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# The Scottish Rite Clarion Jarini (

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, PHA - Orient of Illinois

SPECIAL EDITION - 2011

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#### **SUBMISSIONS**

Please forward submissions to Clarion@AndrewsPress.com by

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for the Winter 2011 Edition

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- GIG Daryl Andrews, 33°, Editor
- GIG James Mitchell 330

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- GIG James Campbell,33°, #64
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- GIG Charles Holiday,33°, #28
- GIG William L. Norman,33°, #28
- GIG Reinaldo Walker, 33°, #104
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- SP Adrian Cooley,32°, #49
- SP Okey Enyia,32°, #51
- SP J.L. Vincent Jr., 32°, #104
- SGLLR Helen Sanders, #55
- LL Joi Haire, #55
- LL Claire Walker, #87

#### Officers of the Illinois Council of Deliberation



#### In Memory of Sovereign Grand Inspector General Rufus Starks, 33º

Born January 2, 1915, Rev. Dr. Rufus Starks completed his earthly assignment at the age of 96 in the comfort of his home. A long-term resident of East St. Louis, Sovereign Grand Inspector General Starks was the epitome of a civic numerous honors, whose awards and commendations serve as testimonials to the quality service he provided to the community. His efforts led to elevation in

> many organizations through which his works benevolence still have positive impacts which still resonate today.

A Man among men, he was extremely active in the Masonic ranks and community organizations. Most Worshipful Brother Starks served as the 28th **Grand Master of Prince Hall** Masons for the State of Illinois and its Jurisdiction and was an Active Member of the United Supreme Council Ancient

Accepted Scottish Rite as result

stellar service. In 1955, he was elected the charter Vice Polemarch of the East St. Louis Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. He was an active member of the NAACP, East St. Louis Teacher's Union Local 1220 and the American Federation of Teachers. He also served as a Trustee of Wiley College and Police Commissioner for the City of Centreville.

With education as his profession, Dr. Starks served many years as a teacher prior to elevation within the school district. He was a junior high school teacher, Football Coach, Assistant Principal and Principal at the junior high school and high school levels. He was not only elevated to Superintendent of Schools for East St. Louis School District 189 but also served as the East St. Louis Park District Superintendent. He was a true civic servant.

Of his great callings, Reverend Starks was also called to preach the Word of God and he worked tirelessly to meet the call An ordained minister, he served faithfully at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church in Centreville, Illinois. In this labor of love, he also worked as Chaplain of the St. Clair County Jail and as a member of Ministers United Against Human Suffering to deliver troubled souls to the ultimate Master and prevent repetition of criminal behavior. In this respect he was a champion whose legacy will forever remain in our hearts and minds.

May peace be unto his ashes.



# Deputy's Statement Regarding Mutual Respect

According to the Constitution and General Regulations of the United Supreme Council, the Deputy shall have the power in addition to presiding over the Council of Deliberation as the Most Illustrious Commander in Chief, he shall have the power to discharge all the executive, legislative and judicial powers during the recess of the Council of Deliberation, subject to the authority of the Sovereign Grand Commander. This says to me that my tenure of office should be reflective of me, my character and my system of administration. It also states that the Sovereign Grand Inspector General's in an Orient are to assist the Deputy in the performance of his duties. The Grand Inspector Generals are to assist in matters for the good of the order and the officers are to perform their duties efficiently as prescribed by law.

In relation to the first part of this paragraph it also says to me that the things you do regarding Scottish Rite Masonry in the Orient of Illinois should also be reflective of my administrative style. Of course if you disagree with me you can always grieve to the Sovereign Grand Commander, who has assured all of the Deputies that he will support them and their actions as long as they are not in violation of United Supreme Council laws or his directives or acting in a manner contrary to his administrative style. Let me apprise each of you of my leadership style, by beginning with what I don't like, believe in, practice or care to condone.

# leadership is the capacity to establish direction

I do not believe in micromanagement, a style where a manager, or person of authority becomes over involved in the details of the work of subordinates, resulting in the manager making every decision in an organization, no matter how trivial. I believe that leadership is the capacity to establish direction and to influence and align others toward a common goal (the key words here is common goal, not individual goal), motivating and committing them to action and making them responsible for their performance. In doing this we have to allow Consistories, Commanders in Chiefs and other Scottish Rite Bodies the right to conduct their meetings and to manage and control their own affairs without interference from us whether we agree or not, except in cases where they are violating the law or where they may be confused and don't understand, especially when the issue is an initiative emanating from the United Supreme Council, the Sovereign Grand

Commander, Deputy or the Council of Deliberation. Even then, my Blue House training tells me that it should be done in the most tender manner. When possible get the brother alone, give him the proper instructions, give him the opportunity to correct the situation and then encourage him. In essence, don't take over the presiding officer's meeting, in most instances if they need your assistance they will ask for it unless you have created a sense of resentment or he feels that you will speak in such ways as to overshadow him to the extent that you give the appearance that you are in charge of his meeting, with or without his approval.

I do not believe in a dictatorship, again during my tenure of office, I view us as servants and not individual tyrants with absolute supreme authority, while in some situations that may very well be the case I don't want us to flaunt it. Even in the midst of a storm, let us humble ourselves and not become obtrusive or overbearing.

