

# Prince Hall Masonic Journal

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois

Spring 2022



## Leadership

*Meet the New Leaders of the  
Illinois Prince Hall Masonic PHAmily*



# 2021 ~ Elected Grand Lodge Officers ~ 2022



The Prince Hall Masonic Journal salutes the new Grand Lodge Officers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction from the 2021 Annual Session of the Grand Lodge held in Springfield, Illinois. Elected Grand Lodge Officers for the 2021-22 term:

- Most Worshipful Brother Roland G. Simon, #135, **Grand Master**
- Right Worshipful Brother Steven R. Coleman, #99, **Deputy Grand Master**
- Right Worshipful Brother Tony D. Stafford Sr., #128, **Grand Senior Warden**
- Right Worshipful Brother Michael D. Ramey Sr., #59, **Grand Junior Warden**
- Right Worshipful Brother David Thomas, #100, **Grand Treasurer**
- Right Worshipful Brother Carl Richardson, #7, **Grand Secretary**
- Right Worshipful Brother Antonio T. Terry, #15, **Grand Lecturer**

### Grand Auditors

- Right Worshipful Brother Leroy R. Berry, #98
- Right Worshipful Brother Sam Hurd, #142
- Right Worshipful Brother Ron L. Wilson, #17
- Right Worshipful Brother Keith T. Roach, #116

### Grand Trustees

- Right Worshipful Brother Cordale Brown, #14
- Right Worshipful Brother Robert Q. Gary Sr., #14
- Right Worshipful Brother Jonathon Austin, #1
- Right Worshipful Brother Hewitt Douglass, #3
- Right Worshipful Brother Timothy R. Davis, #59
- Right Worshipful Brother Dannell Vinson, #3

The newly elected and appointed Grand Lodge officers are positioned for success under the leadership of the 47th Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons, Most Worshipful Brother Roland G. Simon. Grand Master Simon is the very first Past Grand Secretary (2003-2012) of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois to have earned election to the highest office in Illinois Prince Hall Freemasonry. His election to the Office of Grand Master marks nearly 20 consecutive years in the elective Grand Lodge ranks. His administrative expertise makes him poised for success as the 47th Conservator of Freemasonry in Illinois.





# Office of the Grand Master

*“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”  
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

## Fraternal Greetings:

Thank you for the confidence shown to me during the Mid-Year weekend. I am confident that good things will happen for our Grand Lodge because of the attendance and the awareness displayed during the workshops and the Mid-Year meeting. I thought there were good vibes throughout the entire event, and, again I thank you.

Grand Lodge Officers, Elected and Appointed, thank you and good job with your efforts. The members need to know that the trust which was put in you was not in vain. Keep up the good work.

Worshipful Masters and Wardens that were in attendance it is your duty to inform your members that were not in attendance of the instruction and information given to you. I pray that you will look well to your duty.

As a reminder, remember to practice the protocols put in place for the COVID-19 pandemic. Although everything is pointing to what we call “normal”, we still have a ways to go and we must stay focused on staying as healthy as possible.

Save the date, June 18, 2022, for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Outing of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois. The outing is meant to be an opportunity through which the charitable endeavors of Freemasonry can be extended while strengthening the bonds of brotherhood. Proceeds from this event will go to support St. Jude, our Bridge Committee and other Grand Lodge endeavors. See the outside rear cover for details and contact information.

Finally, brethren I am urging you to support the sisters, in all houses, in an effort to bring them success. Remember, as they succeed, we all succeed. Take due notice of my request and govern yourselves accordingly.

*Most Worshipful Brother Roland G. Simon  
Grand Master*



## TABLE OF CONTENTS



03 Office of the Grand Master	15 Daughters Auxiliary AEAONMS
04 Farewell Salute to Iconic Public Servants	15 Knights of Pythagoras & OES Youth Fraternity
04 Editorial / Poetry Corner	16 MWPHGL of IL 5K Walk/Bike/Run
05 Illinois’ International Masonic Leaders	18 OES Black & White Ball
06 Eureka Grand Chapter OES	19 New Mason of the Year
07 York Rite Male Heads of Houses	20 A Brother You Should Know
08 Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court HOJ	21 A Sister You Should Know
09 Levi H. Morris Grand Court LOCOP	22 The Saga of the Black American Cowboy
10 Grand Lodge Makes History at 2021 Session	25 Health Corner: Never Feel Sick Again
12 Prince Hall Grand Guild HTC	26 Why Honor Prince Hall Americanism Day
12 Levi L. Rose Priorate #1 PYCH	30 1619: The Beginning of Problems for Africans in America
13 Illinois Council of Deliberation AASR	36 OES Adopt-A-Family
13 Illinois State Grand Assembly OGC	41 Masons Sought Presidency
14 Desert of Illinois AEAONMS	42 Farewell Salute to the Worshipful Masters of 2021



## FAREWELL SALUTE TO ICONIC PUBLIC SERVANTS

**COLIN LUTHER POWELL** (April 5, 1937 – October 18, 2021) was an American politician, statesman, diplomat, and United States Army officer who served as the 65th United States secretary of state from 2001 to 2005. He was the first African-American Secretary of State. He served as the 16th United States National Security Advisor from 1987 to 1989 and as the 12th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1989 to 1993. A staller example of servant leadership, me he rest in peace.

**TIMUEL D. BLACK JR.** (December 7, 1918—October 13, 2021), educator, activist, historian and author was a counselor to many, brother to several and leader to all whose influence crossed multiple eras. It was commonplace to see him pictured in the background of photos with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Rev. Jesse Jackson, Honorable Harold Washington and other African American civil rights leaders and politicians particularly in the State of Illinois. The Honorable Barack H. Obama even leaned for counsel in matters of social and civic affairs. This historian extraordinaire will truly be missed.

**DESMOND M. TUTU** (October 7, 1931—December 26, 2021), South African Anglican bishop, theologian and human-rights activist, was a man of deep faith who put his faith to work all over the world. He was ordained an Anglican Priest in 1960 and served in multiple, senior positions on behalf of the South African Anglican church until he was elevated to the role of Bishop of Johannesburg in 1985 and Archbishop of Cape Town in 1986. He played a prominent role in securing peace in post-Apartheid South Africa. This prince of peace converted many to a belief in God by way of his works.

**SIDNEY POITIER** (February 20, 1927—January 6, 2022) was an American actor, film director, activist, ambassador and an excellent role model for African American men. This hero paved the way for many African American actors in film and television by mastering roles of leadership and fortitude in eras where many were often portrayed negatively. The first black actor to receive a nomination for an Academy Award (*The Defiant Ones*). He won the best-actor Academy Award in 1964 for his performance in *Lilies of the Field*. Very selective of the roles he played, he did not play a role in which he felt he would be demeaned. His fealty to this ideal and savvy also made him a “first” in another spectrum. He commanded a million dollar salary per film. However, in lieu of a full salary, he negotiated to be paid from the gross revenues of film sales. This is “THE” model that many actors utilize today. Farewell Mr. Tibbs!!

## EDITORIAL

*By Right Worshipful Brother  
Daryl L. Andrews*

With the lifting of restrictions associated with COVID-19, the 2021 Unification Session in Springfield, Illinois brought forth changes in leadership in the Grand Lodge, OES Grand Chapter and York Rite Bodies. In this special edition, you will meet these new leaders starting with Most Worshipful Brother Roland G. Simon, 47<sup>th</sup> Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons.



The Summer/Fall months also displayed great group activities across the State of Illinois. Drives for school supplies, clothing and food and the Annual Roland G. Simon 5K Walk-Bike-Run were well

supported. Unity in their department proved that synergy exists between districts. These types of efforts are poised to aid the cause of brotherhood by drawing new members of like-mind into the fold and improve lives at the same time.

As the future is now upon us, each member must look in the mirror while determining his or her next steps. With restrictions being lifted from the COVID stranglehold, it is important that we ask ourselves what we are willing to do to further our causes and contribute to Freemasonry’s long term growth and stability. This can only be answered individually. But, if humility is the guide, we will look towards our leadership for direction. So, with this in mind, decide. What are you going to do to benefit the whole? See the visions of our leaders to see where and how you can fit in.

## POETRY CORNER

*By Brother Markell Mooney,  
New Yerusalem Lodge #158*

**To what  
defines us  
Provisional  
comradeship  
Greatest  
profession ever**



## SAVE THE DATES

- ◆ **Midwest Regional Conference**  
3/31-4/3—Detroit, Michigan
- ◆ **Mason of the Year Banquet**  
4/23—Double Tree—Alsip, Illinois
- ◆ **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Outing of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois**  
6/18—University of Illinois Golf Course Blue—Savoy, Illinois



# Illinois' International Masonic Leaders

The Illinois Jurisdiction has produced leaders whose talents have been leveraged to drive national Masonic organizations and organizations that support Freemasonry at large. We are pleased to present the following:

## General Conference Grand Chapters Holy Royal Arch Masons

Most Excellent Companion Damon P. Anderson Sr. is considered one of the most decorated Masons of the Illinois Jurisdiction. He can claim the salutations of “Right Worshipful Brother”, “Most Excellent Companion”, “Most Illustrious Companion”, “Right Eminent Sir”, “Grand Inspector General” and “Noble”. A Mason of the Year of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois is only one of his many accolades. He continues to bring pride to Illinois as he now serves as the leader of the national body of Holy Royal Arch Masons—General Grand Conference of Grand Chapters of Holy Royal Arch Masons. Visit [www.gcgchram.com](http://www.gcgchram.com) for more information.



## New Imperial Commandress of the Daughters Auxiliary

Daughter Paulette Brown is one of Illinois most decorated female members. A Past Worthy Grand Matron of Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, a Past Deputy for the Desert of Illinois for the Daughters Auxiliary and a Past State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler of the Illinois State Grand Assembly, Order of the Golden Circle, she is the **first** and **ONLY** to have lead these bodies at the local and state levels.



Her election, in 2021, as the 49th Imperial Commandress makes her the second Illinoisian to lead the auxiliary. She was preceded by Daughter Elizabeth Graves in 1925. Congratulations!!!



## Past Grand Master James Black Turns 93

The Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family saluted Most Worshipful Brother James H. Black Sr., senior-most Past Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois with a happy 93rd Birthday. This celebration was showcased on the News stations across Chicago. PGM Black even got some Masonic Pay!!!





# Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star

Sister Priscilla R. Jackson is the wife of Brother Michael Jackson, Past Master of Eureka Lodge #64. She is the proud mother of eight children, four sons—Marquise, Terrence, Derrick, and Marcus; four daughters—Janaea, Ashley, Victoria, and Michaela; and 18 grandchildren—Terrence Jr., Teryn, Allayah, Ania, Derrick III, Andre Jr., Arick Jr., Devyun, Amari, Sevion, Alyssa, Daelyn, Aricka, Legend, Andrew, Legacy, Mariyah, and Aniyah.

Sister Jackson developed an interest in the Prince Hall family because of her husband's devotion and commitment to his lodge, Eureka Lodge #64. After doing some research on the Order of the Eastern Stars, Sister Jackson requested a petition from Plumline Chapter #109. "This was one of the best decisions I have made." In November of 2001, she became a proud member of the Order. In 2006, she served as Worthy Matron of Plumline Chapter #109. Her fraternal parents are Sister Weatau A.H. Barsh & Brother James E. Barsh. Sister Jackson is the proud president of the 2006 Umoja Mkeka Worthy Matrons & Worthy Patrons Club.

Sister Jackson holds a degree in Business Administration, and retired from Chicago Public Schools after twenty-three years of service in 2016. In 2018 she returned to work at a small private elementary school,



The Alternative Academic Achievement Academy. She has served Eureka Grand Chapter for the past 15 years before she was elected and installed as 67th Worthy Grand Matron of Eureka Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, State of Illinois, Prince Hall Affiliated. Here scriptures are:

- *"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path" - Psalms 119:105*
- *"Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." - Matthews 5:16*

Her flower is the red rose and her song is "Show Yourself Mighty" by Bishop Albert Jamison. Her motto is "Working in Unity". Her charity is the "March for Babies", and her theme is "Building bridges, not barriers".





