



Clarion

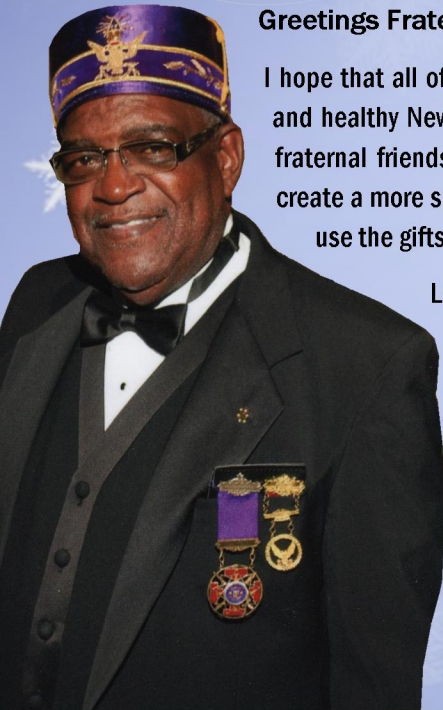
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, P.H.A. - Orient of Illinois

WINTER — 2010-2011

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY OF THE ORIENT OF ILLINOIS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Greetings Fraters and Loyal Ladies:

I hope that all of you had a blessed and happy Christmas and I wish for you a very prosperous and healthy New year. Let us resolve to strengthen our bonds of brotherly and sisterly love and fraternal friendship for the year 2011. It is my constant prayer that we become closer and create a more spiritual attitude of charity and benevolence. God will truly bless those of us who use the gifts He so graciously gives us, to bless others who are less fortunate.

Let us stop the bickering and backstabbing that goes on in every house of Masonry. We only project a bad image of ourselves and our organizations. Please remember it does not matter how high you are in Masonry or in the sisterhood. Ultimately we are all just another brother or sister.

In closing, I submit to you the following: I am so glad that God is not fair and just, because if He was, many of us would be doomed to hell. Let us be more forgiving, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone, be kind to everyone, avoid evil, give thanks, be joyful and pray continually.

**Sovereign Grand Inspector General Melvin Frierson, 33°
Deputy of the Orient of Illinois**

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ICOD Officers 2010-2011

SGIG Melvin Frierson, 33°
Most Illustrious Commander-In-Chief

SGIG Willie Lawler, 33°
First Lieutenant Commander

GIG Reinaldo Walker, 33°
Second Lieutenant Commander

GIG Millard Driskell, 33°
Grand Minister of State

GIG James Levy, 33°
Grand Minister of State Emeritus

GIG Warren Gipson, 33°
Grand Treasurer

GIG James A. Mitchell, 33°
Grand Secretary

GIG Armand Harris, 33°
Grand Master of Ceremony

GIG Davis C. James, 33°
Grand Prior

GIG Michael Fordson, 33°
Grand Captain of the Guard

GIG Tecumseh Henry, 33°
Grand Sentinel

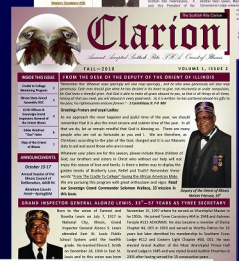
FEEDBACK FROM VOLUME ONE OF THE SCOTTISH RITE CLARION

Feedback from the first two editions of the Scottish Rite Clarion has been tremendous:

- “The first editions were great. Very professional. Congratulations to the Deputy and the Editor for implementing a great idea.” **Thanks!!!**
- “It’s good to see the new GIGs working immediately and showing respect to those of us who have been active for a long time. I was glad to see GIG Alonzo Lewis recognized and it was also a nice piece on GIG Richard Buck in Issue #1. I’d like to see this continue in future editions.” **Stay tuned. You could be next.....**
- “I never knew ‘One-Shot’ Doc Helm was the Official State Photographer for the Illinois Legislature.” **Thanks to GIG James Lanier for pushing Doc’s story and to SP Kaysee Fortenberry for the story on SGC Frank Summers in Issue #1.**
- “The center pages of Volume 1 Issue 2 were nicely done. It made our ICOD Officers and SGIGs shine. Also you should make a poster out of page 7 of Issue 2 (Valleys of the Orient). It would make a nice gift for anyone in the Orient.” **“Valleys of the Orient Poster Offer” is coming soon...**
- **CORRECTION**—GIG James Levy is Grand Minister of State Emeritus.

