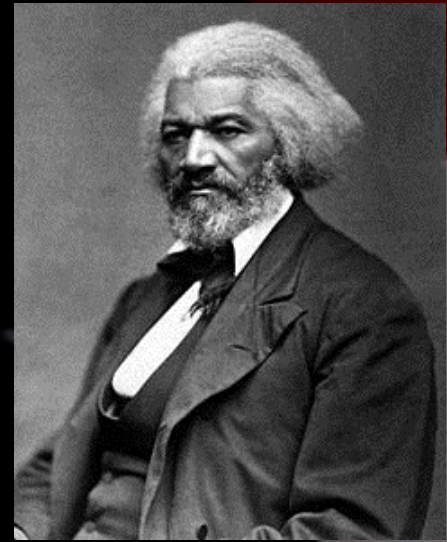
The purpose of this article is to state one single educated opinion using a simple pictorial trail and table. The opinion is, simply, that the stage for the election of President Barack H. Obama was laid by the efforts of a long line of predecessors who found ways to thrive in the troubled soil. Seeds planted in the 19th Century sprouted roots which gained nourishment from the battles for equality. The victories strengthened the roots which sparked the 20th Century growth that produced the tree from which President Obama sprang.

It is physically impossible for a tree to have grown without roots. Branches cannot extend from nothingness and leaves cannot sprout from the mere air. Therefore, it is the achievement of the latter, the roots, that qualifies the greatness of the initial acts:

- **TROUBLED SOIL:** *Slavery and Reconstruction*
- **SEEDS:** *John Jones & Frederick Douglass were abolitionists who freed the enslaved and earned political power at the local (Jones) and National (Douglass) levels. Jones became the first Black elected official in Illinois (1871) and Douglass became the first Black Vice Presidential Candidate (1872).*
- **ROOTS:** *From the seeds sprang roots in the Republican Party namely J.W.E. Thomas, Theodore W. Jones and the infamous John G. Jones. Together, they formed a strong political base that gained election and appointments for several others as Republican Party leaders.*
- **TREE TRUNK:** *After succeeding Theodore W. Jones as County Commissioner, Oscar De Priest, father of Past Grand Master De Priest of the MWPHGL of Illinois, was the first Black Illinoisan to gain power at the National level. He mentored William Dawson and Cornel Davis who would expand the trunk nationally and locally. They mentored Ralph Metcalfe who extended the base.*
- **CROWN:** *Through Metcalfe and others, Harold Washington rose to become the first Black Mayor of the City of Chicago due to the efforts of Jesse Jackson and others to deliver votes. This local crown solidified the virility of the black vote and drew Barack H. Obama to the City of Chicago. This success also prompted Jesse Jackson to seek the Presidency of the United States of America.*

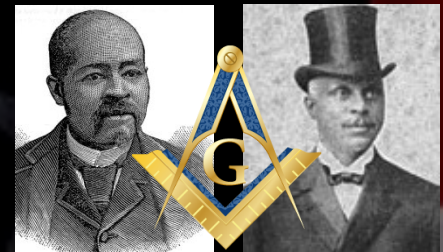
Tracing the acts through their various windings qualifies the greatness of the initial acts of growth in troubled soil. It is also a great finding that many of the strongest portions of the tree from which Obama sprang were, in fact, Prince Hall Masons. Many of them were lauded but some were disgraced. None-the-less, the contributions of all of them were significant. With this in mind, review the pictorial and timeline, memorize the names, ask yourself one question—"If the predecessors did not play their roles in history, what would the chances have been of America electing the First African American President in the year 2008?"

Source—*Personification of Hope: A Legacy of National African American Political Leadership*
by Daryl Lamar Andrews



FREDERICK DOUGLASS

Abolitionist and friend of John Jones, he was the first Black Vice Presidential Candidate (1872-Equal Rights Party) and the first Black to receive a delegate vote for nomination for the President of the United States of America (1888).

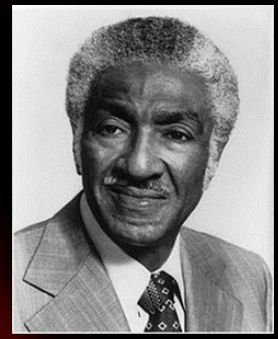
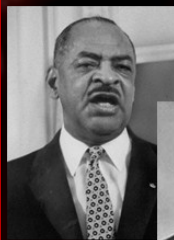


WILLIAM T. SCOTT & GEORGE E. TAYLOR

Illinois Prince Hall Masons who were the first Blacks to deliberately seek the Presidency of the United States of America under the National Negro Liberty Party. Scott (left), of Lincoln #5, is a Past Grand Senior Warden of the MWPHGL of Illinois. Taylor (right) was a member of Central #3. Taylor won scattering votes in the General Election of 1904.

CANDIDATES - 1968 TO 1988

- **REV. CHANNING PHILLIPS (1968)** received 68 delegate votes at DNC
- **SHIRLEY CHISHOLM (1972)** received 152 delegate votes at DNC
- **BARBARA JORDAN (1976)** received 1 delegate vote at DNC
- **RONALD DELLUMS (1980)** received 3 delegate votes at DNC
- **REV. JESSE L. JACKSON SR.** received 466 delegate votes (1984) and 1,219 delegate votes (1988) at DNC



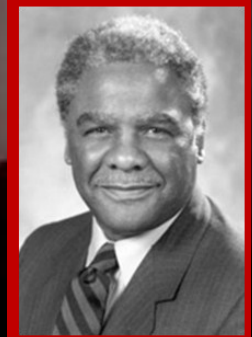
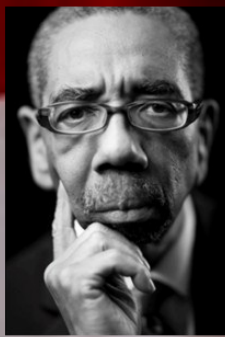
1 **John Jones**
"Birch Tree"
Illinois' First Black
Elected Official

2 **John W.E. Thomas and
Theodore & John G. Jones**
"Fig Tree & Conjoined Cedar Trees"
Republican Power Brokers

3 **Oscar DePriest**
"Oak Tree"
Illinois' First Black United
States Representative

4 **Bill Dawson & Corneal Davis**
"Conjoined Olive Trees"
Primary Resource Providers
at the local and national levels

5 **Ralph Metcalfe**
"Maple Tree"
Founding member of the
Congressional Black Caucus



10 **Barack Obama**
"Hazelnut Tree"
First Black President of the
United States of America

9 **Carole Moseley-Braun**
"Walnut Tree"
First Black Female United
States Senator

8 **Bobby Rush**
"Elm Tree"
United States
Representative

7 **Jesse Jackson**
"Ash Tree"
Uniting Force for the African
American Vote

6 **Harold Washington**
"Oak Tree"
First Black Mayor of Chicago
and Spark for the Top Crown

Heroes	Washington Link	1983 - 87	1988 - 92	1993 - 97	1998 - 2002	2003 - 07	2008 - 13
Harold Washington		Mayor of the City of Chicago (1983 & 1987)					Endorsed Barack Obama for President of the United States (2008)
Jesse Jackson Sr.	Southside Voter Drive for Washington Mayoral Election	First Presidential Run from Washington Victory (1984)	Establishment of National Rainbow Coalition (1984) Second Presidential Run from Washington Victory (1988) United States (Shadow) Senator District of Columbia (1991-97)				
Bobby Rush	City Council Supporter	Chicago Alderman (1983)	United States Representative (1992 to present) Endorsed Obama despite 2000 Challenge for US Rep. Seat (2008)				
Carole Moseley-Braun	Washington's 1987 Dream Ticket	Assistant Majority Leader Illinois State Legislature (1983) First Black Cook County Recorder of Deeds	First Black Female United States Senator (1992)	United States Ambassador (1999)	Presidential Candidate (2004)		
BARACK OBAMA	Drawn to Chicago by Washington Victory (1984)	Southside Voter Registration Drive (1984) Director of Developing Communities Project (1985) - Chicago (Roseland Community)	Editor of Harvard Law Review (1989) Director of Project Vote (1991) - Successor to Southside Voter Registration Drive	Illinois State Senator (1996)	Challenged Bobby Rush for United States Representative Seat (2000)	Racial Profiling Legislation (2003) United States Senator (2004) Keynote Speaker at DNC (2004) Repaired Relationship with Rush	

4th District Public Installation Banquet and Scholarship Presentations

The 30th Annual Installation & Charity Scholarship Banquet of the Southwestern Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family was held on Saturday, January 25, 2014, 7:00 p.m. at The National Shrine, Our Lady of the Snows Conference Center, 442 De Mazenod Drive, at HWY 15, Belleville, Illinois. The Theme for the past 30 years has been “Reach Out and Touch Someone” by presenting students scholarships annually in the amount of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars each. This year we presented scholarships to 6 students, at a cost of \$3,000.00



Presentations of Scholarship Awards were made by HPGM Earl D. Scott, # 142 and PM Rachel A. Carter, # 85. The students were:

- **Ashley N. Collins**, attending Belleville East High School, has been accepted at St. Louis College of Pharmacy, St. Louis, MO;
- **Anna Rose Brown**, attending Alton High School, has been accepted at Hampton University, Hampton, VA;
- **Paula V. Evans**, attending Mascoutah High School, has been accepted at Mississippi State University;
- **Shontrice N. Garrett** is attending Jackson State University where she is a second year student;
- **Xavier E. Raper**, attending East St. Louis Senior High School, has been accepted at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville;
- **Darius Conley**, attending Colorado State University where he is a third year student.