# York Rite Heads of Houses



## Male Leaders

### Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons

The Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons, State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction is under the leadership of Most Excellent Companion Joseph Williams. Williams has an extensive level of knowledge and leadership across the ranks of the York Rite of Freemasonry at all levels of each organization. His calm leadership style is a representation that he has taken the lessons of the York Rite to heart as he expresses them practically in guiding Holy Royal Arch Masons across the Illinois Jurisdiction.

### Most Illustrious Prince Hall Grand Council Royal and Select Masters

The terms “hard work”, “integrity” and “natural leader” are often associated with the leader of the Most Illustrious Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, State of Illinois and its Jurisdiction—Most Illustrious Companion Brian Burton. Burton is a York Rite Stalwart whose stellar works speak for themselves. One would be hard pressed to find a more dedicated York Rite

Mason who consistently exceeds expectations and remains a steady rock during the times of storms. With a yeoman’s work ethic and intelligence that would rival Cornell West, he is poised to move the Grand Council forward into a strong future successfully.



### Prince Hall Grand Commandery Knights Templar

Attention Sir Knights as we pay due respects to the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Prince Hall Grand Commandery of Knights Templar for the State of Illinois and Its Jurisdiction. Sir Knight Eugene Daniel have been a humble servant in all York Rite Houses under the Illinois Jurisdiction. It is his willingness to serve that makes him an outstanding leader of the Christian House of Freemasonry. He is not only a soldier for the Rite but also a soldier who has served the United States of America in the Armed Forces. The discipline he has gained as a soldier has translated well into his leadership of the Knights Templar for the State of Illinois and beyond.

### John W. Thompson Jr. Priory #3 Knights of the York Cross of Honor

One of the highest honors that a York Rite Mason can achieve is by being elected a Knight of the York Cross of Honor. To be eligible, one must have lead a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, Council of Royal and Select Masters and Commandery of Knights Templar. What better Mason to lead such a congregation than one who have served humbly at ALL levels of Freemasonry. A true man of God and defender of the Christian faith, Sir Knight Leroy Gary serves as the Eminent Prior for the Priory for the State of Illinois.





## Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court Heroines of Jericho

Let me introduce Her. Arnita Lovette Harris, MAGM, of the Most Ancient Grand Court Heroine of Jericho, State of Illinois and It's Jurisdiction. Her. Harris was the second daughter to Cora and Lovest McCastle. She was born in Chicago and attended Lindblom Tech, Class of 74. She also attended Chicago State University where she met and married the love of her life, Bro. Dwain P. Harris, Sr.. They have 2 children—Dwain Jr. and Delvya, and five and a half grandchildren. Her. Harris worked at Northern Trust Company for 32 years as a Worldwide Operations Vice President. She enjoyed traveling to different States and Countries.

The Harris Family joined this Fraternal Family in 1982. Her. Harris served as Worthy Matron in 1988, along with Dwain Harris. She has served as Secretary of Princess Orpah Chapter for over 15 years. She was also served as Grand Lecturer for Eureka Grand Chapter from 1999 to 2001. Her. Harris served as MAM in 2004, along with Dwain Harris. She served Rahab Court #61 as Court Secretary and was elected to Grand Court, Grand Secretary for 5 years each. Her. Harris served as Loyal Lady Ruler Assembly #4 and she was a Golden Apple Queen. Her. Harris served as RPM of Prince Hall Court#1 and Levi H. Morris Grand Court as Grand Secretary for 5 years. She served as Illustrious Commandress of Arabic Court in 2019. And now she was elected in 2021 to Most Ancient Grand Matron. What a Blessing!!! But Never in my wildest dream would I think that my Sister, RPM Patrice McCastle, Royal Grand Perfect Matron, Levi H. Morris Grand Court, LOCOP, would have been elected at the same time. This is definitely an Historical moment for Our Fraternity.



**My Theme:** Jesus is the Center My JOY!! All those Titles are nice but the best title of all is Being a Child Of God.

### My Robe Design:

- *The Spinning Wheel – Means to me that we are all incomplete people, trying to complete this task of life. The wheel keeps turning.*
- *The Middle Stand for “Jesus is the Center of my Joy” By Richard Smallwood. Everything starts with Jesus. When I can't find my way. Jesus gives me the directions.*
- *The candles represent my MAGM Her. Naomi Peters, and MWGJ Comp. Walter E. Caston, Sr. and may these candles light the way for the All MAGM and MWGJ, Past and Present, who let their Lights Shine. Special Thanks to Her. H, Lorraine Jeter, PMAGM. Thank you for all that you did for me and so many others. Walk in the light, Let your Light shine.*

**Motto:** I can do all things through Christ, who strengthen me.

Heroine Arnita L. Harris, MAGM  
Companion Donnell Vinson, MWGJ







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

Introducing Patrice Raynette McCastle RGPM of Levi H. Morris Grand Court Ladies of the Circle of Perfection, member of Prince Hall Court #1. A lifelong native of Chicago's South Side and Mother to her only child Clifton Patrick Lamar Holmes, and Grandmother of Clifton Patrick Lamar Holmes aka (Tubby), Mason Holmes, and Meachael Milan Simmons. She is the daughter of Cora and Lovest McCastle, the oldest of three siblings, and sister of MAGM Her. Arnita Harris. Public service and RPM McCastle are synonymous as she continues to serve the iconic 21<sup>st</sup> Ward and Chicagoland areas for over 55 plus years by exemplifying black pride, culture, and excellence.

Public service was introduced early grounded in Baptist traditions at New Friendship Baptist Church. She attended Calumet High School, where she sang in the Concert Choir. Patrice graduated from Jones Commercial High School, where she performed in their Annual Gala and started their Annual Mother/Daughter Luncheon for the Senior Class, graduating in the Class of 1970. She left Chicago to attend her HBCU of choice, Bishop College in Dallas, Texas, graduating in the "Class of 1974" post-civil rights movement. Her HBCU afforded her experiences that you could not get anywhere else, such as the Homecoming Queens Court's first runner-up and Student Secretary for the Department of Religion, who coordinated the minister's yearly conference.

With a B.S. degree in Integrative Sciences-Gerontology in hand, she thrived while remaining in Dallas and became a wife and mother. She began her professional career as a High School Teacher at South Oak Cliff High School, in Dallas TX. She continued building unique networking opportunities with significant Black-owned advertising agencies, banks, the Chicago Defender Newspaper and other private corporations in Chicago until this day. She began her entrepreneurial journey as a member of Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star with casino trips that started PRM Productions and McCastle Cakes & Pies. She is famously known for creating the famous "Apple Cake and Lemon Cakes."

Staying connected to Black culture, she was initiated into Princess Orpah #127 in 1983 and Worthy Matron in 1989. Her service in the Prince Hall Masonic Family includes Rehab Court #61, HOJ; charter member of Prince Hall Court #1, LOCOP; Arabic Court #21, DOI; Chicago Assembly #4, LL; Godfrey Guild #15, HTC; and Levi L. Rose Priorate No.1, Princesses of the York Cross of Honour in 2012 where she served as Deputy Regal Prioress in 2018, was crowned Queen and served as the Grand Regal Prioress in 2019. She was elected Royal Grand Perfect Matron of Levi H. Morris Grand Court Ladies of the Circle of Perfection on July 29, 2021.

- **Theme:** *United Together as a Team: To grow, build and restore*
- **Motto:** *"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others" by Mahatma Gandhi.*
- **Bible:** *Isaiah 6:8; When I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said unto the Lord, "Here am I. Send me!"*
- **Song:** *Grace - Charles Jenkins w/ Fellowship Choir*
- **Flower:** *Purple, Lavender, and Gold roses*

RGPM Patrice Mc Castle's robe is in loving remembrance of PRGPM Matron Ethel M. Jones, PRGPM Naomi L. Washington, PRGPM Marcella Green, PRGCA Charles McKinley, and in honor of PRGCA Jerome Abner, and her mother, Mrs. Cora McCastle. RGPM McCastle has dedicated her fraternal life to supporting educational scholarships to help lessen the burden of financial obligations. That is why she has a legacy of winning almost every "queen contest," be it Subordinate or in the Grand Body affiliates. Her life is dedicated to all things Black as she does it for the culture!





# Grand Lodge Makes History

Over the years, there have been several elections at the Grand Lodge level that have made history. Here is an incomplete list of some of these firsts:

- *The first Past Grand Treasurer to serve as Grand Master was **Isaac H. Kelly** who served as Grand Treasurer (1867-69, 71-77) and Grand Master (1869-70).*
- *Blood brothers who have served in elective Grand Lodge Office at the same time:*
  - **James H. Kelly**, Grand Secretary (1875) / **Isaac H. Kelly**, PGM and Grand Lecturer (1875)
  - **Joseph W. Moore**, Grand Master (1884-87) / **Richard E. Moore**, Grand Secretary (1878-1913)
- *The first Grand Master elected from today's 2nd District was **Henry E. Burris** (1898-1906).*
- *The first Past Grand Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star to be elected Grand Master was **Thomas H. Samuels** who served as Grand Master (1919-24) and Grand Patron (1913-16).*
- *The longest serving Grand Master, who is now the namesake of Decatur Lodge #17, was **John C. Ellis** (1924-44) who served over twenty years in that office.*
- *The only Past Grand Master styled as Most Worshipful Brother, Most Excellent Companion (York Rite—HRAM) and Most Illustrious Commander-In-Chief (Scottish Rite—Deputy) is **Melvin Frierson** who achieved this with his appointment as Deputy for the Illinois in 2008.*
- *No Lodge has had two officers serve as Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer at the same time until the elections of **Sean Queen** and **Daryl Andrews** of Cornerstone Lodge #91 (2013-16). Andrews is also the only Prince Hall Mason in Prince Hall Freemasonry to have served as Grand Auditor (2009-12), Grand Secretary (2012-13) and Grand Treasurer (2013-2018).*
- *The election of **David Thomas** as Grand Treasurer (2018) made him the first Certified Public Accountant (CPA) to serve in the office.*

The financial offices of the Grand Lodge carry very weighty ties. The Chief Executive Officer of the Grand Lodge is the Office of the Grand Master. The Chief Financial Officers of the Grand Lodge is the



Most Worshipful Brother  
Roland G. Simon  
47<sup>th</sup> Grand Master  
of Illinois Prince Hall Masons



Richard M. Hancock, #1  
1868-70, 77-78



Robert C. Waring, #1  
1870-73



John G. Jones, #7  
1873-75



Richard E. Moore, #14  
1878-1913



Arthur L. McCoo, #59  
1913-17



James F. Clarke, #59  
1979-84



Prince E. Marshall, #59  
1984-90



Clarence W. Hayes Jr., #103  
1990-92



Michael E. Patterson Sr., #103  
1992-97



Johnathon Newsom, #1  
1997-99



# at 2021 Grand Lodge Session

Office of the Grand Treasurer. The Chief Operating Officer is the Office of the Grand Secretary and he is expected to be an expert on Masonic Administration. This is critical because all things flow through this particular office and those who have served in it have done so at great expense in time, relationships and personal finances. Though stipends are provided for all of the aforementioned offices, the stipends do not equate, **not even closely**, to the actual amounts of labor that are performed by this office. These labors have often been done out of the eyes of the Craft. As such, all who have served as Grand Secretary must have a special place in the Grand Lodge.