Feel free to forward comments, questions and suggestions to Daryl@AndrewsPress.com. Thanks in advance and we look forward to your feedback.

Daryl Andrews, 33° —Editor



United Supreme Council Mentoring Program ~ Efforts in Illinois



The Illinois Council of Deliberation, under the direction of SGIG Melvin Frierson, 33°, Deputy of the Orient, has been selected to institute the Supreme Council's "From the Cradle to College" mentoring program here in our Orient. Our initial foray into this program is being undertaken by the Valley of Chicago and Western Consistory #28 to begin mentoring high school students within the Chicago Public Schools. We have a number of volunteers to serve as mentors and we anticipate that we will be able to make positive influences into the lives of these young people and guide them toward becoming outstanding citizens in our communities.

We have a training program set up to give our volunteers some direction in becoming mentors and we can always use more volunteers to expand our input into this valuable and much needed operation. Interested fraters can contact the program coordinators, SGIG Homer Walton, 33° at 312-659-6396 or MWPM Ray Willis at 312-613-1582 for further information.

Do Your Part - Be Involved – Get Involved!!!

Retrospective: What Can You Do?



As we approach the 47th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, I'm reminded of a famous quote from him and its reflection on our Order. To paraphrase, I implore, "Ask not what Scottish Rite Masonry can do for you; ask what you can do for Scottish Rite Masonry."

In this vein, I encourage each of you to not ask, but DO what you can for our Order. Your actions will, in turn, do something for someone else and ultimately benefit you in some way. We are the masters of our individual fates and we can, through our actions, affect and influence others to a more positive outlook on our lives.

In these times of social, economic and moral dysfunction, it is up to us, as Masons, to inculcate our teachings of temperance, faith, justice and fortitude to others. So, my brethren, continue to ask yourselves, "What can I do?" Then direct yourself accordingly.

Be Well and Stay Blessed,

SGIG Homer Walton, 33°

From the Secretary's Desk

It is our sincere hope that the last Session (2010) of the Illinois Council of Deliberation was enjoyable as well as informative. As you may have noticed, the Session and Banquet under the direction of SGIG Melvin Frierson (Deputy was very timely. We will continue to improve future Sessions.



We would like to thank those of you who continue to support our "Ad Book Initiative". For those of you who have not been supportive, we hope you will support us next year.

It is imperative that each Consistory get their quarterly and annually reports into this office on time.

The Illinois Council of Deliberation encourages all Sublime Princes and Grand Inspectors General to attend its Annual Sessions.

Last but not least, we hope you and yours have an enjoyable Holiday Season.

Grand Secretary of the Illinois Council of Deliberation

James A. Mitchell, 33°

Illinois State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler



Loyal Lady Helen P. Sanders
State Loyal Lady Grand Ruler

On Saturday, October 15, 2010, the Illinois State Grand Assembly elected me to serve as State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler for the ensuing year. This title is representative of the most prestigious office any female member of the Masonic Order can hold.

I was initiated in Tyree Assembly #55 OGC, Orient of Illinois, Valley of East St. Louis over 25 years ago. The following year I was elected to Loyal Lady Secretary, a position I currently hold and serve my Assembly diligently. I am committed to Tyree #55 to inspire members at all stages of membership.

My stewardship extends beyond the Masonic organization. I am the loving wife of GIG Willie R. Sanders Sr. 33°; mother of four, grandmother of nine and great-grandmother of seven. I serve faithfully as a member of Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, where I am president of the church choir.

I look forward to a successful year abounding in love, peace and prosperity.