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

M.W. Bro. Millard V. Driskell, Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons presented certificates to all Worshipful Masters elected and installed for the year of 2014. Sis Sandra D. Smith, Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Anthony Atwood, Worthy Grand Patron did the honors for all 2014 Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons for the 4th District. Her. Johnnie M. Wilson, Most Ancient Grand Matron and Comp. Leroy Brown, Most Worthy Grand Joshua presented certificates to the Most Ancient Matrons and Most Worthy Joshua's. RM Dianna M. Caston, Royal Grand Perfect Matron, and IC Jesse J. Smith, Royal Grand Chief Advisor, of Levi H. Morris Grand Court, LOCOP, made the presentations to Royal Matron and Royal Chief Advisor.



Most Illustrious Companion Damon P. Anderson, Sr. Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest and Past Right Eminent, Grand Commander and presently serving as Most Illustrious Companion, Grand Thrice Illustrious Master presented certificates of

membership to member of East St. Louis Chapter # 20. Eminent Commander of Crusaders Military Commandery # 38 and The Thrice Illustrious Master of Ellis T. Moore Council # 3, Royal and Select Masters. The Scottish Rite and Order of the Golden Circle certificates were presented by SGIG Melvin Frierson, Deputy of the Orient of Illinois. Noble Armand T. Harris, Imperial Deputy of the Oasis, East St. Louis, Illinois presented certificate to Ill Potentate. Dt. Sandra Mosley, Imperial Deputy for the Dt. Isis, East St. Louis, Illinois presented certificate to the Ill Commandress.



We the Special Effort Committee wish to express our sincere appreciation for your support in making this our 30th Annual Installation Scholarship and Charity Banquet a

success. Thanks to each and everyone who have supported us in this endeavor during the past 30 years. We have awarded seventy five (75) education awards during this period and contributed to numerous charity and benevolent organizations and events. We give special thanks and gratitude to the OFFICER FUNERAL HOME for their continued support. The programs these years as in all other past years were donated by Officer Funeral Home. We give all praises to God for what he has done and for what he is doing. May God continue to bless each of you. - Submitted by Most Worshipful Brother Earl D. Scott, #142

Junior Craft Council #25: On the Move!

Albert Einstein wrote: “The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing.” Support for this statement is ever so prevalent in our youth. Young people possess an instinctive curiosity and an inherent capacity to see beauty in those things that most adults all too often take for granted. By what means do the young view Freemasonry? Does it appeal to them and, if so, what is its appeal? Union #155 took on this challenge over five years ago and helped revitalize the Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Junior Craft. With the guidance of the Grand Director of the Junior Craft Ron Wilson and current Grand Senior Warden Aubrey Barlow, Union Junior Craft council #25 was formed. Through skilled service projects and educational activities Union lodge #155 help develop the principals of freemasonry and instill some of the morals, customs and traditions that have helped our fraternity sustain the test of time.



17 year old Jabari Butler the son of Eugene Butler of Fidelity Lodge No. 103, is ideally qualified young man to answer those and other searching questions. As Craftmaster of council #25, Butler is bright young man who is college bound, poised for success and

who has genuine passion for doing charitable activities in various communities. Butler relates the elements of Freemasonry that appeals to him. Top of his list is that Freemasonry supports charities and tries to improve the lives of people around them. Asked if he could give examples of masonry’s charitable work Butler replied: “I know of cases where masons have provided Food and clothing to those less fortunate during the holiday season, they have supplied educational equipment and televisions to schools. Basically, they care for those who are less fortunate than themselves.”

Already determined to follow in his father’s footsteps by becoming a Prince Hall Mason when old enough, Jabri or “JB” as he is referred to by family and friends has a little more important task immediately in his future. JB is a graduating senior from Lindblom Math and Science Academy. Jabari is a two sport athlete, who boasts a 3.5 G.P.A on a 4.0 scale, Senior Jabari Butler had his feats on the football field authenticated as well by joining the IHSA record books his records include: #11 all time for most kickoff returned for touchdowns in a season, #3 all time for most kickoff returned for touchdowns in a game and #7 all time for most kickoff returned yards in a game. Jabari will be attending Drake University in the Fall.



Brandon Thompson is a scholar and athlete at Urban Prep

Englewood Campus. He is currently in the 11th grade and have achieved a GPA of 3.5. He has received many academic honors; however his is most proud of having one of the top scores of all three Urban Prep Campuses. He is a member of

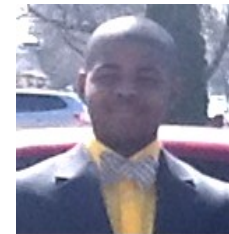


the Varsity Baseball Team and has earned the respect of both his Coaches and team mates. Brandon aspiration is to attend a BIG 10 University to study to become an Accountant and work in stocks and trade. He is currently studying for his A.P. English test and will begin to start to apply to various schools this summer.



Courtney Williams is freshman at George H. Corliss High School. He is currently ranked in the top 20 of his class and has a GPA of 3.7. He is a member of the Football, Wrestling, Track, Volleyball, and Baseball teams. As a freshman he was a member of the Varsity Football and Wrestling Teams.

He also partakes in academic extracurricular programs. He is a participant in After School Matters and the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Program where he has learned how to build and dismantle computers. Courtney plans to go to college and play for a major university with aspirations to going to the NFL. He notes that while he hopes to one day play in the NFL he will Study Criminal Justice and has chosen Law Enforcement as his career of choice.



Louis J Clay will be an incoming freshman at Mt. Carmel High School. Louis is a recent recipient of the prestigious Daniel Murphy academic scholarship and a member of the junior national honor society. Louis is also a standout baseball and football player competing at a high level; AAU traveling baseball all-star.



Christopher M. Calhoun Jr. will be attending Chicago High School of Agriculture and Science in the fall as a freshman. Christopher is looking forward to new challenges of High school and researching urban agriculture. Christopher will be playing basketball and sophomore football.

The work and accomplishment of these young men are a testament to the parents and dedication of the members of our great fraternity. Union lodge #155 intentions are to ensure that positive boys are raised and developed into outstanding citizens both in the classroom and in their respective communities. Keep up the great work “U”!

Submitted by PM Christopher Calhoun, Sr., #155



GREAT THINGS IN SPRINGFIELD

The City of Springfield, Illinois is the location of a number of firsts in the Illinois Jurisdiction. In 1867, the first Lodge of Master Masons opened by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois was done so in the

Sister Kathy Davis of Estella #3 Receives NAACP 2013 President's Award



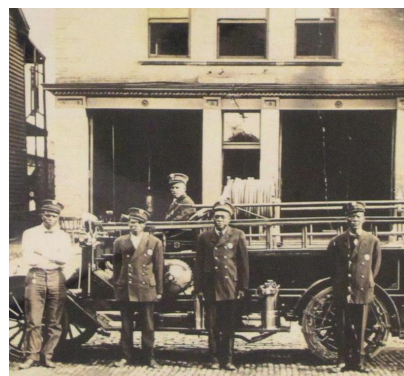
The City of Springfield, Illinois is the location of a number of firsts in the Illinois Jurisdiction. In 1867, the first Lodge of Master Masons opened by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois was done so in the city. The first Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons, namely Most Worshipful Brother Benjamin Franklin Rogers,

was a member of Central Lodge #3 of Springfield. The basis of the formation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was the death of the First Grand Junior Deacon of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois, namely, Worshipful Brother William Donegan. Many other greats feats and accomplishments have come from the city and it is a great thing to note that the trend of achievements continues to this date.