Over the course of 155 years, the Chief Operating Officer has changed only 31 times. Yet, prior to 2021, none had ever served as Grand Master but several had been elected to line offices including:

- **Richard M. Hancock** (1868-70,77-78) was the first as he was elected Grand Senior Warden in 1871.
- **John G. Jones** (1873-75) and **James H. Kelly** (1875-77) were elected Deputy Grand Master in 1875 and 1877 respectively. Jones was expelled from Freemasonry in 1904.
- **Richard E. Moore** was elected Grand Senior Warden in 1876 prior to Grand Secretary (1878-1913).
- **James C. Adams** was elected Grand Junior Warden in 1915 prior to Grand Secretary (1917-20).
- 80 years later, **Clarence W. Hayes Jr.** (1990-92) served as Grand Lecturer (1992-95), Grand Junior Warden (1995-97) and Grand Senior Warden (1997-2000).
- **Michael E. Patterson Sr.** (1992-97) was elected Grand Lecturer (2009-2012).

While their accomplishments were great in many instances, elevation to the Office of Grand Master eluded them. As such, the 2021 Annual Session of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois was truly a historic moment. The election of Most Worshipful Brother Roland G. Simon, Grand Secretary from (2003-2012), made him the very first Past Grand Secretary to serve as Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons.

Congratulations to Most Worshipful Brother Simon and the Grand Lodge on this history-making moment. We salute you along and offer prayers for continued success.





## Prince Hall Grand Guild Heroines of the Templar Crusades

My name is Princess Donna Ford and I am the 52nd Most Noble Grand Princess Captain of Prince Hall Grand Guild, Heroines Templar Crusade/Knights Templar Affiliation. I joined George F. Hennigan Guild #25 in 2011, and I proudly served as Most Noble Princess Captain in 2016. I served as 1st Grand Lieutenant Captain for Prince Hall Grand Guild from 2017-2019, and Assistant Most Noble Grand Princess Captain from 2019-2021. I am the daughter of Rebecca and Marvin, wife of Gary, the mother of D'Andria, D'Andre, and D'Andranae, and grandmother of Donovan. I graduated from Chicago Vocational HS in 1990, then attended Chicago State University where I majored in Criminal Justice and DeVry University where I majored in Management & Supervision. I retired from AT&T in 2015 with 24 years of service and now work as a Program Manager at the Housing Authority of Cook County for the Housing Choice Voucher Program.



## Levi L. Rose Priorate #1 Princesses of the York Cross of Honor

To be qualify for election as a member of the Levi L. Rose Priorate #1, Princesses of the York Cross of Honor, a sister must have presided over a Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star as Worthy Matron, a Court of the Heroines of Jericho as Most Ancient Matron, a Court of the Ladies of the Circle of Perfection as Royal and Perfect Matron and a Guild of the Heroines of the Templar Crusades as Princess Captain. The very first Priorate in the world was established on August 28, 2000 in the State of Illinois in a ceremony officiated by the John W. Thompson Priory #3, Knights of the York Cross of Honor. The first Eminent Prioress was Princess Ethel M. Jones. From this genesis, additional Priorates were established across the country and, on September 7, 2011, the Priorates organized the Tucker-Coffee Grand Court PYCH with Princess Yvonne German of Illinois as its very first Most Regal Grand Prioress and Sir Knight Leroy Gary as the very first Grand Knight Advisor. Leadership in Illinois continues to extend to ladies who are of the highest caliber and now sits in the hands of Princess Tammy Hampton, Regal Prioress with advisory assistance provided by Sir Knight Phillip Patton Jr., Knight Advisor.





## Illinois Council of Deliberation Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

The Illinois Council of Deliberation, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry is an arm of the United Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Northern Jurisdiction, USA, Inc., Prince Hall Affiliated. Since 2008, Sovereign Grand Inspector General Melvin Frierson has served as the Deputy for the Orient of Illinois overseeing the activities of the Orient under the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, Melvin J. Bazemore.

Under the leadership of Illustrious Frierson, the Illinois Council of Deliberation has been the poster child of fiscal responsibility and integrity. He is commonly heard stating that he is “just another brother”. In doing so, all are treated with equity and humility like brothers should treat one another and the skills of all from Sublime Princes to Sovereign Grand Inspectors General are leveraged to ensure that the prime directives of the Supreme Council are met with input from all levels. This helps to define the concept of being just another brother as we all meet on the level. Meeting on the level removes caste and allows ideas to flow. Following this pattern, the



## Illinois State Grand Assembly Order of the Golden Circle

The Illinois State Grand Assembly is the auxiliary to the Illinois Council of Deliberation, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. While Assemblies have been active in the Orient of Illinois since the 1910s, the Illinois State Grand Assembly has been active since the 1970s. The Loyal Ladies of the Order of the Golden Circle Assemblies are some of the most prominent citizens in the Valleys or cities in which Consistories and Assemblies reside. As such, like these ladies are not only loyal and royal but also regal and demure serving as the quintessential examples of mates to the Scottish Rite. At the 2021 Annual Session of the Illinois State Grand Assembly, Loyal Lady Lois Whitaker of Rock Island, Illinois was selected to lead the organization for the ensuing years. With faith as her guide and valuable leadership experiences from life and other affiliated organizations, she and the State Grand Assembly are positioned for long term growth and success.



# A.E.A.O.N.M.S. Desert of Illinois



William D. “Wild Bill” Baldwin Sr. grew up on the Westside of Chicago during segregation and the Civil Rights Movement. He has come a long way from the 1967 riot that called for the National Guard to convene and bring the Rockwell Garden Projects to order. At that time, he never thought that he would see adult life and this era seems to

be re-emerging in 2020. Nevertheless, he moved to the Southside, attended Fort Dearborn Elementary and Chicago Vocational High School and joined the United States Navy after graduation. On June 22, 1985, he married his childhood sweetheart, Jacqueline, and they have one son, William D. Baldwin Jr. Noble Baldwin came up under the greatest leadership He stated that “my father set the highest standards and expectations for his children. He made us think of the future and prepared me for the day that he wouldn’t be around. He thrived on education and trade. I was constantly reminded of the real history lessons about W.E.B. DuBois and Booker T. Washington.” These lessons helped him to become the man that he is today—a licensed power plant operator with 14 years of naval engineering experience, a thoroughly trained and seasoned man with strong a belief in leading by example.

## EDUCATION

- Bachelor Degree, Robert Morris College (2006)
- Associate Degree, Robert Morris College (2003)

## MILITARY

- United States Navy (1982-96)
  - ⇒ 3 Honorable/1 Medical Discharge
  - ⇒ Disabled Veteran of the United States Navy
  - ⇒ Boiler Technician / Hull Technician E-5
  - ⇒ Navy Brig Correctional Officer
  - ⇒ Instructor Class room / Hot Plant
- Total Quality Leadership School
- Hull Technician “A” School
- Instructor Training School
- Military Police Academy
- Boiler Technician Advance Operators School
- Auto Boiler Controls Console Operator School
- Advanced Valve Maintenance School
- Boiler Technician “A” School
- Shipboard Fire Fighting and K Type Shoring

## CIVILIAN SCHOOL

- HCV Housing Quality Standards
- 5 Day OSHA Safety Course
- Certified Fire Safety Director
- Certified Advance Power Plant Operator
- Certified 609C AC Ferris State University

## SHRINE AFFILIATIONS

- **Imperial Deputy, Desert of Illinois (2016-)**
- Honorary Past Imperial Potentate (2019)
- Legion of Honor (2007)
- Auditor, Desert of Illinois (2010-16)
- Imperial Deputy of the Oasis, Waukegan (2008-16)
- Shawall Temple #165, AEAONMS, Waukegan
  - ⇒ Noble of the Year (2017)
  - ⇒ Potentate Council Constitution & Bylaws President, Past Potentate Council (2014-16)
  - ⇒ Historian (2008-)
  - ⇒ Building Fund Chairman (2008-)
  - ⇒ Committee Chairman (2008-14)
  - ⇒ Auditor (2002-08)
  - ⇒ **Illustrious Potentate (2001)**
  - ⇒ Member, Color Guard Drill Team (1998-2001)
  - ⇒ Promotional Director (1998-2000)
  - ⇒ Captain, Yellow Jackets Creation Team (1997-2000)
- Midwest Shrine Coalition
  - ⇒ **President (2021-)**
  - ⇒ 2nd Vice President (2016-21)
  - ⇒ Chief Negotiator (2016-21)
  - ⇒ Executive Board (2010-)
  - ⇒ Constitution & Bylaws Committee (2009-21)
- Gary Sylvester Booster Club (2018-)
- Oliver Washington Booster Club 38<sup>th</sup> I.P. (1998-2010)
- Homer Buchanan Booster Club 40<sup>th</sup> I.P. (2007-14)
- Honorary Member, Zembo Temple #70 Wisconsin (2006)

## MASONIC AFFILIATIONS

- District Deputy Grand Master, MWPHGL Illinois (2019 -)
- William Scruggs Military Lodge #147
  - ⇒ **Worshipful Master (2005)**
  - ⇒ Auditor (2003-05)
- Stanley J. Harris Chapter #60
  - ⇒ **Excellent High Priest (2002-03)**
  - ⇒ Auditor (1997-99)
  - ⇒ Secretary (1996)
- Nelson H. Tate Council #21 (charter member)
  - ⇒ **Thrice Illustrious Master (2007-08)**
  - ⇒ Secretary (2006)
  - ⇒ Auditor (2003-05)
- Lenard Kendricks Commandery #72 (charter member)
  - ⇒ Auditor (2006-08)
  - ⇒ **Eminent Commander (2003-05)**
- Member, John W. Thompson Priory #3, KYCH
- Worthy Patron, Emblem Chapter OES #140 (2000)
- Security, Eureka Grand Chapter, OES (2001)
- Life Member, MWPHGL of Wisconsin (2019)

Endorsements include Shawall Temple #165, The Desert of Illinois, Mid-West Shrine Coalition and CONUS Shrine Coalition.



## Daughters Auxiliary Desert of Illinois

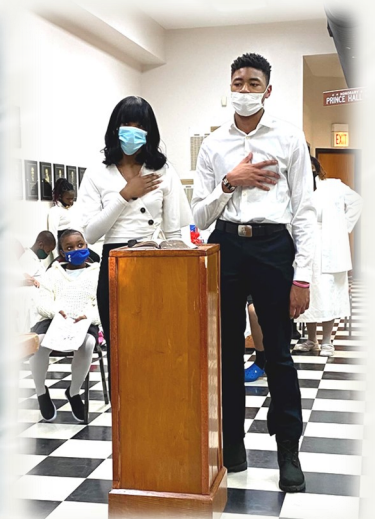
Daughter Rochelle Reed is the daughter of Daughter Colleen Reed and the mother of Renita Reed. She is a licensed educator in the state of IL and currently an employee of East St. Louis School District 189. Dt. Reed also works as a Home Care aid for her 102-year young grandmother, partner of R&R Services Unlimited, and Daisy Troop #1035 Leader.

Daughter Reed is a Past Matron of Eastern Light #68, Order of the Eastern Star; Grand Marshal in the West for Eureka Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, State of Illinois & Its Jurisdiction, PHA; Most Ancient Matron of John Waller Ct. #81, Heroines of Jericho; Past Loyal Lady Ruler of Tyree Assembly #55, Order of the Golden Circle; Royal Chaplain of James R. Jones II Ct. #8, Ladies of the Circle of Perfection; and Deputy for the Desert of IL of the Imperial Court, Auxiliary to the A.E.A.O.N.M.S.



## Dr. John C. Ellis Grand Council Knights of Pythagoras & Velma J. Thames Youth Fraternity OES

The Illinois Prince Hall Masonic Family proudly salutes the youth organizations that fall under the Illinois Jurisdiction including the Dr. John C. Ellis Grand Council of the Knights of Pythagoras under the leadership of Ron Wilson and the Velma J. Thames Youth Fraternity of the Order of the Eastern Star.





## MWPHGL of IL 5K Walk, Bike & Run

The Roland G. Simon / Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois 5K Walk, Bike & Run event was organized five years ago by Roland Simon to bring awareness to Prostate Cancer and raise funds to support research efforts into the disease. Over \$50,000 has been generated since its conception for these purposes. As a result, hundreds of Illinois Prince Hall Masons have taken the necessary next steps with their physicians heeding the call to “GET YOUR PROSTATE CHECKED!”