Loyal Lady Helen P. Sanders, State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler

2010-11 Officers

- | | |
|---|---|
| Loyal Lady Helen P. Sanders
<i>SG Loyal Lady Ruler</i> | Loyal Lady Irene Jones
<i>SG Loyal Lady Outer Guard</i> |
| Loyal Lady Paulette Brown
<i>SG Loyal Lady Associate Ruler</i> | Loyal Lady Wattine Hampton
<i>SG Loyal Lady Altar of Flame</i> |
| Loyal Lady Linda Robinson
<i>SG Loyal Lady Priestess</i> | Loyal Lady Pauline Brown
<i>SG Loyal Lady Altar of Water</i> |
| Loyal Lady Valda Whitehead
<i>SG Loyal Lady Guide</i> | Loyal Lady Dianna Caston
<i>SG Loyal Lady Photographer</i> |
| Loyal Lady Claire Walker
<i>SG Loyal Lady Secretary</i> | Loyal Lady Rochelle Reed
<i>SG Loyal Lady Assistant Secretary</i> |
| Loyal Lady Ida Robinson
<i>SG Loyal Lady Treasurer</i> | |
| Loyal Lady Barbara Washington
<i>SG Loyal Lady Herald</i> | |
| Loyal Lady Roxanne Lampkin
<i>SG Loyal Lady Standard Bearer</i> | |
| Loyal Lady Sandra Mosley
<i>SG Loyal Lady Inner Guard</i> | |



OGC Charitable Efforts

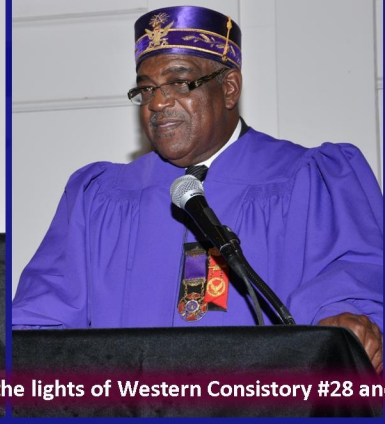
As a part of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry and its commitment to community service, the officers and members of Tyree Assembly # 55, came together to spread holiday cheer within the Valley of East St. Louis. The assembly organized a community service effort to help support the residents of the Wilford Manor Adult Living Facility in East St. Louis, Illinois. Wilford Manor is a transitional housing facility which houses adults with developmental challenges and prepares these individuals to become re-integrated into society. The assembly members worked in conjunction with site director Sandra Collier to prepare care packages for the twelve residents at the facility.



The assembly members collected and donated items which included cleaning supplies, household items, personal care items, snacks and games to help assist in providing for the needs of the center's residents during the holiday season and the start of the New Year. On Tuesday, December 14, 2010, the items were presented to Mrs. Collier, her staff and the consumers of Wilford Manor. The smiles and many expressions of thanks filled the hearts of the assembly members and left the air of "PEACE and UNITY" abounding.—Submitted by Loyal Lady Joi Haire



Illinois Council of Deliberation - 2010



MICIC Melvin Frierson, 33° is escorted into the 2010 ICOD under the lights of Western Consistory #28 and receives the Sovereign Grand Inspectors Gene...



After receiving SGIG Robert Thomas from the Orient of Indiana, SGIG Frierson gives his allocution to the all assembled in the ICOD Chamber. After receiving un...



Scottish Rite
Mason of the Year
Ray Willis, 32°



Flanked by SGIG Charles Stewart, SGIG Frierson and SGIG Thomas, SGLLR Walker and the Loyal Ladies receive the



The Loyal Ladies and SGIGs enjoy the banquet and festivities along with Grand Master Cromartie who is



2010 - Illinois State Grand Assembly

ILLINOIS COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION



... of the Orient of Illinois, SGIG Lee V. Lockwood of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, and Most Worshipful Brother Otis W. Cromartie, Grand Master.



... unanimous approval and rousing applause, SGIG Frierson leads the delegation to visit SGLLR Clarice Walker and the Loyal Ladies of the Order of the Golden Circle.



... delegation with open arms as a magnificent prelude to the ceremony of remembrance for the Fraters and Loyal Ladies who have passed away during the year.