Central Lodge Hall Designated as Historical Landmark

The current home of Central Lodge #3 located at 13th and Adams in the City of Springfield has always been held with high regard by Springfield's African American community. In fact,



in its former days, this Lodge Hall was Springfield's first black fire station. Built in 1902, the former firehouse, which housed the city's black firefighters in the days of segregation, was in operation during the Springfield race riots of 1908. It's believed that the firefighters from that station also responded to calls of homes and businesses of African-American citizens that were torched by angry mobs. The building has been owned by Central since the 1970s. By the efforts of the brethren of the Lodge, the City of Springfield has designated the location as a historical landmark. The current efforts of the Lodge are now focused on preservation of the historic building and these efforts are supported by the City of Springfield who presented Past Master Ken Page and Worshipful Master Willie Wiley with the Mayor's award for Historic Preservation (below). Congratulations on the efforts and keep up the great work.



city. The first Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons, namely Most Worshipful Brother Benjamin Franklin Rogers, was a member of Central Lodge #3 of Springfield. The basis of the formation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was the death of the First Grand Junior Deacon of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois, namely, Worshipful Brother William Donegan. Many other greats feats and accomplishments have come from the city and it is a great thing to note that the trend of achievements continues to this date.

P.M. Ken Page—Mason of the Year History of the MOY Award



No greater honor can be awarded to a Master Mason than being awarded the title “Mason of the Year”! At the 147th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois, Worshipful Brother Kenneth L. Page, Past Master of Central Lodge #3, was selected as the

55th Mason of the Year for the Grand Lodge. On April 26, 2014, Central Lodge #3 and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois honored Past Master Page with a banquet held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in the City of Springfield, Illinois. On this date and at this location, Past Master Page became a part of Illinois Masonic History.

The Mason of the Year and Citizen of the Year Awards were originated in 1957 by Most Worshipful Brother Obed E. Vanderburg, 22nd Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois. His years of service were from 1955 through 1963. Per the proceedings of the 91st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in 1957, Most Worshipful Brother Vanderburg presented to the Grand Lodge a recommendation for an award titled “Mason of the Year”. His vision was to select a Mason who, in the opinion of the Awards Committee, while remaining true to the tenets of Freemasonry, has made the greatest contribution to the program of his Lodge and to the Grand Lodge during the current year. The initial objective of the award was to inspire others through recognition to improve upon the accomplishments of the past while remaining within due bounds of the organizational standards.

The story of the very first Mason of the Year follows. Grand Master Vanderburg appointed Right Worshipful Brother Henry G. Fort of Harmony Lodge #88, as the very first Mason of the Year. Right Worshipful Brother Fort was selected for the award because of his efforts as Director of the Grand Order of Junior Craftsmen program. The program pertained to youth activities

for young boys between 12 and 20 years of age. He built this youth group into a dynamic organization which was patterned after by other Masonic Jurisdictions. At the 1958 Annual Communication, the first “Mason of the Year Award” was awarded to Right Worshipful Brother Henry G. Fort who became the 23rd Grand Master. Most Worshipful Brother Fort was selected the 1958-59 Mason of the Year.

Complete List of the Masons of the Year

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. 1958: Henry G. Fort, #88 | 33. 1991: Eddie Grace, #64 |
| 2. 1959: Ernie Banks, #103 (up) | 34. 1992: William Norman, #109 |
| 3. 1959: George Cross, #56 (dn) | 35. 1993: Michael Patterson, #103 |
| 4. 1960: Thomas Kelly, #103 | 36. 1994: Leroy C. Barnes, #59 |
| 5. 1961: Kenneth Stratton, #18 | 37. 1995: Joseph Hayes, #29 |
| 6. 1962: John Russell White, #18 | 38. 1996: David Johnson, #18 |
| 7. 1963: Joseph Blount, #68 | 39. 1997: Damon P. Anderson, #137 |
| 8. 1964: Corneal Davis, #29 | 40. 1998: Charles M. Jones, #80 |
| 9. 1965: Charles Stewart, #100 | 41. 1999: R. Courtney Priest, #14 |
| 10. 1968: Oliver Nelson, #31 | 42. 2000: Edward Junkins, #108 |
| 11. 1969: Odell Smith, #15 | 43. 2001: Dwayne A. Smith, #133 |
| 12. 1970: George Harris, #100 | 44. 2002: Ron Wilson, #17 |
| 13. 1971: Albert Moorehead, #1 | 45. 2003: Patrick Parks, #98 |
| 14. 1972: Isaac Washington, #59 | 46. 2004: Frank Logan, #119 |
| 15. 1973: James Miles, #14 | 47. 2005: Charles Holiday Jr., #91 |
| 16. 1974: Robert DeCuir, #133 | 48. 2006: Aubrey Barlow, #23 |
| 17. 1975: Robert Evans, #107 | 49. 2007: Lloyd Womack, #121 |
| 18. 1976: Oscar Edmond, #35 | 50. 2008: Daryl L. Andrews, #91 |
| 19. 1977: Marvin Williams, #133 | 51. 2009: Chris Calhoun, #155 |
| 20. 1978: Robert Williams, #98 | 52. 2010: Carl Garner, #29 |
| 21. 1979: Lewis Pinckney, #7 | 53. 2011: Roland G. Simon, #135 |
| 22. 1980: Bernard Teat, #128 | 54. 2012: Homer Walton, #109 |
| 23. 1981: Harry Collier, #31 | 55. 2013: Kenneth Page, #3 |
| 24. 1982: James Levy, #128 | |
| 25. 1983: R.C. Brown, #116 | |
| 26. 1984: Kenneth Ingram, #1 | |
| 27. 1985: Willie B. Evans Sr., #133 | |
| 28. 1986: Brian Abrams, #109 | |
| 29. 1987: Wadell Brooks, #107 | |
| 30. 1988: Doty Nash, #100 | |
| 31. 1989: Jerry Butler, #1 | |
| 32. 1990: Roderick Hawkins, #79 | |

Upstate and downstate recipients were selected as the 2nd and 3rd Masons of the Year were selected by the Grand Lodge in 1959.

No Mason of the Year was selected for the years of 1966 and 1967 by order of Most Worshipful Brother Oscar DePriest, 24th Grand Master.

We, the Masons of the Year, are very grateful for Most Worshipful Brother Obed E. Vanderburg, the Mason of the Year Award originator. It is because of his vision that the Annual Mason of the Year Award is legendary. It is our hope that all Masons are inspired by this award and strive to become the “Mason of the Year”.

PLACING A RENEWED FOCUS



The Winter 2012-13 Edition of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal featured an article submitted by Worshipful Brother Charles "Airborne" Cooper, #128, on the Triple Nickles—555th Parachute Infantry Battalion. This article on the first African American Paratroopers lit a fire of interest in minds of the Craft and the general public as the 555th did not receive the same notoriety as the Tuskegee Airman. It lit an interest to such a degree that it inspired others to produce similar works.

In discussing the aforementioned edition, Worshipful Brother Lloyd Womack, #121, Grand Historian, noted that more information on the 555th battalion may be available at the Buffalo Soldiers Museum in Texas. The founder of the museum, Captain Paul Matthews was a personal friend of the "Wo". It was through this relationship that the interview of Captain Matthews was obtained and published in the Summer 2013 Edition of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal. More articles along these lines were published in the edition that followed. Worshipful Brother Adrian Cooley, a perennial contributor to the publication and historian, submitted information obtained from the MWPHGL of North Carolina confirming that Nelson Mandela was, in fact, a Prince Hall Mason of the North Carolina Jurisdiction. Information on the first "Aunt Jemima", Sister Agnes Moody, changed the minds of many. Sister Moody, was a Past Grand Matron of Eureka Grand



Rufus Hunt - 2nd Generation Tuskegee Airman

The Bessie Coleman Library on Chicago's South Side was the perfect place to meet and interview Mr. Rufus Hunt, 2nd Generation Tuskegee Airman. Mr. Hunt graciously greeted the team of Cooper, Stafford, Lloyd and Carolyn Womack, Crayton and myself. He immediately informed the team of the significance of the library as it honored the individual who was known as the first African American pilot. While telling his own story, he would often shed further light on the history of African American aviators noting points of interest that were previously unknown. By the end of this interview, the team not only left with respect for Mr. Hunt but also with better grasp of a history that was untold to a larger degree.