Most recently, the Grand Lodge has promoted

this call via billboards across the State of Illinois to encourage the public to do the same. In doing so, many lives have most likely been saved from taking the steps for screenings, early detection and treatment options or just by calling 1-833-746-2766 for more information. All are encouraged to support this great work. It could be your life that gets saved.

The annual 5K walk, race, bike event reinforces the importance of awareness on Prostate Cancer and its impacts. According to the American Cancer Society, the statistics on the diagnosis of







## for Prostate Cancer Research & Awareness

of the disease among men are staggering:

- About 1 man in 8 will be diagnosed with Prostate Cancer during his lifetime
- Prostate Cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in American men
- About 1 man in 41 will die of Prostate Cancer

Although the risk and death numbers are eye-opening, there are over 3 million men who had been diagnosed with Prostate Cancer that are still alive today.

Join the effort for awareness and to fund research. Sign up to participate in the 5K race for 2022. Race/Walk/Bike participants must be 12 years and older. A waiver must be signed. A Prostate Cancer roundtable discussion by prominent healthcare officials and important information will also be available following the race. Visit [www.mwphglil.com](http://www.mwphglil.com) to access the sign up page and/or to obtain more information.

**Proceeds raised are donated to the Chicago Prostate Foundation for research and to provide free screenings.**





# New IBCA Hall of Famer

## PAST MASTER CHRIS MCKINNEY

Congratulations are in order for Past Master Chris McKinney or Jericho Lodge #120, Madison Illinois on his selection to the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association (IBCA) Hall of Fame. Past Master McKinney earned this honor as a star on the great teams of East Saint Louis, Lincoln High School in the late 80's and early 90's. After leading Lincoln to two state titles, PM McKinney went on to play basketball for San Diego State University before becoming a JUCO All-American at Midland Junior College and finishing his collegiate career at Oral Roberts University. In 2007, he was listed as one of the top 100 players on the "100 Legends of IHSA Boys Basketball Tournament Team". PM McKinney played professional basketball in Europe, playing in Holland, Belgium, and Germany. Since his playing days, PM McKinney has been active in the 4<sup>th</sup> District Masonic community while volunteering at East Saint Louis and Cahokia High Schools. He also served as Head Coach at Sumner High School in St. Louis, Missouri which was the first all-black high school west of the Mississippi. PM McKinney knew that basketball would be his portal to higher education, and he used his skill to obtain a Bachelor's Degree in Health and Exercise Science from Oral Roberts and later a Master's Degree in Business Management from Fontbonne University.



# OES Ways & Means—Black & White Ball

The Ways and Means Committee of Eureka Grand Chapter, order of the Eastern Star, hosted a grand event at the Grand East on October 23, 2021—Black & White Ball. This event was implemented to generate funding to support the charitable efforts of Eureka Grand Chapter and other efforts



engaged by the Order of the Eastern Star. It was a gala affair which also showcased the talents of the Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Priscilla Jackson and the team under the leadership of Sister Detria Matthews. The food was excellent, the music was great and the environment created in Carter Hall was one that emulated the great dance halls of the past. And yes, a great deal of dancing was done on

this night which generated proceeds for the benefit of the Order of the Eastern Star. A good time was had by all.

Eureka Grand Chapter  
Order of the Eastern Star  
State of Illinois, Prince Hall Affiliation  
Presents  
**A Black & White Ball**

**Saturday, October 23, 2021**  
809 E 42<sup>nd</sup> Place  
Chicago, Illinois  
7:00pm-11:00pm

**Tickets \$35**  
Purchase tickets via ZELLE at  
EurekaGCEvents@gmail.com

Sister Detria Matthews  
Chairperson

Sister Patrice McCastle  
Co-Chairperson

Sister Priscilla R Jackson  
Worthy Grand Matron

Sister Shekinah Horton  
1<sup>st</sup> District Ticket Chairperson

Sister Amelia Mailey  
2<sup>nd</sup> District Ticket Chairperson

Brother Lawrence Wood  
Worthy Grand Patron

Most Worshipful Brother Roland G. Simon  
Grand Master



# New Mason of the Year

## PAST MASTER EUGENE DANIEL

In recognition of his service to Prince Hall Freemasonry, Past Master Eugene Daniel of Union Lodge #155 was selected 2021 Mason of the Year by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois at its annual session in August in Springfield, Illinois.

An active member of Union Lodge #155, Daniel has served the Grand Lodge in multiple capacities as a District Deputy Grand Master, District Deputy Grand Lecturer and, in 2020-2021 as the State Wide Coordinator for all Deputies of the Illinois Jurisdiction. He is also a premier York Rite Mason serving in leadership capacities at the local and statewide level.

For the 2020-21 year, he served the Most Illustrious Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters as its Grand Thrice Illustrious Master. At the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of 2021, he was elected as Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Prince Hall Grand Commandery of Knights Templar. Daniel is also an active member of the Phylaxis Society which is an international research society for Prince Hall Masons. All in all, his efforts are second to none in the Grand Lodge and the York and are worthy of emulation. With this in mind, we salute the 2021 Mason of the Year, Eugene Daniel.



***Congratulations!!!***





# A Brother You Should Know

## PAST MASTER ANDERSON M. EDWARDS JR., EUREKA #64

*“Making a Musical Impact for the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois”*

As the Grand Historian it is with great honor to write this article on my colleague, and friend, Worshipful Brother Anderson M. Edwards, Jr., Past Master, Eureka Lodge No.64, an amazing man who is truly “someone you definitely should know”. Brother Edwards, is a second-generation member following the tradition set by his grandfather, Brother Mayo L. Edwards who was a member during the 1950’s and 1960’s.

Eureka Lodge No. 64 located in Chicago, Illinois is a well-established lodge receiving its charter in 1904 by Most Worshipful Brother Henry Burris the 14th Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons for the State of Illinois. Past Grand Master Burris served two terms 1898 and 1906. Eureka Lodge No. 64 has a strong Masonic membership and having members that are great civic leaders who work diligently to aid the citizens of Chicago. Just to name a few are, Senator Roland Burris, Senator Howard Brookins Sr, Alderman Howard Brookins, Jr., Right Worshipful Brothers Reverend William F. Redmond, Vernon B. Williams, Jr., and Alfred Tillman are Honorary Past Grand Masters. Worshipful Brother Eddie Grace served as the Grand Marshall for many years. What an elite membership of Masonic brethren.

Worshipful Brother Edwards is a graduate of Columbia College having a B.A. Degree in Musical Performance and a Certificate in Sound Engineering. He has taught music in the public and private sectors. He has over 40 years of experience in the music business. He is the President of Global Music Works. He has worked on theatrical as well as musical projects world wide, performing Jazz, Blues, R&B and Gospel. He has worked with the best of notable artist to name a few, Koko Taylor, Otis Clay, Wynton Marsalis, and many more.

Musically speaking his multi-talents include, vocals, music composition and musical director. He plays Acoustic and Electric Keyboards and Bass.

You name it and musically he can do it.

Worshipful Brother Edwards is a musical giant. He is the Grand Organist for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, State of Illinois; Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star (OES), State of Illinois, PHA; and the United Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Northern Jurisdiction, P.H.A., U.S.A., Inc. This is the musical impact that he has made on the Prince Hall Masonic Family throughout the State of Illinois and abroad.



Worshipful Brother Edwards is a 33<sup>o</sup> Degree Mason and a member of Western Consistory No. 28. His music is also played at the Illinois Council of Deliberation Banquet Affairs. He is also a York Rite Mason and a Scottish Rite Mason. He has excelled in these Houses, served in the East, and now an elite member of John W. Thompson, Jr., Priory No. 3, Knights of York Cross of Honour (KYCH). Additionally, he is a Shriner, a member of Arabic Temple No. 44 and Past Noble Advisor, to the Daughters, Arabic Court No. 21.

Worshipful Brother Edwards continues to maintain membership in other notable Fraternal organizations having Life Membership in Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Chicago Alumni Chapter, and Kappa Kappa Psi National Band Fraternity. He is a member of the Federation of Musicians Local 10-208, and Actor’s Equity Association. In addition to the many professional accolades that he has earned he is the recipient of the Helen Hayes Award 1999 Best Musical Director title “Thunder Knocking on the Door”.

There is no doubt that Worshipful Brother Anderson M. Edwards, Jr., emulates the true character of a good and worthy Mason. The musical impact that he has made is astonishing and he is truly “someone you definitely should know”.

*Submitted by Worshipful Brother Lloyd Womack,  
Grand Historian*



# A Sister You Should Know

## SISTER KATHY DAVIS, ESTELLA CHAPTER #3, OES

### *Faith Coalition: Finding Purpose in Helping the Community during COVID-19*

On December 31, 2019, I retired from the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs. I began to enjoy my retirement in January 2020. Well, at least I thought I was. The COVID-19 pandemic was just starting, then in March 2020, the United States shut down. Everyone started running to the stores to stock up on the most important items we usually sparingly purchase, hand sanitizer and disinfectant spray. Stores started running out. The hand soap, paper towels and toilet paper were running out. Food and other grocery items were sparse.

As months went by I found myself getting up as early as 5 a.m. to run to stores throughout Springfield looking for items I listed above. Sometimes I got lucky and sometimes I did not. Some stores only allowed you to get one item of each. It was like the employees were on police patrol guarding how many you were trying to get. So, I said okay, I am going to go back and forth and put my purchase in the car and go back to get more. When I got a certain amount, I started contacting family and friends to see if they had the items; some did and most did not.

Going back to my retirement. Things were at a standstill, no vacation trips, and no visiting people out of town and no retirement party, no big backyard parties. Everything was very limited. I remember being in the store and someone coughed and sneezed and everyone froze. I could not believe it. When Easter came it was very quiet. I started to think, how long are we going to be like this? We have to wear masks, stores limited the number of people to enter. I found myself standing outside in the rain at times. During the month of May 2020, I had a small gathering for my birthday. Everyone had to wear masks and sanitize hands. I limited myself being around people and the number of people in attendance.

Well, the numbers started going up with people catching COVID as well as dying. I could not believe my eyes. I constantly had my eyes glued to CNN. Then all the other stuff start happening with police which I do not wish to go into but just to mention, it was during the pandemic.

My lord! My life changed, confined to home or my friends' homes. We all were comfortable around each other. We would keep our circle very small. So, it was the normal thing as months went by while they were trying to find a cure for the COVID-19.

November: I normally have family over and we have a blessed good time. Well, not this year. Everyone decided to stay home. I decided I would do something different. I fed several of my senior friends as well as other friends. I cooked a big meal like I always did and had them come by and pick up to-go plates. Everyone was so grateful for what I did on this day. I was blessed to be retired and able to serve over 12 people on Thanksgiving.

In November I was to have scopic surgery and was told I had to take a COVID test. Well, it came back positive and I could not believe I got it! I did everything I was supposed to do to protect myself and my family and, to this day, I have no idea how I got it. I then told my children and their family to get tested. Everyone came back negative except my granddaughter who is 10 years old. Man, she took it hard. I felt bad because I may have given it to her. She had been hanging out with me a lot since school shut down. This pushed my surgery back to December 17 which did happen and was very successful.

Christmas came and it was small but blessed. In 2021, I lost an uncle, several friends and a mentor. I received my first COVID vaccine on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and the second one on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. I received the Moderna vaccine. After the first shot I had side effects, headache, and chills and was very tired. Following the second one, I had to go to the ER because my blood pressure was 177 over 120. Thank God I am here today.

In April, I received a call inviting me to be a Health Ambassador for Faith Coalition for the Common Good. I would go out in the community to reach people of color (mainly) and others, to educate them about getting the COVID shot. The job consisted of doing a survey with people that had not yet had the vaccine and to find out why. At the same time I was being trained for this special task, I was in the process of setting up a Community Partner Vaccine Clinic at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church to which I belong. So, this was right on time.