... flanked by PGM Grisham and SGIG Lockwood.



2010 Meritorious Service Award Recipients



Sovereign Grand Inspector General Vernon



Sovereign Grand Inspector General
Dr. Vernon Bernard Williams Jr., 33^o
Sunrise: 1907 Sunset: 1997

Dr. Vernon Bernard Williams Jr. was born in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1907. During the Great Migration of African Americans from the South to the North which began around 1910, the Williams family migrated to Chicago, Illinois

along with thousands of African American families to take advantage of the new opportunities presented within the city. Vernon Sr., a widower, placed a high value on education and enrolled Vernon Jr. in the public school system in the Hyde Park and Englewood neighborhoods. It was during this period that Vernon Jr. worked to build a college tuition fund for himself. He began selling shoes at age 14 and eventually became manager of the store. He saved enough funds and pursued his education which earned him degrees in Chemistry, Social Work and Philosophy from Lewis Institute, the University of Chicago and the Institute of Drugless Therapy in London, England. His educational pursuits earned him a Doctorate Degree which opened new doors for him in the business ranks.

His success ... showed superior leadership and management skills

By the 1940s, Vernon Jr. had grown to become a prominent African-American in Chicago community. He was initiated in the Theta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity in 1935 and later became active with the Xi Lambda Alumni Chapter in Chicago. He had also become a member of Eureka Lodge #64 during the same timeframe serving as Worshipful Master in 1946 and 1947. He later became an active Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Chicago and his many merits in the Masonic Order not only

led to his elevation to the 33rd and last degree but also to the grade of Active in the United Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Jurisdiction, Prince Hall Affiliated. He, simultaneously, made strides in his business career with the Illinois Bell Telephone Company. His skill set and leadership abilities led to swift elevation within the company as he became the company's first black manager. By the mid-1960s, he entered the real estate and insurance businesses while continuing to climb Illinois Bell's managerial ladder. An ordained minister, he was also an avid social worker and community activist who worked to improve the African American Community from multiple angles. His success in all of these labors showed superior leadership and management skills as his business and social efforts were extensive.

...the only Sovereign Grand Inspector General to serve non-consecutive terms

Sovereign Grand Inspector General Williams, 33^o, served as Illustrious Deputy of the Orient of Illinois during two separate intervals. Following the election of SGIG Frank Summers, 33^o, to the Office of Lieutenant Grand Commander of the United Supreme Council, Illustrious Williams was first appointed Deputy of the Orient in 1964 and served through 1973. He was followed by Illustrious Levi H. Morris who served through 1977 during the terms of Illustrious Summers as Sovereign Grand Commander. Illustrious Williams, succeeded Illustrious Morris in 1978 and served through 1986 marking him as the only Sovereign Grand Inspector General to serve non-consecutive terms as Deputy of the Orient of Illinois.

...proclaimed Illinois the leading Orient

During his terms of office, Illustrious Williams implemented such progressive solutions in the Orient of Illinois that Past Sovereign Grand Commander Russell S. Gideon proclaimed Illinois as the leading Orient in the jurisdiction. He implemented the **Elevation Process** which required Sublime Princes to

Bernard Williams Jr.

be elevated at the Illinois Council of Deliberation sessions and authored the **Illinois Council of Deliberation Benevolent Fund**. During his second term as Deputy, the Active membership of the United Supreme Council contained eight Illinoisans which included Sovereign Grand Inspectors General Frank Summers, Levi H. Morris, Obed Vanderburg, Leon Stewart, Eddie Winifred "Doc" Helm, Reverend Dr. Rufus Starks, Henry G. Fort and Williams, himself. Overall, the fact that they represented over 13% of the Active Membership of the United Supreme Council serves as evidence that they were well respected.