Hunt is a native Chicagoan who lived at 57th and Indiana. As a young boy, his love for flight began with the collection of model airplanes. This peaked his passion at wanting to become a pilot. He also lived around the corner from the Atkins Family. The Atkins had five boys and four girls and one of the boys, Winston, was a B25 pilot in World War Two. Stories given by Winston increased his desire to pursue flying and laid a pathway to what would become his future.

Intelligence is a key component to a successful pilot. In fact, pilots had to have an IQ minimum of 110 and 20/20 vision. A pilot had to process multiple situations and circumstances at the same time. Although Rufus has an IQ of 130, Winston's IQ of nearly 140 was just short of genius

rating. Winston entered the war when he was 20 years old and he spoke about multiple missions and circumstances in which he had become involved. A lot of things about the war had never been exposed mainly because most of the soldiers who can back up the stories are passed on. But it was Winston's stories that got him hooked on becoming a pilot and the opportunity to pursue this dream through the military became the method through which he would achieve his goal.

After coming of age, Hunt became a 2nd generation Tuskegee Airman. The 1st generation actually served during World War Two and their history is well documented. Their efforts laid the foundation for those who would follow in the succeeding years and it was of the utmost importance to the 2nd generation to measure up to the standards set before them.

Hunt served out of San Antonio, Texas where he experienced race prejudice for the first time. Hazing was very much real. Hunt's group was called "Yo Yo's" because during training, whenever they stopped running, they had to jump up and down. He remembers going to several stores, wondering why they never had what he wanted before realizing it was prejudice. He was selected for West Point and didn't know it. After attending the academy from 1955 to 1956, he remembered the head of the cadets gave them a party - Colonel William L. Stewart. His daughter took a special interest in him which her father did not like.

(See HUNT on Page 16)

ON AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORY

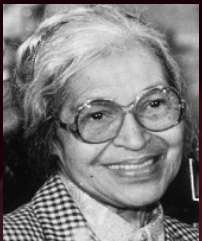
Chapter OES, a Past Most Ancient Grand Matron of the Heroines of Jericho, dined with royalty and played a large role in the international sales of American Agricultural products. Affectionately known as "Aunt Agnes", she was not necessarily mocked in her day. Another article, sourced from the Washington Jurisdiction, was published in that edition as well. Brother John Hairston's article brought a great sense of pride to the Illinois Jurisdiction as it revealed that the first Grand Master of the MWPHGL of WA was a son of the Illinois Jurisdiction. All in all, the research and interviews have provided details that were previously unknown.

This edition is no different. Through the efforts of Brother Airborne with the assistance of Worshipful Brothers Tony Stafford, #128 and Lloyd Womack, #121, Brother Terence Crayton, #77 and myself, two new interviews with living historical legends were obtained. Meet Mr. Rufus Hunt—2nd Generation Tuskegee Airman and Mr. Arthur Simmons Jr.—Negro League Baseball Legend. You will also find a writeup which was the result of the historical efforts of the Honorable Howard Brookins Sr., #64 and the brethren of Eureka Lodge #64. Meet Mr. Abraham Bolden, the first African American Secret Service Agent on the Presidential Detail. Read their stories from the interviews and enjoy!

- Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews, Editor

Arthur "Big Hut" Simmons—Negro League Legend

"Let's play two" was a famous phrase that was uttered by Brother Ernie "Mr. Cub" Banks while playing for the Chicago Cubs. In fact, it was commonplace for many baseball players in the Negro Leagues to play double headers on a regular basis. It was the love of the game that drove them and the love of the fellowship of those who played the game along with them. This message came across loudly and clearly when the team interviewed Mr. Art "Big Hut" Simmons, Negro League Legend and cousin to Sister Rosa Parks.



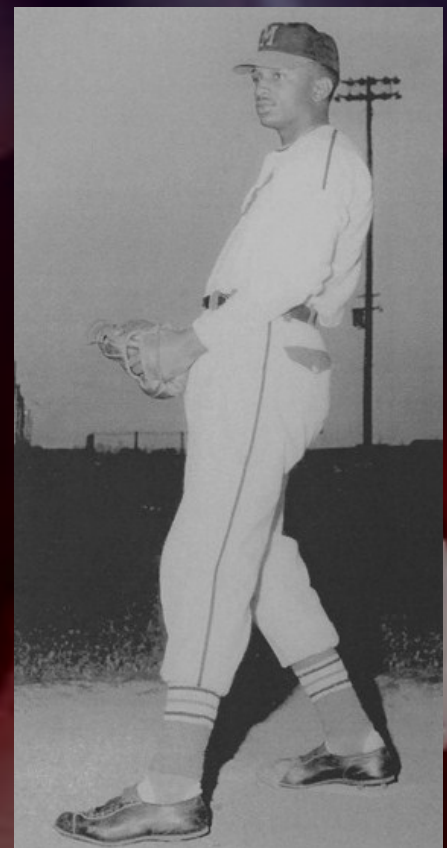
On that fateful day on December 1, 1955 when Rosa Parks, who was returning home from a long day's work, refused to give up her seat on the Bus 2857 in the City of Montgomery, Alabama, he cousin, Arthur Simmons, was in the service of Uncle Sam at the Maxwell Air Force Base. At the time of the incident, he was unaware of the situation but felt the repercussions of that stand on the base itself. Many of the civilians from the city worked on the base and they brought the negative sentiments with them while in service on the base. The sentiments were also shared by some of the soldiers who did not want to be in the company of African Americans. It was in this environment though that Simmons would find an oasis. He and many others were able to find peace on the baseball field.

Simmons played on the military baseball team representing Maxwell Air Force Base in the 1950s. While turmoil between blacks and whites existed in the town, the same challenges did not occur on the baseball field. One of two black men on the team, Simmons (kneeling on the first row at the far end) played multiple positions in the infield and outfield and even pitched. Because his superior abilities were displayed on the field on a consistent basis, he was respected by his teammates and by opposing teams. Unfortunately, in most instances, it was only on the field that the mutual respect was exhibited.



In 1955, Jim Crow Segregation was still in full effect and racial prejudice was prevalent in the South. Simmons explained an instance where a conflict in his travel arrangements to a game came into effect as he was not allowed to utilize the same method as his white teammates. In this instance, a teammate arranged for him to be flown to the base to make it to the game on time. When playing town teams, he was forced to stay in separate quarters from his teammates. However, once on the field, he was cheered and treated without malice by the fans who traveled to see the team. In the mind of Simmons, the baseball field became an oasis. This encouraged him to pursue the sport to a greater degree.

(See **SIMMONS** on Page 16)



HUNT continued:

Despite these challenges, Hunt stayed the course and became 2nd Lieutenant of the Silver Air Patrol 626 Commanded by Cornelius Washington. His greatest memory was when he received orders to report to Randolph Air Force Base to train for pilot duty. After mastering what were called "Washing Machine" planes, he advanced to the next level noting that "if you could do it during peace time in a "North American T6 Texan", then you could fly the new planes of B25 Jets coming out. Hunt saw action during the Korean War. During the missions, he often recalled the words from Winston Atkins which would fire him up. Winston's commanding officer would often tell the men to remember the attack on Pearl Harbor during their missions. With minds filled with fire, the pilots took off to satisfy the objectives of the missions. After his service, Hunt gained employment as a FAA electrician. In this role, he continued to stay close to his passion of flying through his career. He still flies planes to this date and holds the history of African American aviators near and dear to his heart. His findings opened the eyes of the team to a large degree as he presented some facts on early African American pilots:

- Bessie Coleman is revered and celebrated annually. For many years, Hunt was honored as the pilot who flew over Lincoln Cemetery to drop a wreath of flowers from the airplane on her grave annually.
- Eugene Ballard flew with the French in World War One. After the discovery, Ballard became noted as the 1st black pilot until the discovery of Emory Malick.
- Emory Malick (pictured) flew from 1912 to 1916 after the Wright Brothers. His photo was discovered by a young white lady going through her grandmother's things. She found this picture of her grandmother's grandfather and noticed that he was black.
- Jesse L. Brown (pictured) became the first black Naval Aviator. He worked through the segregation to reach his objective of flying for the Navy but died after being shot down during the Korean War in 1950. He was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Naval Cross.