I want to thank Erin Conley, my alderwomen, for mentioning the IDPH Community Partner Vaccine Clinic. What was so special is that the month of April was National Minority Health Month. I had the first clinic on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

As Ambassador for Faith Coalition, we were responsible to get 50 surveys. Out of the 50 surveys, I was able to get 24 vaccinated. Praise God. The second vaccine was administered on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. As I was watching TV, it was mentioned that over 1.5 million people never returned to get their second vaccine.

As I spoke to people one on one as I was doing the survey with them, it truly touched my heart. People lost jobs, loved ones, housing, had to work double shifts due to COVID spread and more. I can go on and on. I feel I have made a difference for the 24 that were vaccinated. I took this special task very seriously because it affected me and I was not alone.

I want to thank organizer, Tyshianna Bankhead, for leading this task as well as the Faith Coalition. I really enjoyed doing this task and will do it again in a heartbeat. So, this is me "Being Affected by COVID."



# The Saga of the Black

**Black Male Slaves were the first true North American Cowboys**

As we continue with our February, 2022, Annual Black History Month Celebration, our culture is so rich in history that we have many legendary icons to reflect upon. As the Grand Historian and a Texas Cowboy, I would be remiss if I did not discuss a topic so dear to me—the history on “The Saga of the Black American Cowboy”. Yes, as a young “Cowboy Wo” growing up in Texas, I rode wild horses and I competed in Rodeo Events. My favorite competition was “Bull Riding”. Let me ask you three questions. You can give the answer to yourself then I will discuss further. Are you ready?

**#1: Did you know that Prince Hall Masons were Buffalo Soldiers and Black Cowboys?**

In fact, Brother Mark Matthews (right), a Prince Hall Mason, was the oldest living Buffalo Soldier. In 1997, he was 104 years old. He was a member of Charles Datcher Lodge #15 of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C. On September 6, 2005, he died at the age of 111. His burial was at Arlington National Cemetery. In an interview with a Prince Hall Masonic Brother prior to his death, Brother Matthews he stated that his father and grandfather lived to be 110 and 116 years of age, respectively. Brother Matthews was born in 1894 in Greenville, Alabama and joined the Buffalo Soldiers when he was 15. A Master Horseman, he said “there was no horse that he could not break”. He also stated that he fought indians and outlaws in the Southwest.

During the Korean War the 24th Infantry Division Regiment, named, “The Buffalo Soldiers” was the last segregated regiment to engage in combat. The 24th, 27th and the 28th Cavalry (Horse Cavalry) were deactivated in 1951. Brother Matthews was a member of the 28th Cavalry. The death of this “Living Legend” at the age of 111 marked the end of a long, proud, and accomplished era in American History. More importantly, he was a “Prince Hall Mason”, a “Cowboy” and the Oldest Living Buffalo Soldier. What a rich history.

**#2. Did you know that nearly a third of all American Cowboys are Black?**

**#3. Did you know that an estimated 5,000 African American Cowboys took part in the**

**legendary trail drives North and West from Texas between 1886 and 1895?**

Brothers and Sisters please allow me to give to you “The History of the Black American Cowboy”. In the Old South, slaves who had learned herding skills in Africa were of considerable value to farmers and plantation owners with live stock. Horseback riding and roping became part of the cattle ranching in the 1820’s with Texas slaves. After the Civil War and the Emancipation Proclamation many former slaves chose to hire themselves out as cowboys earning their livings on ranches through Texas and on cattle trails to the North and West.

Cowboys were mainly responsible for tending and branding cattle on the ranch and then driving herds north to grasslands on the plains. They rode out of Texas along the Chisholm Trails to Colorado, the Dakotas, Kansas, and Wyoming. On many cattle drives, entire cowboy crews were black with the exception of the trail bosses. Cattle drives were at times intensely unpleasant and fairly dangerous. A cowboy could easily be killed in a stampede, drowned during a river crossing or frozen to death in a blizzard. After riding out of Texas some Black Cowboys remained to settle at their destination. Others rode back to Texas to do it again and many became citizens of towns along the way. Some of those cowboys were apart of the settlement where I grew up in Texas. Some of my friends and school classmates were the grandsons of these pioneers.

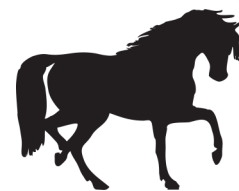
To earn a living some cowboys joined Wild West Shows and traveled throughout the land demonstrating their unique skills. Some became rodeo stars. Among the most famous Black Cowboys of the late 1800’s were Bill Pickett, Nate Love, and Bose Ikard. Please allow me to give a historical briefing on these “Legendary Cowboys”.

- *Bill Pickett (right), born on December 5, 1870 in Austin, Texas, was the most famous of all Black Cowboys. He was the son of former slaves and one of thirteen children. He stood 5 feet 6 inches tall and weighted 145 pounds. In the early 1900’s Bill was a member of “The Miller*





# American Cowboy



By Worshipful Brother Lloyd Womack, Grand Historian

Brothers 101 Ranch Wild West Show". He entertained millions of western fans throughout the United States and Europe. He popularized the Rodeo Event called "Bulldogging". His method involved biting the animals nose or upper lip as he dragged it to the ground. On March 19, 1932, Bill was breaking a horse at the 101 Ranch when he was kicked in the head. After 14 days in a coma, he died at the age of 61 at a hospital in Ponca City, Oklahoma. In 1971, he became the first African American inducted into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame. The annual "Bill Pickett Invitation Rodeo" held in Denver, Colorado is dedicated to Black Cowboys and Girls in his honor for his contributions to the profession.

- Nat "Deadwood Dick" Love (right), born in 1854 in Tennessee, is the son of slaves. He Died in 1925 at the age of 71. In fact, Nate Love is a distant relative of Right Worshipful Brother Steven R. Coleman, Deputy Grand Master, of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, State of Illinois. What an honor for Right Worshipful Brother Coleman, Deputy Grand Master to have such a distinguish member in the family. Nate Love became one of the most successful cowboys of his time mostly because of his relentless self promotion. He acquired the nickname "Deadwood Dick" by winning most of rodeo events at an 1876 Rodeo in Deadwood Arizona. He spent the bulk of his career working as an ordinary cowpuncher and driving cattle up the old Chisholm Trail. By 1895, the Rail Lines had reached Texas and Oklahoma and because of this progress in technology he was forced to make a career change and became a Pullman Porter on the railroad.
- Bose Ikard (right), born a slave



in July 1843, learned the cowboy trade on a Texas Ranch in Southwest Parker County. He died in 1929 in the city of Greenwood, Texas. His grave is near Mr. Oliver Loving's in Greenwood Cemetery. He was freed after the Civil War. He worked for Goodnight and Oliver Loving Cattle Company helping to blaze the famous Goodnight-Loving Trail through Mexico to Colorado. Mr. Ikard was Mr. Goodnight's trusted deputy because he regularly carried the profits of cattle sales back to Weatherford, Texas because it was assumed no one would ever think a Black Man would be entrusted with a white man's money. In 1929 when Mr. Goodnight was informed of his favorite trail hand's death and he commissioned Mr. Ikard's grave marker and had his name signed beneath the inscription—"Served me for four years, never shirked a duty or disobeyed an order, rode with me in many stampedes, participated in three engagements with Comanche Indians, splendid behavior".

Yes, following these Legendary Trail Blazing Cowboys came many more. Just to name a few are:

- Myrtis Dightman, a Houston Bullrider who, in 1966, became the first African American to qualify for the National American Finals Rodeo. He has been the recipient of many honors and has a signature hat named for him by the American Hat Company. Although he retired from competition, he rides his horses every day.
- Charles Sampson small in stature and my good friend in 1982 became the first African American to win a Rodeo World Championship in Bull Riding Competition. In 1996, he was inducted into the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame. Charlie resides in Denver, Colorado.
- Fred Whitfield also a Houston resident is a three time National Finals Rodeo Champion Calf Roper. He was the first African American to win a World Championship in a timed rodeo event. (next page)



- *Harold Cash my high school classmate and college classmate had a 35 year career as a Champion Bareback Rider and Bull Rider. On January 12, 2002 during the 9th Annual Bill Pickett Gala Event, Harold was inducted into the "Living Legend Hall Of Fame" during the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Astrodome. Harold currently is a Rodeo Promoter. He also establish scholarships for less fortunate youths seeking to go to college.*



Yes, the history of these Legendary Pioneer Cowboys is an important part of our African American History. These early pioneers who survived Slavery, the Civil War, and the harsh life of the Black Cowboy on the cattle trail will never be forgotten, and that's a fact.



I am no longer a Rodeo Competitor, however, back in the day, Sister Carolyn S. Womack and I often attended Rodeo Shows at the Chicago Amphitheatre. Yes, when time allows from our busy Masonic schedule, Sister Womack and I go horseback riding, which we both enjoy.