...the secret to success is diligence and critical thinking

Illustrious Williams was also rewarded for stalwart Masonic service within the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois as he was elevated to the style and rank of Most Worshipful Honorary Past Grand Master in the 1980s. His efforts within the Masonic ranks are only rivaled by his civic achievements as he served on the boards of Halfway House, Beatrice Caffey Youth Services, the Chicago Area Project and University National Bank. At the time of his passing in 1997, he was, arguably, one of the most respected African American men in the State of Illinois for these labors. Nothing sums up the life and legacy of Illustrious Williams more than the words of his son, Vernon B. Williams III, after his death in 1997. "My father recognized from an early age that the secret to success is diligence and critical thinking... His life was a testament to this credo and legacy of community involvement, helping people and love." It is with these immortal words that we salute Sovereign Grand Inspector General Vernon Bernard Williams Jr. May peace be unto his ashes.

Sources of Information:

- Vernon B. Williams Jr., April 19, 1997 by John O'Brien, Chicago Tribune.
- Scottish Rite Reflections of the Orient of Illinois, G.I.G. James Rivers Thompson, 33°
- Alpha Phi Alpha Directory courtesy of S.P. Adrian Cooley, 32°



In Loving Memory of our Fallen Fraters

~ **THE GOOD** ~

By Robert J. Shores

*Our hope for eternal life in the hereafter,
does not spring from a longing for a spiritual existence,
but grows out of love for life upon this earth,
which we have tried and found good.*

The following Scottish Rite Members in the Orient of Illinois passed through the open door into life immortal during our last Masonic year:

- SP James Barnes, 32°
- SP Charles Merritts, Jr., 32°
- GIG Johnnie Bourne, 33°
- SP Charles M. Page, 32°
- GIG William C. Carman, 33°
- GIG Luther Primm, 33°
- GIG T. J. Collins, 33°
- SP Otis Reed, 32°
- GIG William Colman, 33°
- GIG Michael N. Thompson, 33°
- GIG Theodore Cook, 33°
- GIG John A. Edwards, 33°
- GIG A. D. Fuller, 33°
- SP Willie Gistover, 32°
- SP Kevin L. Harrington, 32°
- SP Bobby L. Hobbs, 32°
- SP Craig Kendall, 32°
- GIG Paul Lampkin, 33°



"But I would not have you ignorant, Brethren (Sisters), concerning them which are sleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~ QUESTIONS FOR THE CLARION ~

1. Who was the first SGIG from the Orient of Illinois to be elected to an office of the United Supreme Council of the Northern Jurisdiction? *Sovereign Grand Inspector General Richard Edwin Moore, 33° served as Lieutenant Grand Commander of the United Supreme Council from 1914 to 1922. Due to his untimely death, he was unable to succeed to the office of Sovereign Grand Commander.*
2. Why was the name of Occidental Consistory #2 of Chicago changed to Western Consistory #28 in 1915? *To eliminate confusion with the NMJ Consistory "Oriental", "Occidental" was changed to "Western" as Chicago was one of the western-most points of the Northern Jurisdiction. It was, then, renumbered with the next available number, #28, as #2 was ordered to be re-issued.*
3. We noticed that Sovereign Grand Commander Frank Summers was an icon of Kappa Alpha Psi (KAPΣ) in the first edition. Are there other links to Black Greek Letter Organizations? *The Sovereign Grand Commander, Illustrious Solomon Wallace, 33° is a member of ΩΨΦ. Many Illinois SGIGs and GIGs are also members of ΑΦΑ, ΚΑΨ, ΩΨΦ, ΦΒΣ and ΙΦΘ. Future editions may provide more insight into who's who.*
4. Who was the first Deputy of the Orient of Illinois? *Sovereign Grand Inspector General Egbert Dickerson, 33° was appointed Deputy of the Orient by Sovereign Grand Commander James Francis Rickards, 33°.*

~ SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION ~

FEBRUARY 5, 2011

Please feel free to forward articles and photographs to

Daryl@AndrewsPress.com

Thanks in advance and we look forward to your submissions.

~ "SHOOK TIME" ~

*The Michigan Commanders of the Rite—Valley of Kalamazoo
Presents the*

MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION

~ 2011 TESTIMONIAL ~

Honoring

- SGIG Samuel "JD" Shook Jr.
 - SGIG Honorable Benjamin H. Logan
 - Mrs. Ingrid Scott-Weekley, J.D.

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