Nearing seventy years of flying, Mr. Hunt has lived the American Dream and provided others with similar opportunities. One of the first black women to take pilot training under him was a lady named Michelle who is the half-sister of actress Denise Nichols. She is now an officer in the United States Air Force. All in all, the success of Mr. Hunt in flight, success stories of his students and passion for aeronautical history have prompted him to proudly state that he has "lived the American Dream and had a fantastic career." With over 7000 hours flying, he still flies planes to this date, By literally "reaching higher heights", he continues to inspire others to do the same.

SIMMONS continued:

Upon completing his tour of service, Simmons shifted his focus towards the Negro Leagues. He played from the Kansas City Monarchs from 1957 to 1958 (pictured 7th from the left). An outstanding Pitcher, he traveled across the country playing baseball from state to state. The team travels carried them all the way to Yankee Stadium in New York. He earned the nickname "Big Hut" while playing on the Negro League circuit because of his size and his great pitching ability. In his two years on the team, he had double digit wins as a pitcher. Unfortunately, in 1958, the death of his father forced him to end his career in baseball.



Hired by the Eastman Kodak Company on February 12, 1959, Simmons eventually shifted his residence to the Chicago area worked as a machine operator, film printer and inspector. He continued playing and coaching baseball in the Chicago area while taking business management and accounting courses at a local junior college. This led to his advancement as a supervisor at Kodak. After retirement in the early 1990s, he continued to coach little league teams. With his current efforts, it is clear that the competitive spirit in Simmons never died. He is an avid bowler with a 192 average who bowls in tournaments across the country. The glimmer in his eyes when speaking of baseball in the Negro Leagues among some of the greats confirms that his time of the fields were some of his fondest memories. From these memories and victories, his message specifically to the youth and to Prince Hall Masons is a simple one— "Keep on working to improve."



Eureka #64 Honors Abraham Bolden “Continuing the Legacy” Honoree

President John F. Kennedy approached and asked Mr. Abraham Bolden, a black man from East St. Louis, Illinois, to be on his security detail while in the City of Chicago at an event at McCormick Place in 1961. Beaming with pride, Mr. Bolden accepted the offer. “What a shining star”, many would say, after recognizing that this strong and intelligent black man had been selected to serve at the highest level. This honor was surely felt by Mr. Bolden as he started on to his duties. Despite challenges endured from race prejudice and the signs of the times, this hero endured and remains a living testimony to faith and endurance.

Born and raised in East St. Louis, Illinois, Mr. Bolden learned discipline and responsibility at an early age. After being wed, he sought opportunities in law enforcement and drove towards that goal despite the fact that racism was running rampant in the St. Louis, Missouri area. His first job in this arena was as a private detective for a prominent security agency. Responding to a newspaper ad for the Pinkerton Agency, he went to the door as a qualified candidate but was rebuffed by the secretary after one look at his face. After over-hearing the ensuing discussion between the two of them, the boss called him into the office to discuss the opportunity. After the interview, he was hired on the spot and became the lone black detective on the agency’s roster.

After one year of service, he left the agency after gaining employment as an Illinois State Trooper. He shifted his residence to Chicago and served as one of few blacks on the force. He pushed through the ranks despite the challenges. The discipline instilled in him by his parents and the desire for advancement kept him focused on his duties in the midst of discrimination which lead him to an even greater opportunity in the law enforcement arena. While serving as an Illinois State Trooper, he engaged in conversations with a Secret Service Agent who was on duty for the President of the United States. The agent had come ahead of the President to Chicago to scout the location and prepare arrangements. The agent asked Mr. Bolden to consider seeking an opportunity with the Secret Service. After much contemplation, Mr. Bolden shot for that star and achieved it shortly thereafter.

During President Kennedy’s visit, Agent Bolden was assigned to a post by the bathroom. He manned his post with dignity which caught the attention of the President. In their brief conversation, the President asked him if he knew of any black agents on his detail. Answering in the negative, the President then asked him if he’d like to be the first. Answering in the affirmative, Mr. Bolden became the first Black Secret Service Agent on the White House Detail in 1961.

Agent Bolden immediately utilized his knowledge and experience to identify areas of improvement in security. He identified gaps as well as behavioral issues with agents that could pose risks. However, he ran into challenges when attempting to report them. Although ostracized by many of his colleagues who viewed him as a token, he continued to expose the deficits to the head of the Secret Service James Rowley. The reports

went ignored. After only months of service, Agent Bolden was transferred back to Chicago to focus on counterfeit cases.

On that fateful day on November 22, 1963, President Kennedy was assassinated. Shortly, thereafter, Mr. Bolden informed the Warren Commission of the inadequacies in the President’s security detail that were identified during a failed attempt in Chicago weeks earlier.

His words, again, went ignored and are, likely, the cause for the duress that followed.

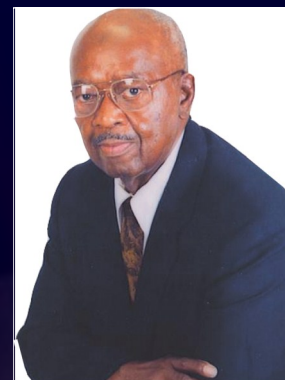
In May of 1964, Agent Bolden was charged with the soliciting a bribe from a counterfeiting ring. The jury in the first trial remained deadlocked after multiple reviews. After a retrial in July of 1964, Mr. Bolden was convicted and sentenced to six years in jail. Despite witness testimony of perjury in the implication of Bolden, the conviction was upheld by the Court of Appeals in December of 1965. The amount of pressure placed upon Mr. Bolden during this period pushed him to the brink of sanity. The prison psychiatrist moved to have him declared insane on multiple instances. However, it was in the midst of this storm he prayed to God who spoke to him directly through visions. Just days before his release, a vision of the demise of the psychiatrist by suicide had come true. It was this death that had opened the doors to his freedom.

According to Mr. Bolden, it was God’s intervention that set him free.

After serving three years in prison, Mr. Bolden returned to Chicago and gained employment at an automotive company. He experienced elevation to the management ranks working through retirement in 2001. However, over the years, he

continually sought to ensure that the details of his story be told properly and, to date, they have been told through multiple channels. In 1978, he testified before the Select Committee on Assassinations of the United States House of Representatives who concurred with Mr. Bolden’s assertions relative to inadequacies in security relative to President Kennedy. An interview in 2006 for a television documentary also concurred. The whole story as told by Mr. Bolden is in his book which was released in 2008 titled “The Echo from Dealey Plaza”. It is this work that captured the attention of Illinois Prince Hall Masons at the 50th Anniversary of President Kennedy’s Assassination in 2013 that serves as the source of this article.

Special thanks are due to Past Master Howard Brookins, Sr. of Eureka Lodge #64 who established the relationship with Mr. Bolden and to Eureka Lodge #64 on their selection of him as the Lodge’s “Continuing the Legacy” Award Recipient. He truly is a living testimony whose legacy of standing for truth and justice by faith in the face of enormous obstacles is worthy of emulation. Congratulations.



The Echo from Dealey Plaza

The true story of
the first African
American on the
White House Secret Service
detail and his quest
for justice after the
assassination of JFK



Abraham Bolden

Heroines of African American History

In honor of Black History Month, the Sisters of Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star presented “Heroines of Black History” during the Grand Lodge Black History Series. Under the direction of Right Worshipful Brother Leroy Berry, the audience was introduced to African American Heroines who have made indelible impacts upon the African American diaspora and to society as a whole. The Heroines, ranging from Harriet Tubman to Michelle Obama, were portrayed in a remarkable fashion by sisters from across the jurisdiction. Congratulations on a job well done. Your representations of these characters were excellent.



PM Ray Willis—New KSU Alumni Fellow

On April 14, 2014, twelve accomplished Kansas State University alumni were selected as the 2014 Alumni Fellows based on their high levels of professional accomplishment and distinguished service in their respective careers. Of the twelve selected, one is known in the Masonic circles of the State of Illinois—Past Master Ray E. Willis of Plumblin Lodge #116. Past Master Ray E. Willis is a Mason’s Mason whose work has spoken for itself over the years. He is the driving force behind the yearly effort of the participation of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois in the Thapelo Institute’s health care initiative. His efforts in this arena have escalated the relationship between the Grand Lodge and the organization which, now, sponsors free health screenings at the Grand East on an annual basis. Professionally, Past Master Willis serves as the Director of Community Planning and Development for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Chicago—College of Architecture, Planning & Design. In all arenas, his efforts have been stellar. With degrees earned from Kansas State University in 1968 and 1971, his success in the professional arena not only brought great pride to the university but also to his fellow Masons as well. Therefore, we congratulate the new Alumni Fellow of Kansas State University on this honor which is well deserved.