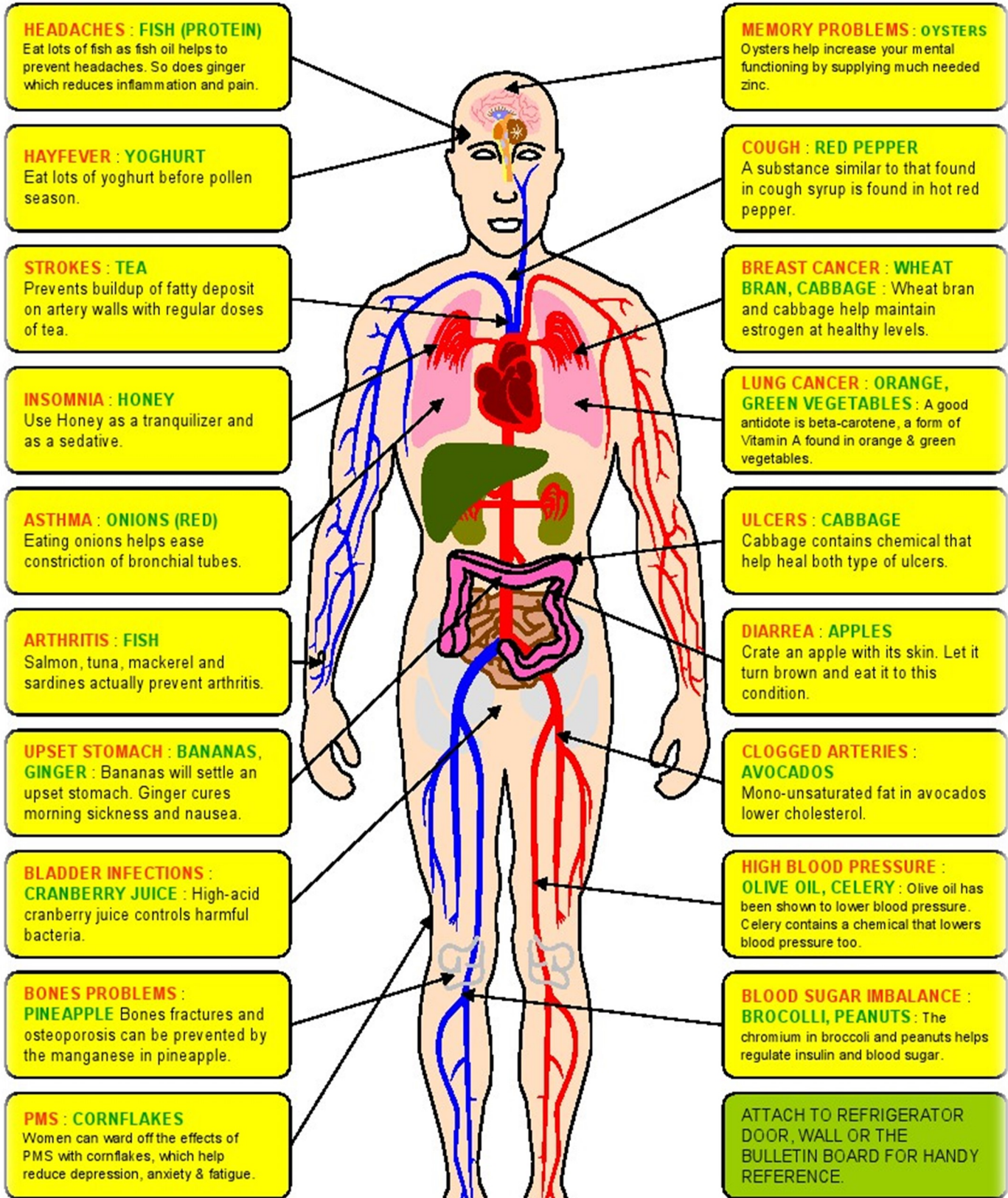






# Never Feel Sick Again

Submitted By Sister Carolyn Womack





# Why Honor Prince Hall Americanism Day

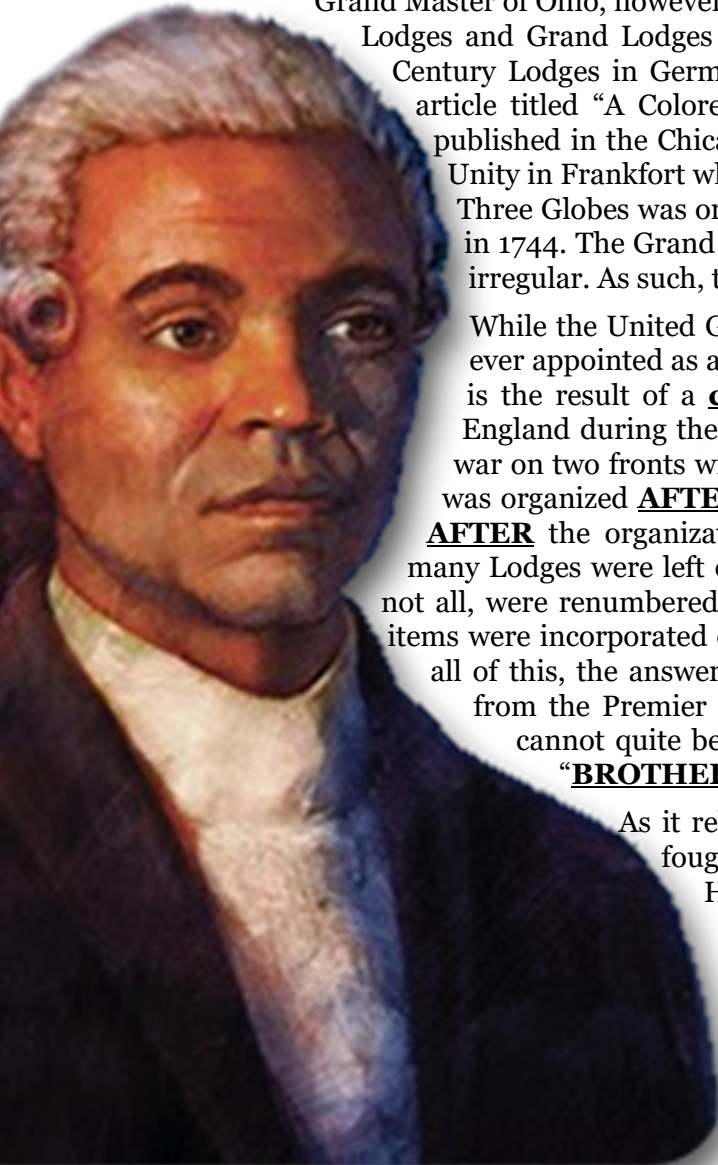
The founding father of African American Freemasonry, Prince Hall and his examples of service make him a pioneer to be celebrated. There are a few topics that have been placed in question as it relates to Prince Hall. We know for a fact that Prince Hall received a charter from the Premier Grand Lodge of England that was issued in 1784 and received in 1787. However, was Hall actually a Grand Master? Was he truly a Provincial Grand Master for North America? Did he fight in the Revolutionary War? Was he the black man on the row boat with George Washington crossing the Delaware? The answers to these questions may surprise you.

Per the records of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, African Grand Lodge was established after the death of Hall in 1808. Yet, acting in the capacity of a Grand Master, Hall did establish the Lodges which eventually comprised the African Grand Lodge. In the minutes of African Lodge proceedings, however, Hall is referred to as Grand Master at a time when only the African Lodge was in place. Some say that this was a term of endearment and reverence for Hall as an actual **Worshipful Master** but there is no evidence to prove this. However, there is another view. As no other Lodges were organized with black men in the region due to the racial climate, referring to Hall as Grand Master could have been a precursor to his intent to expand the Order among black men in the capacity of a Grand Master or Grand Lodge. He did establish Lodges in Pennsylvania and Rhode Island after all. While no evidence has been presented to show that he was ever elected Grand Master or that the Lodge converted itself into a Grand Lodge, there is no doubt that Hall established other Lodges like a Grand Lodge would do. This has often been challenged by historians and Masonic detractors of Prince Hall Masonry since the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Most Worshipful Brother John Jones, Past

Grand Master of Ohio, however, provided evidence that Hall's expansion fell in line with other Lodges and Grand Lodges that were established during the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Several 18<sup>th</sup> Century Lodges in Germany, in particular, were the examples that Jones used in his article titled "A Colored Mason's Defense of Prince Hall Lodge and Its Offspring" published in the Chicago Daily Tribune on January 20, 1876. He cited the Lodge of Unity in Frankfort which instituted the Lodge of Unity in Nuremburg. The Lodge of Three Globes was organized in the Grand Royal Mother Lodge of the Three Globes in 1744. The Grand Lodge that these Lodges organized had never been considered irregular. As such, the challenges against Hall's labors at that time were rebuffed.

While the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) does not affirm that Hall was ever appointed as a Provincial Grand Master, it also cannot disprove it. The UGLE is the result of a **consolidation** of the Antient and Premier Grand Lodges of England during the War of 1812 in 1813 at a time where England was engaged in war on two fronts with the United States and France. Consider also that the UGLE was organized **AFTER** the death of Prince Hall which also means it was organized **AFTER** the organization of the African Grand Lodge. During the consolidation, many Lodges were left off of the rolls either deliberately or mistakenly and several, if not all, were renumbered including African Lodge. Can it be stated for certain that all items were incorporated during the consolidation during a period of war? Considering all of this, the answer to this question is actually inconclusive. To date, no records from the Premier Grand Lodge have been found to come to a conclusion so it cannot quite be rejected either. Nonetheless, Prince Hall was definitely titled "**BROTHER**", the highest honor that any Mason can attain.

As it relates to Hall's service in the American Revolutionary War, he fought as a member of the Bucks of America at the Battle of Bunker Hill in June of 1775. Hall and his brethren fought as Americans even though they were likely courted by the British. The American Revolutionary War forced many citizens to choose sides for the American Forces or the British crown. Eventual freedom in exchange for service was the prize. So, were the actions of the Irish Military Lodge to initiate Prince Hall and fourteen others into Freemasonry in March of 1775 actually an attempt to woo them over to the side of the British before the war began three months later? Furthermore, George





Washington and several founding fathers were slaveholders and did not hold black citizens in high regard. Consider Washington's decree on November 12, 1775 after black soldiers had already proven themselves in battle. After seeking more troops, he decreed that "neither negroes, nor boys unable to bear arms, nor old men" be enlisted. His decree was immediately countered, two days later, by British Commander Lord Dunmore's Proclamation which pledged freedom for blacks in return for service to the British Army. While over 20,000 chose to fight for the British on this basis, more chose to fight for America and their heroic contributions laid the foundation for the freedom which was not immediately given though, in many cases, after war's end.

This is also the perfect time to eradicate a rumor relative to Washington and Hall. Hall absolutely **WAS NOT** the black man on the boat with George Washington when they crossed the Delaware in December of 1776. This assertion is either a grand mistake or the conjecture of a misguided author. Prince **Whipple** was the black man in the boat and not Prince **Hall**. Whipple was an aid to General William Whipple who was also on the boat.

Consideration of Prince Hall's track record for his country and service to his community provide clear reasons for Prince Hall Americanism Day should be celebrated all over the country. Hall helped to free the enslaved before the term "abolitionist" was even coined. He turned his home into a school for African children. He was a major driver to end the Slave Trade in Massachusetts and was prominent on the team of citizens who continually presented measures to the Massachusetts legislature to see it through to the end. He was a Methodist Minister who entered, passed and raised other clergy and citizens of the community into the Masonic ranks. He appeared to gather them together to corporately fulfill the works that had been placed on the trestleboard after being "worshipful" or consulting with the almighty. These labors and their products freed many, educated hundreds and provided opportunities for leadership for many that may never have been presented and are worthy of remembrance.



So, Prince Hall Americanism Day is not a parade for celebration's sake. It is a reminder of what Prince Hall Masons are supposed to be doing in the current era. Masons are supposed to be active in the communities in which they live. Masons are supposed to be leading charitable efforts to help citizens along their ways in life. Masons are supposed to be disciplined enough to see plans through from start to finish. Masons are supposed to be men of high character and above reproach. An annual reminder of how Masons are to conduct themselves, should spark more activities that aid the



community without the need for recognition. The Holy Bible reads "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." Soul Brother Number One, James Brown, communicates the same sentiments in his song "Talking loud and saying nothing". The Prophet Muhammad communicated "A man is not a believer who fills his stomach while his neighbor is hungry." So, whether Christian, Muslim or regular Soul Brother, the mission is still the same. Our beliefs must be put to work or we are just making a lot of noise.

With this in mind, celebrate Prince Hall Americanism Day as the start to the "next" set of charitable works. Engage it as a renewal of the bonds of Freemasonry to implement changes for the betterment of humanity. In doing so, Masons will have fulfilled their true purpose on the earth which is to make the world a better place.

*Submitted by Right Worshipful Brother Daryl L. Andrews*



# Arabic Shriners and Daughters Active in the Community


While Shrinedom is considered the play-house of Freemasonry, it is definitely an organization whose charitable works are numerous. In the Fall of 2021, Arabic Temple #44 under the direction of Noble Joel Keeton and Arabic Court #21 under the direction of Daughter Verona Portis purchased and stuffed book bags for the Chatham community in Chicago, Illinois.



The high quality bags were obtained in bulk and filled with pen, pencils, paper and other necessities that youth need for school. Setup in the heart of Chatham on 75th and Cottage Grove, they Daughters and the Nobles were cheerful givers working to satisfy the needs of the community.




In October, the Daughters and Nobles banded together again to fight for a larger cause—Breast Cancer. The team of more than 30 participated in the Susan G. Komen Walkathon to promote awareness for this disease which has disproportionately affected women of color for decades. Their efforts to raise funds for this fight align with the objectives of the Grand Lodge’s fight against Prostate Cancer. Awareness leads to action which is the primary goal of both efforts.

 **BREAST CANCER WALK FOR THE CURE 2021**

**Sunday, October 24th**  
**8AM-10AM**  
 Starting at 63rd & Hayes Dr.  
 \$5 minimum donation

Proceeds will go to Susan G. Komen Breast Center Awareness

Donations can be sent by PayPal to arabiccourt21@gmail.com

 **BREAST CANCER Awareness**

Dr. Verona S. E. Portis  
 Illustrious Commandress





# Masons Supply Dixmoor with Water

In October of 2021, the Village of Dixmoor experienced a water of epic proportions. A water main break and drainages into the mains resulted in a boil order for the water for the citizens of Dixmoor. The break itself significantly decreased the water pressure preventing the normal amount of water to flow through the pipes of thousands of homes. In response to the challenge, Prince Hall Masons came together to supply much needed drinking water for Dixmoor residents and general water so that families could perform their daily tasks. Trucks filled with cases of water were delivered across multiple days to Dixmoor. The cases were donated by brethren and Lodges. Financial donations were utilized to purchase additional cases of water to fill the needs.