North Star’s Semi-Annual Blood Drive

The semi-annual blood drive sponsored by North Star lodge #1, held on April 28, 2014, was very successful according to the American Red Cross. We had 21 people to register online and 30 that signed up manually on the roster kept at the office of the Temple Manager. We were given a goal of 21 pints and collected 23 pints. We also had 7 deferrals with 10 individuals registering for the first time. The Red Cross staff had to stay an extra 50 minutes to service everyone and still, we had 4 people who did not get to donate. There was not enough staff.

According to the America Red Cross report that I received dated March 27, 2014, the following brothers and sisters have donated over the past several years:

Daryl Andrews	Michele Douglas	Gloria Howell	Ramie Reed
Aisha Ato	Jimmie Griggs	Kenneth Hubbard	Keith Scott
Johnathan Austin	James Hannah	Cleveland Johnson	Roland Simon
Senora Ben	Reginald Hannah	Darrell Johnson	Dwayne Smith
Donald Bradley	Bill Harlan	Aaron Jones	Thomas Tracy
James Brown	William Harlan	Barbara Mielke	Leo Wimberley
Keith Brydie	Nathaniel Hanserd	Krystal Owens	Bobby Winton
Jerry Butler	Leo Henley	Winogene Painter	Angela Young
Norville Carter	Wallace Hodges	Lester Powell	
Jerry Cotton	Arthur Howard	Willie Price	

Our next blood drive is scheduled for October 27, 2014. We hope and pray that it will be a success.

Submitted by Past Master Norville Carter, #1

Chapter Photo Spotlight: Princess Syene Chapter #114, OES of Chicago, Illinois

The Officers of Princess Syene Chapter #114, OES under the leadership of Sister Ericka Branch-Robinson, Worthy Matron and Brother Shawn Robinson, Worthy Patron pose with the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron.



Chapter members show up in full force at the Worthy Grand Matron's Special Effort (below) after performing acts of charity at the Chicago Food Depository with Cornerstone Lodge #91 during the prior week in the City of Chicago (below right).



As noted by Phoenix Rising in her facebook post, the past, present and future of the Chapter shines brightly. Congratulations!



The OES and HOJ Team Up to Hold a Teen Summit at the Grand East

A greater focus on youth affairs has been placed upon the trestleboards of Sister Sandra D. Smith, Worthy Grand Matron of Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star and Heroine Johnnie M. Wilson, Most Ancient Grand Matron of the Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court Heroines of Jericho. In a milestone event, they teamed together to hold a teen summit at the Grand East to listen to the concerns of teens and develop action plans that will make a difference in their lives in the near future.

The vision of Sister Stephanie Atwood, Associate Grand Matron, this effort was a grand success. Special thanks are due to Sister Thecia Freeman, Chairperson, Talma Chapter #2 and Heroine Maretta Brown-Miller, PMAM Alpha & Omega Court #70 and the entire committee for their outstanding efforts to make this vision a reality. More than 50 teens participated in the affair and contributed their thoughts and opinions on the present state of society. Violence continues to prevail as a major factor. Positive influences are needed now more than ever in these communities and this is a role that the Masonic Order can play.

Congratulations on a job well done.

**Photos by
Past Master Bruce Owens, #108**



Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts Forming at the Grand East



Do you have a son in the first grade or who is 7 years old? He can be a Cub Scout.

Do you have a son who is 11 years old? He can be a Boy Scout. Yes, the Boy Scouts of America was 100 years old in 2010 and is still going strong in some communities. However, in the African-American and Hispanic-American communities, not so well. But we can help to fix that by starting a Cub Scout Pack and a Boy Scout Troop here at the Grand East. All we need is a few dedicated brothers and sisters.

We get a committee of at least 5 adults, secure a Cubmaster and a minimum of one Assistant Cubmaster, a Scoutmaster and a minimum of one Assistant Scoutmaster; get them all trained (which is mostly free and can be taken online), then start recruiting bouts to be Scouts. If you have a son who is the age of a Cub Scout and/or Boy Scout, how can you not get involved? The Eagle Scout Award is the most recognizable boy achievement in the United States and the world.

We are looking to get units started here at the Grand East. There will be an organization meeting here at 809 East 42nd Place (Prince Hall Way) on September 26, 2014 at 7:00PM. Let's get our sons, nephews, cousins, grandsons and other involved in the greatest boy organization in the world.

Submitted by Past Master Norville Carter, #1

Eddie L. Banks Sr. Receives Highest Honor in the Order of the Arrow

Eddie L. Banks Sr. receives highest honor in the Order of the Arrow (O/A). On May 25, 2014, he was presented the Vigil Honor In the Order of the Arrow which is the National Honor Society of the Boy Scouts of America. He received it at a public ceremony on Owasippe scout Reservation near Whitehall, Michigan.

The Vigil Honor is the culmination of his O/A career after having received the Ordeal Honor sealing his membership in the Brotherhood during prior years. All Scouts and Leaders who are selected to enter the rolls as a Vigil Honor member are given an Indian name taken from the Lenni Lenape Tribe of the Delawares. Worshipful Brother Banks' is named Atenkpatton Topalowileno which is interpreted as "Fine Warrior".

I know of no other Prince Hall Mason who has received the Vigil Honor except me and I was so honored in 1961. We are both members of Owasippe Lodge #7 of the Chicago Area Council, BSA. Owasippe Scout Reservation, where he received the award, is the oldest, continually operated Boy Scout Camp in the United States.

Submitted by Past Master Norville Carter, #1



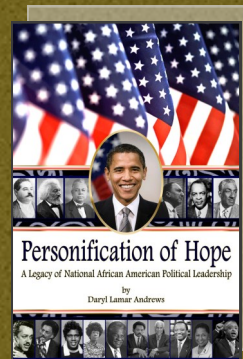
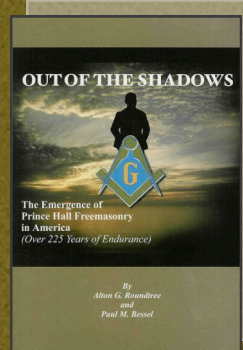
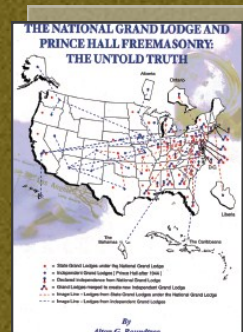
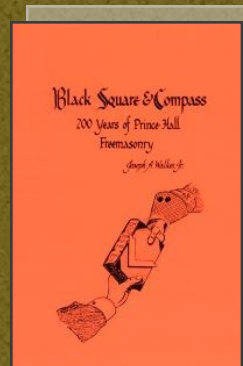
Masonic Education: Build A Masonic Library of Your Very Own

By Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews, Editor

Freemasonry is so much more than memorizing ritualistic routines and performing when called upon to do so. It is so much more than dressing up in the black and whites or wearing Masonic paraphernalia. It is also about gaining understanding. It is about acquiring a true sense of who Prince Hall Masons were, are today and can be in the future. Know thyself. Learn the true struggles and victories of Prince Hall Freemasonry by taking a deeper look into the past. Build a repository of knowledge for your own home by building a personal library. To gain a true sense of Prince Hall Freemasonry, some of your books should focus on Prince Hall history and general African American History. Consider purchasing a few books from time to time to build up your personal knowledge of all aspects of the Masonic Order. You never know. After reading a few books, you may become inspired to become an author yourself. There are multiple areas that still need to be explored. If you are unsure where to start with your library or with research topics, here are a few books that I recommend:

- *Black Square & Compass: 200 Years of Prince Hall Freemasonry* by Joseph A. Walkes Jr.
- *Prince Hall Life and Legacy* by Charles H. Wesley
- *The History of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio 1849-1971* by Charles H. Wesley
- *History of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio F&AM 1971-2011: The Fabric of Freemasonry* by David L. Gray
- *The History of Prince Hall Masonry in Illinois* by William Hardy
- *Freemasonry and the Underground Railroad in Illinois* by Daryl Lamar Andrews
- *The National Grand Lodge And Prince Hall Freemasonry: The Untold Truth* by Alton Roundtree
- *History of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction* by Joseph A. Walkes Jr.
- *Deputies for the Orient of Illinois: 1913 to 2007* by Daryl Lamar Andrews and James A. Mitchell
- *History of the Shrine: Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine* by Joseph A. Walkes Jr.
- *Black Man of the Nile and his family: African Foundations of European Civilization and Thought* by Yosef Ben-Jochannan
- *The Souls of Black Folk* by W.E.B. DuBois
- *Up from Slavery* by Booker T. Washington
- *Prince Hall's Mission: The Rise of The Phylaxis Society* by Joseph A. Walkes Jr.
- *Great Black Men of Masonry* by Joseph Mason Andrew Cox
- *Out of the Shadows* by Alton Roundtree and Paul Bessel
- *National Cyclopedia of the Colored Race* by Clement Richardson
- *Freemasonry in Black and White* by Charles M. Harper
- *Freemasonry, Greek Philosophy, The Prince Hall Fraternity and the Egyptian (African) World Connection* by Keith Moore
- *Freemasonry, Ancient Egypt and the Islamic Destiny* by Mustafa El-Amin
- *Personification of Hope: A Legacy on National African American Political Leadership* by Daryl Lamar Andrews
- *Pasco Conly: Buffalo Soldier* by John B. Williams
- *Prince Hall Conference of Grand Master* by Alton Roundtree

Several of these and other books can be purchased from multiple sources including the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois.



Nutrition: Tasty Foods with Benefits ~ “Nuts, Chocolate & Coconuts”

Research by Heroine Carolyn S. Womack, PMAM, #44

In our world of today, people enjoy eating dried nuts, chocolate and coconut products. As you continue to read, you will learn of their benefits for a "healthy" and "healthful" diet.

NUTS: Most nuts like almonds, walnuts, cashew, pecans pistachios and peanuts, provide nutrients to keep the body healthy. All nuts have protein, fiber and many vitamins and minerals. these nutrients help keep the body strong and active all day long. They also protect the body from disease and improve bowel function. All nuts are cholesterol free and have omega-3 fats that help to keep the blood flowing evenly throughout the body. This can lower blood pressure.

Eating nuts instead of some carbohydrates at a meal may lower blood glucose levels after eating. This may help control type-2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome and pre-diabetes. That is good news for many people because it is a simple change to make. However, some studies show that eating a small serving of nuts everyday can keep you from feeling hungry and even help you lost weight. The protein, fiber and healthy fats in nuts make you feel full for a longer period of time. As a result, you snack less and eat fewer calories.



How Much You Should Eat?



- You only need a small serving (1 oz.) each day for good health. Eat your nuts raw or dry roasted and unsalted. The approximate number of nuts in one ounce is as follows:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Almonds - 24 nuts | • Hazelnuts - 21 nuts | • Pecans - 20 nuts |
| • Brazil Nuts - 6 to 8 nuts | • Macadamias - 10 to 12 nuts | • Pistachios - 47 nuts |
| • Cashews - 18 nuts | • Peanuts - 28 nuts | • Walnuts - 14 halves |

CHOCOLATE: The cacao tree grows beans that are used to make unsweetened cocoa powder, cocoa butter, milk chocolate, dark chocolate and semisweet chocolate chips. These chocolate products are used today all over the world in baking and to eat or drink as treats.

There are special chemicals in the cocoa plant called flavonoids that give chocolate its brown color and its health benefits to the body. Some scientific studies show that dark chocolate protects against heart attacks, strokes and high blood pressure. Dark chocolate also increases the body's good cholesterol (HDL).

Other studies show that dark chocolate helps the body use insulin better. this is important for anyone who has diabetes or pre-diabetes. The flavonoids in dark chocolate also help keep the body from losing a lot of water with diarrhea. This is very helpful for children and elderly people who can quickly become dehydrated from diarrhea.

Many people think of chocolate as a comfort food. However, it is more than that. Studies also show that eating chocolate can lower the levels of stress hormones and anxiety in people who feel a lot of stress in their lives.



The Best Kind of Chocolate to Eat

- Dark chocolate with at least 70% cocoa solids and unsweetened cocoa powder is the most healthful.

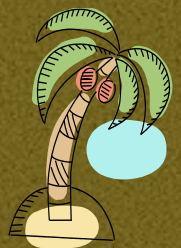
How Much Should You Eat?

- A good serving is 1 ounce of dark chocolate (150 calories) three to four times a week.

COCONUTS:

Coconut products have fiber, vitamin C, some B vitamins and minerals like potassium, magnesium, iron and copper. Some studies show that coconuts can improve cholesterol, blood pressure and protect against hear disease.

Coconuts also have a type of fat that is easy for the body to break down and use quickly for energy. Some studies show this can help with weight loss and lower the risk of clogging arteries and type-2 diabetes. Some coconut products are as follows:



- **Coconut Water:** This is the clear liquid found inside young (green) coconuts. It has natural sugar but no fat. Some people use it as a sports drink. You could also add it to smoothies for extra potassium.
- **Coconut Milk:** This is a white liquid that is pressed out of coconut meat. You can find it in the dairy case in your supermarket. Buy it without sugar. You can add it to cereal, coffee or smoothies.
- **Coconut Oil:** This is a fat like any other oil. It has saturated fat but many scientists believe that is not bad for the heart. It has antioxidants that help keep the heart strong. Use very small amounts though like you do with butter and other oils. It is good to use in cooking instead of butter.

Ok, so now you know that nuts, chocolates and coconuts are foods that taste good and are good for you. Eat and enjoy them in moderation as a part of a healthful balanced diet. **Until next time, eat and stay healthy.**

P.G. Porter Lodge #142 & Guiding Light Chapter #148 OES Annual Joint Black & White Scholarship Banquet

P.G. Porter Lodge # 142, P.H.A. and Guiding Light Chapter # 148 O.E.S. P.H.A held their Annual Joint Black & White Scholarship Banquet on May 17, 2014 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, 442 South De Mazenod Drive, Belleville, Illinois.

Sis. Renee Evans, Worthy Matron and Brother Timothy Henry, Worthy Patron both of Guiding Light Chapter # 148, O.E.S. P.H.A. were honored. The dress was formal. After the processional, introduction of the Mistress and Master of Ceremony—Sister Kiaundra Smith, Past Matron, and Brother Ricardo Bonner, Senior Warden—was accomplished by Past Master Kenneth Bland, Chairperson.

Invocation was given by Past Master Travis Smith and followed by a welcome address from Sister Charmel Jethroe and a song by Soloist Minister Donald Jefferies. After dinner, P.G. Porter Lodge #142 continued their Community service charitable endeavor with the Worshipful Master Anthony Wills awarding two \$500.00 Scholarships to the following individuals:

- First, to Ashley N. Collins, in the name of her Grandfather the Late “T J. Collins”, and will continue each year as the T.J. Collins Scholarship Award. Ashley, attended Belleville East High School and has been accepted at St. Louis College of Pharmacy in St. Louis Missouri.
- The John Waller Educational Scholarship Award was presented to Joshua Hagood. He is attending the University of Minnesota, College of Science and Engineering. This is his first year.

Guiding Light Chapter # 148, O.E.S. P.H.A. Awarded two Scholarships which were presented by Sis Renee Evans, Worthy Matron. Mrs. Sherell Davis accepted her daughter’s Scholarship Award. Sis Micole Hughes accepted the Award on her daughter’s Moet McFall behalf.