# 1619:

## The Beginning of Problems for Africans in America

By Worshipful Brother Lloyd Womack,  
Grand Historian

Does the number **1619** mean anything to you? Just think about it before you read this article. Dr. Carter G. Woodson, Father of Black History Month, said "race prejudice is merely the logical result of tradition, the inevitable outcome of thorough instruction to the effect that the Negro has never contributed anything to the progress of mankind." Yes, it is that time again, Black History Month, the year now is 2022. We all know that Dr. Woodson is the sole factor why we celebrate Black History Month. Yes, the month of February is a very important month in the lives of African Americans all across this globe because it gives us an opportunity to reflect on the pioneers of our race and the contributions they made to society.

In 1926, Dr. Woodson initiated the annual February observance of Negro History Week. He chose February because February 12<sup>th</sup> was President Abraham Lincoln's birthday and February 14<sup>th</sup> was the accepted birthday of Frederick Douglass—an American slave who secretly taught himself to read and write - a crime punishable by death. Douglass became a famous orator, journalist, autobiographer, revolutionary and leader of his people. By the 1990s, Negro History Week had been expanded to the full month of February and re-named Black History Month.

Now that I have given you the history and origin of Black History Month, let us return to my original question asked of you in my opening paragraph. The question is "does the number 1619 mean anything to you?" Of course it does. Please allow me to discuss this very important year - 1619.

In August 1619, over four hundred years ago, the first 19 slaves, who were kidnapped and enslaved Africans, were taken from their native land to be sold as slaves by British Colonies. The need for slaves was due to a shortage of labor workers. In some instances, slaves were traded for supplies. The enslaved Africans were brought over on a privateer ship named "White Lion" to Point Comfort in the Colony of Virginia located in Jamestown, Virginia. Today, Port Comfort is renamed Fort Monroe and is now located in Hampton, Virginia. Several days later, a second ship named "Treasurer" arrived in Virginia with

more kidnapped, enslaved Africans and, over the following two centuries, an estimated 600,000 were brought to North America.

A slave is a person who has been held captive in bondage by another human being who has complete control over this person. Laws written during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries stated that slaves are considered as property of another and were deprived of most of the rights ordinarily held by free people. Yes, these enslaved Africans are our ancestors. In fact, Prince Hall himself was a slave, a man who rose from Slavery to become one of the most respected men in American History. Prince Hall was the first black man to be made a Mason in America. He was initiated and became a Mason on March 6, 1775 in Boston, Massachusetts.

There was much work to be done on the plantations. Cotton dominated the economy and, by the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century, it was called "King Cotton". The regional plantations needed a large group of field workers to plant and harvest their crops. This is the reason for the need for slaves. Southern planters had built a cotton kingdom on the shoulders of enslaved blacks and they meant to preserve their way of life. During the harvest time, adult slaves worked shifts of up to 18 hours a day. In plain old simple "English", the slaves worked from sun-up to sun-down. Children also were slaves. Those ranging in the age 8-12 worked in the field picking cotton or tobacco. Rebellious children that resisted doing the fieldwork, received harsh treatment. Either they were whipped, required to swallow worms or worse.

Slaves were given food rations every Saturday. They usually ate corn meal, lard, some meat, molasses, peas, greens, flour, rice, dried beans, yams and peanuts. Their entertainment had limited leisure hours, mostly on Sundays and holidays. Their music was woven into the fabric of everyday life. A large drum was beat with the naked hand and loud vocal sounds were made with emphasis. The men and women danced in large circles until they fell to the ground from exhaustion. According to Michael L. Cooper, author of "Slave Spirituals and Jubilee Singers" published in 1950, he quoted a statement by

Frederick Law Olmstead who had become famous from designing New York City's Central Park. Olmstead described being awakened at dawn by slaves walking to the fields—"Suddenly one raised such a sound as I never heard before. A long, loud musical shout, rising and falling and breaking into falsetto, his voice ringing through the woods in the clear frosty night air like a bugle. As he finished, the melody was caught up by another and then another, and then by several choruses." The Grand Historian researched into the Historical Archives of President Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States of America. There were several recorded statements made by President Lincoln about Slavery:

- *As a 28 year old state legislator, he recorded his belief that Slavery was "found on both injustice and bad policy".*
- *Ten years later as a Congressman, he voted with his party to stop the spread of Slavery and he introduced a bill to outlaw Slavery in the nation's capitol where he said that he "hated Slavery".*
- *On April 6, 1859, Lincoln, in a letter to another politician said "he who would be no slave, must not consent to have a slave. If Slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong. I cannot remember when I did not so think and feel."*
- *"As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This impresses my life of democracy. Whatever differs from this, to the intent of difference, is no democracy."*
- *"I have always thought that all men should be free; but if any should be slaves, it should be first those who desire it for themselves, and secondly, those who desire it for others. Whenever, I hear anyone arguing for Slavery, I feel a strong impulse to see it tried on him personally." Lincoln expressed this in a public speech given to an Indiana regiment on March 17, 1865.*
- *On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation freeing enslaved people in the Southern States. Ordinarily, President Lincoln signed his name "A. Lincoln". However, on this day the Historical Archive records showed that he signed his full name "Abraham Lincoln" and, upon signing the Emancipation Proclamation, he said the following - "If my name ever goes into history, it will be for this act."*

The Emancipation Proclamation did not reach the slaves in Texas until two years later on June 19, 1865. Union Army General Gordon Granger, Commander of a Texas District, who arrived in Galveston, Texas, stood on the balcony of the

Galveston Villa and read aloud the contents of a General Order No. 3 informing slaves in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, "all slaves are free". The freed slaves classed that day "Juneteenth". Because of the late arrival of the proclamation to the State of Texas, slave owners benefitted an additional two years of free labor. I was born and raised in Galveston, Texas. I am very familiar with the history and importance of Juneteenth because I was taught this at an early age.

It took the end of the American Civil War in 1865 to turn the words into law. On April 14, 1865, General Robert E. Lee, Commander of the Confederate Army surrendered. On April 14, 1865, President Lincoln and his wife Mary attended a play at the Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C., where John Wilkes Booth assassinated President Lincoln. On April 15, 1865, President Lincoln died at the age of fifty six.

On June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden, the 46th President of the United States of America signed into law a bill to make Juneteenth the 12th Federal Holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the nation. President Biden stated "this is a day of profound weight and profound power, a day in which we remember the moral stain, the terrible toll that Slavery took on the country and continues to take."

Now, my Brothers and Sisters, we all know the full history of the year 1619 involving the first nineteen Africans kidnapped and enslaved and why they were brought to America. We know that during that period of two centuries an estimated 600,000 Africans were enslaved and brought to America. We also know President Abraham Lincoln disliked Slavery. We know why President Lincoln wrote and signed his full name on the Emancipation Proclamation freeing enslaved people. Lastly, on June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed into law a bill to make Juneteenth a Federal Holiday commemorating the end of Slavery in the nation.

Yes, our African ancestors who were enslaved and brought over against their will built our great nation that we live in called the United States of America and they did it for free. In conclusion, "only when lions have Historians, will hunters cease being heroes" - African Proverb. Out.

*"Brother Wo", Grand Historian*



# King David Lodge #100 Centennial Honors Gene Chandler & Charles J. Stewart



I received a call from Worshipful Brother Charles J. Stewart, Past Master, King David Lodge No. 100 asking me to write a news article on the King David Lodge No. 100, Centennial Celebration (1921 – 2021) held October 23, 2021, at the Hilton Hotel, Oak Lawn, Illinois.

The Gala Event honored two of its most distinguish Brethren, namely Worshipful Brother Charles J. Stewart and Worshipful Brother Gene “The Duke of Earl” Chandler. Worshipful Brother Charles J. Stewart, its Senior Member who has served the Lodge in multiple capacities since the 1950’s is the Recipient of the Lodge, “2021 Legacy Award”. Worshipful Brother Gene “The Duke of Earl” Chandler, a world renown entertainer and active member of the Lodge is the Recipient of the Lodge “2021 Lifetime Achievement Award”.

The Gala Event was well attended by the King David Family of Brothers and Sisters as well as family and friends. Worshipful Brother Darryl White, Worshipful Master, King David Lodge No. 100 is the Lodge 100th Worshipful Master (1921 – 2021). What an “Honor” congratulation. Congratulations to the “Lodge Committee Members” that organized this gala event. Congratulations to all of the “Program Participants”. You did a fantastic job.

Most Worshipful Brother Roland G. Simon, the 47th Grand Master of Illinois Prince Hall Masons sent his congratulations and best wishes to King David Lodge No. 100 on its Centennial Anniversary and their Recipients of the 2021 Legacy Award and the 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award. Most Worshipful Brother Simon was represented by Right Worshipful Brother Steven R. Coleman, Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Michael D. Ramey, Grand Junior Warden, and Right Worshipful Brother David Thomas, Grand Treasurer, also a member and Past Master (2004) of King David Lodge No. 100.

As the Grand Historian, I was honored to be present at this Historical Event. Sister Carolyn S. Womack and I are members of King David Chapter No. 90, Order of the Eastern Star (OES) and were equally as honored to be the special guest of our friend Worshipful Brother Gene “The Duke of Earl” Chandler. Thank you for the invitation Brother Chandler and the Brothers of King David Lodge No. 100.







# Ashby B. Carter Lodge #138 FILLS THE FOOD VOID

As the effects of Covid continues to tear family's apart and the world continues to try and rebound, Ashby B. Carter continues to serve its communities. Although we are getting reports that the production of goods have almost reached its normal levels we are now seeing holes in the imports and exports of those goods which is still causing a great need in some communities.



Under the coordination of our Senior Warden Bro Joseph Talton who reached out to the Peoples Resource Center in Wheaton to ask what the current needs of the center were, a lodge food drive began. On November 1st Ashby B. Carter #138 filled the void of feeding 30 families for the Resource Center by making a food delivery. In all, the lodge provided 1,300 lbs of non perishable item to the Center for distribution.



## MEALS ON WHEELS

Opportunities for help can develop from any given moment and this opportunity is a great example. As the brothers sometimes do they were hanging out and smoking some of their best sticks with friends and a conversation was had about a few seniors in the area that were struggling and not able to prepare their traditional holiday meals for their families. That conversation was shared in the next regular communication and Meals on Wheels was born.



Meals on Wheels operates in virtually every community in America. Its purpose is to address senior hunger and isolation. The program has cared for hundreds of thousands of citizens across the nation since its inception.

The brothers were able to provide some holiday cheer to 10 by providing holiday boxes which were delivered to each family. The boxes were prepared at the cities Community Center and included Hams, whole chickens, stuffing mix, deserts and many additional items.





# Southern Cross #112 Christmas Baskets

During the month of December, Southern Cross Lodge placed a prime focus on the needs of families in East St. Louis and its surrounding communities. What better place to do this than at schools. The lodge specifically targeted school districts to ensure that families and youth would receive sustenance and gifts during the holiday season. For this effort, distributions to hundreds of families were presented at East St. Louis District #189, Brooklyn District #188, Venice District #3 and Madison District #12.



# Joppa Lodge #79 Feeds & Cleans Community

Joppa Lodge #79 under the leadership of WM Jerome Houston on November 22<sup>nd</sup> provided 30 Turkey Baskets to needy families in East Saint Louis. The brothers purchased and donated gloves, socks, hats, scarves and personal hygiene items to the Eagles Nest Veterans Homeless Center. This summer brothers participated in the cleanup of the Booker T. Washington Cemetery. This cemetery is one of the oldest black cemeteries in the metro east area. Members have committed to make this an annual event.





## Welcome Star #36 and Princess Zorah #20

On December 22, 2021 at 5pm, Welcome Star lodge #36 and Princess Zorah Chapter #20 held their Feed the Need Program. We were able to feed 35 families this year providing them with 5lb bags of Chicken quarters, 5lb bags of Russell potatoes, cans of Corn, cans of Green Beans, boxes of Mac & Cheese and boxes of Jiffy Mix.