*WM Anthony Wills
presents 2
scholarships, the
John Waller
(Joshua Hagood
recipient) and TJ
Collins, for PG
Porter Lodge #142.*

*Ashley
Nichol
Collins (with
family)
accepts the
1st PM TJ
Collins
Scholarship*



Submitted by Most Worshipful Brother Earl D. Scott, #142

ACS Walk and Roll at Independence Grove in Libertyville, Illinois



Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Masons
Eureka Grand Chapter Eastern Stars



#TEAM COMMUNITY SERVICE



State of Illinois
Prince Hall Affiliation



**Saturday,
May 17, 2014**

Spend the day with your PHAmily and friends while raising awareness and funds to support the lifesaving services of the American Cancer Society

PHAmily • Food • Fun

TIME

- 7:30am - Registration
- 8:00am - Opening Ceremonies
- 8:30am - Routes Open

LOCATION



Independence Grove
16400 W. Buckley Road,
Libertyville, IL 60048
*** FREE PARKING ***

For More Info Contact

- 1st Dist: Sis. Sharithea Cherry 773.899.8033
- Sis. Lisa Lee, Sis. Delorise Crosby, Bro. Chris Calhoun
- 2nd:
- 3rd Dist: RW Bro. Aubrey K. Barlow 309.242.7188
- 4th Dist:

On Saturday, May 17, 2014, more than thirty (30) brothers and sisters under the leadership of Right Worshipful Brother Aubrey K. Barlow, Grand Senior Warden, traveled from as far south as Carbondale to participate in the American Cancer Society's Walk & Roll Event in Libertyville, Illinois. Near the northernmost point of the State of Illinois, Independence Grove was the site selected for this year event. A private park, the facility was extraordinary with scenic views for the ages. More than \$3,000.00 was raised by the team this year. Next year's target should be even greater. Congratulations.



Changing the World

Cause by Cause

MW Bro. Millard V. Driskoll, Grand Master
Prince Hall Masons
State of Illinois & its Jurisdiction
Faith • Brotherly Love • Relief

Sis. Sandra D. Smith
Worthy Grand Matron
&
Bro. Anthony L. Atwood
Worthy Grand Patron
Eureka Grand Chapter
Order of the Eastern Star

Peace • Unity • Harmony

Community by Community

State of Illinois • Prince Hall Affiliation



Past Grand Master & Grand Lecturer Celebrate St. John's Day With the Second District

On Sunday, June 22nd, the Brothers of the Second Masonic District continued their long tradition of celebrating St. John's Day. This year's celebration was hosted by Keystone Lodge #15 of Aurora, Illinois, where Worshipful Brother Jermaine Simmons presides. The Craft was invited to fellowship with Pastor Jacques A. Conway and the Neighborhood United Methodist Church family of Maywood, IL. Pastor Conway delivered an inspirational message of hope and friendship; More especially, dwelling together in unity with our lodges, our families, and our communities.



The Brothers of the Second District were honored to be accompanied by the Sisters of Eureka Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star's Second district. The Guest of Honor was Right Worshipful Brother Steve Coleman, Grand Lecturer, MWPHGL. He was joined by Past Grand Master James Black. They thanked the Pastor, the speaker and the Brothers of the Second District for their hospitality, and stated that they truly enjoyed themselves on this most important day for Masons.

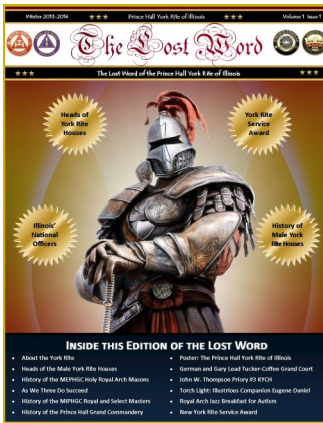


St John's Day is important to Masons in general, but to Prince Hall Masons in particular. One of the first permissions granted to Prince Hall and African-American Masons was permission to bury their dead and assemble in public processions. We assemble in public and celebrate St. John's Day commemorating both the remarkable heritage that Prince Hall Masonry encapsulates, and the wonderful examples of our Patron Saints, John the Baptist, and John the Evangelist.

Submitted by PM William Branch, #87



New York Rite Electronic Magazine



In January of 2014, the Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons launched a new online magazine—"The Lost Word of the Prince Hall York Rite of Illinois". The brainchild of Most Excellent Companion Charles Holiday Jr.—Grand High Priest, the idea for the magazine had its origins shortly after the conclusion of the Annual

Session of the Grand Chapter in July of 2013. Grand High Priest Holiday felt that a new forum to showcase the efforts and activities of the York Rite bodies in the Illinois Jurisdiction would benefit the York Rite as a whole. This, in turn, could help the general Masonic membership to gain a better understanding of the benefits offered by the Rite. In doing so, Grand High Priest Holiday appointed Right Excellent Companion Daryl L. Andrews to serve as the first editor for the publication. Together, they worked to publish the initial edition in January of 2014 which showcased current affairs and the history of the male York Rite Bodies. An online format was selected as the medium for distribution to accommodate a multitude of subscribers to the free publication. Since its launch, the publication has received nothing but high praises from all who have seen it. Congratulations on this great accomplishment.



Reunion—HRAM & HOJ



In 2012, the Grand Lodge approved the transition of adoption of the Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court Heroines of Jericho from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois to the Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons by the hands of Most Worshipful Brother Otis W. Cromartie Sr. The goal was to realign to two bodies after over 30 years of separation and to place them in their natural harmony in the Masonic diaspora. Most Worshipful Brother Millard Driskell, Most Excellent Companion Charles Holiday Jr., Heroine Shirleyann Walker and Excellent Companion Lou Greene worked together to perfect the realignment in 2012 and 2013. Today, the union remains strong under the new administration for the Grand Court—Heroine Johnnie Mae Wilson, Most Ancient Grand Matron and Excellent Companion Leroy Brown, Most Worthy Grand Joshua. Since the reunion, several Companions have joined Heroines of Jericho Courts by the request of Grand High Priest Holiday. The fact the Grand Court retains the right to elect their male counterparts, namely, the Most Worthy Grand Joshua and the Vice Grand Joshua, is another show of respect and good faith. Congratulations and best wishes.

Grand Council to Celebrate 30 Years

Like the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction, the roots of the Royal and Select Masters stem from the Jurisdiction of Ohio. The Cryptic Rite entered the State of Illinois with the formation of Prince Hall Council #8, Royal and Select Masters from the Ohio Jurisdiction in 1923. A relatively new branch of the York Rite at the time, membership was initially opened for candidates who were active members of Holy Royal Arch Mason Chapters and Knights Templar Commanderies. This was a requirement because both of the aforementioned York Rite Bodies had already been well established within the State of Illinois.

Though Illinoisans had become active participants in the Council, a Thrice Illustrious Master from the State had never been elected. Growth for the body had also gone slowly. Despite the early challenges, members from Illinois remained active and worked to extend the Cryptic Rite across the state. The very first Illinoisan to serve as Thrice Illustrious Master of Prince Hall Council #8 would not come until nearly 40 years after the Council's formation. This honor fell to Illustrious Companion Josephus Cason. A man of character with a high degree of Masonic knowledge in all bodies, his leadership and vision proved to be very valuable. It was by his instigation that the formation of a Grand Council for the State of Illinois would become a reality in the early 1980s.

In setting to form the Grand Council for the Jurisdiction of Illinois, it was Illustrious Cason who convened with several Illustrious Companions to introduce the idea. After two additional Councils had been formed in Peoria and Centreville, the three Councils surrendered their charters to the Grand Council of Ohio on September 22, 1984 and organized the Most Illustrious Prince Hall Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters for the State of Illinois. The charter Grand Officers were:

- *Grand Thrice Illustrious Master: James F. Clarke, Sr.*
- *Grand Deputy Master: William S. Brooks, II*
- *Grand Prin. Conductor of Works: Eugene Williams*
- *Grand Treasurer: Thomas Wilson, Jr.*
- *Grand Recorder: John W. Thompson, Jr.*

New charters were, then, issued to the Illinois Councils:

- *Prince Hall Council #1: Willie M. Gistover, T.I.M.*
- *Peoria Council #2: Ronald W. Boone, T.I.M.*
- *Ellis T. Moore Council #3: Cecil K. Crowe, T.I.M.*

Congratulations to Most Illustrious Companion Damon P. Anderson Sr., Grand Thrice Illustrious Master and the Most Illustrious Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters on reaching 30 on September 22, 2014!!!





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BASKETBALL LEAGUES FORMING

- *Past Masters Philip Washington, #64 and Jerald Prince, #65 have banded together to form a Youth Basketball League for the MWPHGL of Illinois.*
- *Each Lodge is being requested to sponsor and mentor a minimum number of 10 players per team with the ages of the players ranging between 9 - 14 years of age.*
- *Contact Past Master Washington or Past Master Prince for more information.*

CUB SCOUTS / BOY SCOUTS

- *An informational meeting will be held on Friday, September 26, 2014 at the MWPHGL of Illinois at 7:00PM for parents and potential Scouts.*
- *This effort is under the direction of Past Master Norville Carter, #1.*