## DuSable Museum & Charity #108

On December 12, 2021, the DuSable Museum Women's Board expressed its gratitude to the brethren of Charity Lodge #108 for their dedication and generosity in fundraising for the museum at its annual Holiday Glitz. The Lodge and the Grand Lodge were represented by Johnny Britton, Worshipful Master; Vernard Alsberry, Mayor, Hazel Crest; Robert Anderson, Senior Warden; Kerry Fitch, Past Master, representing the MWPHGL of Illinois.



## Mt. Hebron Lodge #29 Grants UCAN \$500

UCAN is a social services organization that provides assistant to widows and orphans in the Chicagoland area. Their programs include violence prevention, healing trauma, building strong families and youth empowerment. Mt Hebron Lodge #29 has built a relationship with UCAN-Chicago to provide donations and services for the charitable organization. It Is with this sentiment in mind that the Lodge presented a check to UCAN Chicago in the amount of \$500.00 dollars to assist them. Visit [Www.UCANChicago.org](http://Www.UCANChicago.org) for more information.





# Eureka Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern





# Star ADOPT-A-FAMILY Campaign for 2021



Princess Zorah #20



Delivering Christmas Cheer



  
 DONATED TO AND MADE ESPECIALLY FOR  
**THE FAMILY OF**  
**JAMARI ARMSTRONG**  
 BY  
**QUEEN ELIZABETH CHAPTER #16**  
 Order of the Eastern Star  
 EAST ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS  
 Sis. Felicia Randle, Worthy Matron  
 Bro. Hosey McGruder, Worthy Patron  
 Sister Martha Young, Secretary  
 1700 64th Ave.  
 East St. Louis, IL 62207  
 (618) 274-8156





# New Yerusalem all Over Chicago

The Officers and members of New Yerusalem #158 made multiple trips across the City of Chicago to serve the public during the Fall and Winter months. On October 2, 2021, lunch was served on the south side of the city at the Bus Terminal located at 95th and State off of the Dan Ryan Expressway. In November, meals were served with the residents at Grasmere Place on the north side of Chicago for Thanksgiving. Activities on the west side of the city included distribution of water and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) which were also served to the Chatham community on the south side near 75th & Halsted. These all-city efforts aided hundreds of citizens and communities in need with food and PPE during the holiday season and off-holiday hours.



# William Scruggs Holiday Dinners

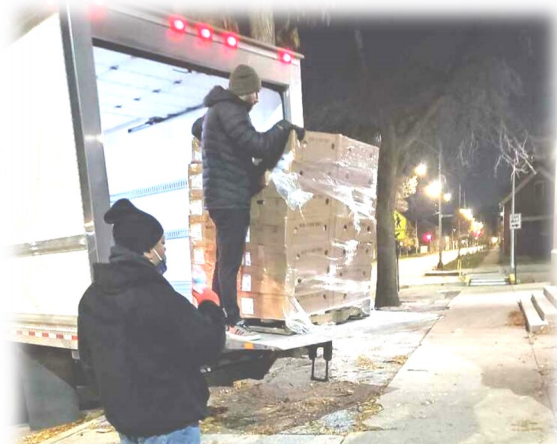
William Scruggs Military Lodge # 147 disbursed Thanksgiving baskets to the following communities of Waukegan, Park City, North Chicago, and Round Lake Park in the Lake County area. Nine families received a completed full thanksgiving meal from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of Illinois and William Scruggs Military Lodge #147. All baskets consisted of turkey's, stuffing, mashed potatoes, collard greens, green beans, corn, cranberry sauce, gravy, dinner rolls, peach cobbler, yams, and sparkling grapefruit juice.





# Union Lodge #155 Muslim Turkey Drive

Union Lodge #155 participated with the Chicago Muslim Turkey Drive for the Annual Turkey Giveaway. For over a decade, Union Lodge #155 has been blessed to participate in this amazing initiative where this year 5500 turkeys were given away to the communities of Emmett Louis Till Math and Science Academy, Fiske Elementary School, Wadsworth Elementary School, Woodlawn Community, and Carnegie Elementary School.



# Cornerstone Lodge #91 Partners with Memorial MBC



Over the course of 2020 and 2021, Cornerstone Lodge #91 has worked with the Missionary Society of Memorial Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, Illinois to aid in their mission of feeding the homeless communities across the Chicagoland area and spreading the word of God. This mission has covered every corner of the City of Chicago and has included the aid

and assistance of Princess Syene Chapter #114 Order of the Eastern Star. Over 300 bags of supplies have been delivered not only during the holiday seasons but also during off-holiday weekends throughout the entire course of the COVID-19 pandemic. This has resulted in hundreds of needy citizens obtaining sustenance for day to day needs and direction for the future. Items ranged from hot food and non-perishable food donations to mouth wash, toothbrushes, toothpaste, blankets and socks. Suits have also been provided to aid those in search of job opportunities to leave the homeless state. No session has begun without a word of prayer for direction and safety. Under the direction of Junior Warden Maurice Palmer, a partnership has since been solidified as a pathway for brethren to aid in the mission.



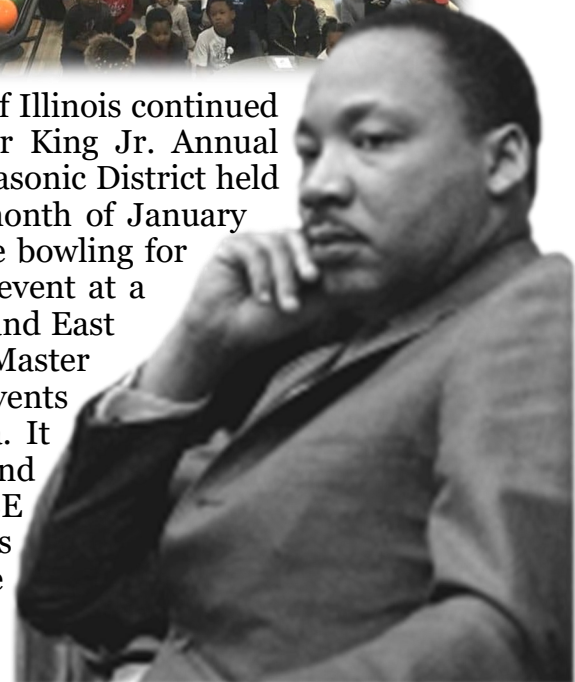
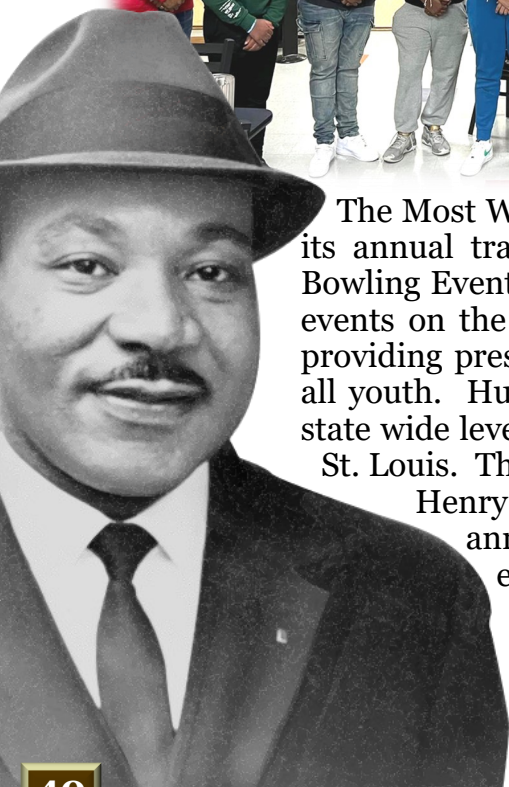


# MLK Day Bowling in Illinois



The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois continued its annual tradition in hosting the Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Bowling Event across the State of Illinois. Each Masonic District held events on the same day, simultaneously, in the month of January providing presentations on Dr. King, food and free bowling for all youth. Hundreds of youth participated in the event at a state wide level in Chicago, Rockford, Champaign and East St. Louis. This event was inspired by Past Grand Master

Henry Short whose sponsored bowling events annually for youth in the Chicago area. It extended across the state in 2018 and has been a staple ever since BECAUSE it provides details on the true efforts of Dr. King. We must continue to be the truth-tellers of our own history so that it will never be forgotten.







# Masons Sought Presidency



The State of Illinois is filled with African American firsts and achievements. While many believe that the honorable Shirley Chisholm was the first African American to deliberately seek the Office of President of the United States of America in 1972, she actually was not. That distinction is held by two Illinois Prince Hall Masons namely William T. Scott and George E. Taylor. Scott was a resident and business owner from Cairo whose activity in the social and political arenas were extensive (pictured above). The National Liberty Party, an independent party, selected Scott as its candidate for the Presidency of the United States of America. However, due to legal challenges which were later declared unfounded, he was replaced by George Edwin Taylor of Springfield. In 1904, Taylor actually received scattering votes from across the country but fell victim to the juggernaut Theodore Roosevelt.

Standard Bearer  
of  
National Liberty Party  
For President, U. S. A.  
1904

*Very Truly,  
Geo. E. Taylor.*

Notice:- The only Negro who ever made the race for President.

Scott was a member of Lincoln Lodge #5 of Cairo. He also served as Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge in 1878. Taylor held membership in Central Lodge #3.

Farewell Salute to the



# 2021—Worshipful

of Subordinate Lodges of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand



Michael Owens, #1



Anthony Bondon #3



Aaron Burns, #7



Eric Moss, #11



Henri Wright, #14



Jimmie Chatman, #18



David Haynes, #43



Randy Burnside, #44



Jerome Bryant, #52



Darryl Bedar, #59



Tyrese Stafford, #64



Dion Trotter, #68



Kendall Coleman, #98



Chas. McGee, #99



Darryl White, #100



Kevin Hayes, #102



Erik Tolbert, #103



Russell Dumas, #107

Johnny Britton, #108



Gregory Knight, #133



Thomas Wallace, #135



Joseph Williams, #137



Harvey Thompson, #139



Tommie Lidell, #142



Alan Littleton, #145

NOT PICTURED: WL Darrow #10, Keystone #15, Unity #16, JC Ellis #17, King Solomon #20, Corinthian #31, Stone City #35, Lily of Valley #56, Silver Square #62,

# Masters—2021



Lodge, Free & Accepted Masons, State of Illinois & Its Jurisdiction



Ronald Davis, #22 Erik Carthans, #23 Brian Beatty, #28 Patrick Cain, #29 Ken Wilson, #30 Dawayne Robinson, #36 Cortez Douglass, #42



Timothy Clayton, #77 Freddie Morris III, #80 Eric Bryant, #88 Neil Robinson, #90 Erik King, #91 James Moore, #94 Michael Henry, #97



Alexander Miles, #109 Robert Miner, #112 David Pugh, #116 Carl Mercherson, #119 Marcus Wheatley, #121 Lyrone Terry, #128 Harold Bray, #131



Tony Scott, #150 Verdiz Hale, #153 Andrew Harbison Jr, #154 Nathan Echols, #155 Robert Chapman, #156 Robert Woolridge, #158

Universal #65, Joppa #79, Western Star #87, Jericho #120, Pythagoras #134, True #136, AB Carter #138, Alexandria #148, New Life #151



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

**GOLF**



## **SAVE THE DATE**

***Most Worshipful Prince Hall  
Grand Lodge of Illinois***

### **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Outing**

***When:*** June 18, 2022

***Where:*** University of Illinois  
Golf Course Blue  
800 Hartwell Dr., Savoy, IL

***Time:*** 9:00 a.m. Shotgun

***Check-in:*** 7:30 a.m.

***Format:*** Foursome (scramble)  
\$600.00 per group

***Hole Sponsors:*** \$200.00

***Fees include:*** Green Fee, Cart Rental  
and Lunch

Awards will be given out

**For more information and registration:**

**Call Fred Spears @ 773-418-7589**