#### the use of too much power is bad

I believe that the use of too much power is bad and there are several uses of power that I am pleading with you not to use:

- The power of intimidation Instilling fear
- Power of Rank or Peer The big "I" and the little you, I prefer you gain and or earn that respect.
- Power of Humiliation where we cause another person his or her loss of pride whereby they are reduced to a state of lowliness or submission. He or she has the basic human right to which all humans are entitled, freedom of expression and the right to be treated with respect and dignity.
- Power of Harassment Threatening
- Power of Bullying which is a perceived and sometimes it is a real imbalance of power with the more powerful individual or group, attacking or unjustly trying to control those who are less powerful.
- Power of Ad Homineum Personal abuse or personal attacks which involves insulting or belittling another in order to invalidate his or her argument. It can also involve pointing out the flaws or actions of a person which are irrelevant to the person's remarks or argument.

Above all, Sovereign Grand Inspector Generals, Grand Inspector Generals, Sublime Princes, let us be just, fair, respectful, compassionate, kind and supportive of each other and let us treat each and all others as we ourselves would want others to treat us.

# chief requisites of government are secured by holding the key to the hearts of men

To those of you us who have a sense of false power, I would remind you of a portion of the installation charge of a Worshipful Master. This charge should be employed in all of our dealings with our fellow brothers, regardless of the level or degree of Masonry we have attained.

"The very consciousness of the possession of a great power will ever make a generous mind cautious and gentle in its exercise. To rule has been the lot of many, and requires neither strength of intellect nor soundness of judgment; to rule WELL has been the fortune of but a few, and may well be the object of an honorable ambition. It is not by the strong arm, or the iron hand that obedience and order - the chief requisites of good government are secured, but by holding the key to the hearts of men"

Brethren, I submit to you until we start respecting each brother as a man, freeborn and of lawful age with as much to offer to this organization as we believe we do, we will continue to experience the down spiraling of this ancient and honorable institution.

#### no man is an island

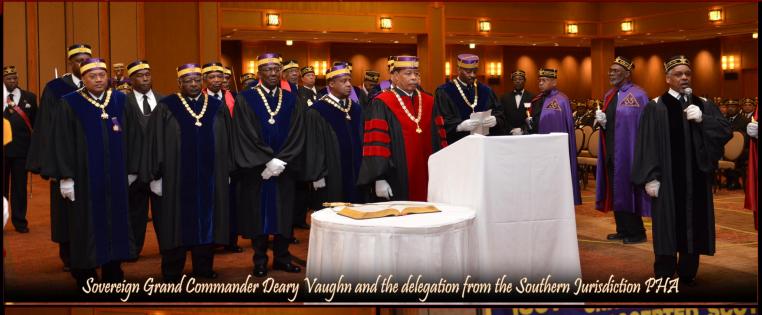
Please remember that it doesn't matter what grade, rank or office you hold, "No man is an Island". It is not about you or I, it is all about the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry.

Sovereign Grand Inspector Generals and Grand Inspector Generals I would appreciate if each of you would join me in coming up with an incentive to encourage our 32° Masons to attend our Council of Deliberation.

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



1881 One Hundred Thirtieth Annual Session 2011 United Supreme Council Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite - Northern Jurisdiction PHA











The family of the 2010 Scottish Rite Mason of the Year Grand Inspector General Ray Willis (2011 Class) A Family of Grand Inspectors General Grand Inspectors General Carl (2011 Class),
Oscar (2009 Class) and Glenn (2009 Class)



# Note to Our Loyal Ladies - "When I Look at You"

When I look at you, my face illuminates like the sun shining off of the sea ten thousand times the brightest shine that eyes did ever see. So genuine, so unique, and so graceful are you in a pose, no beauty I've seen can compare to this that I now know. My thoughts of you are in the highest from the words we've passed in time by showing me this, puts me in bliss and higher my thoughts do climb. So high that they could touch the sky and so wide that they cannot fall for to see you is to know you and that inspires me all the more. This electric sensation is a feeling that digs deep down into my soul. This vision of beauty is an inspiration in ways that have often been told. For Helen's did on that woeful night when the Trojans went to war. More died in vain and were disdained for beauty they'll see no more.

As eagles fly and snatch their prey for their appetite to be fulfilled, was Romeo snatched by Juliet's and their lives forever willed. For the love of God, of Man, of Country, and life do we all pray. For beauty has inspired me to believe that it will make its way to the mountaintop, to the pinnacle of praise that most tend to adore, to God's second and be adorned with crowns of gold as in ancient lore. That beauty seems as timeless as gold remains I cannot deny that beauty is not just a vision but complements what one can justify inside one's soul and heart and mind by will and faith it evolves. Alive, it grows and deepens into a mystery that we will, one day, solve. Limitless and overflowing, its potential flows constantly through our veins. Nevertheless, when at last we finally pass, its essence will still remain.

For the outside usually folds to the likeness of that which is within. For in your case there is no trace of difference without or within. Why, if beauty was a statue and able to stand throughout the centuries, by the riverside standing tall and ominous, high among the trees. I truly swear that it would not bear any faults or penalties, thy grace, my dear, truly declares that it bear your face, eternally.

Original note written by Daryl Andrews to his wife, Tracy





Loyal Lady Helen Sanders State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler

Loyal Lady Paulette Brown State Grand Loyal Lady Associate Ruler

Loyal Lady Linda Robinson State Grand Loyal Lady Priestess

Loyal Lady Valda Whitehead State Grand Loyal Lady Guide

Loyal Lady Linda Robinson State Grand Loyal Lady Priestess

**Loyal Lady Claire Walker** State Grand Loyal Lady Secretary

Loyal Lady Ida Robinson State Grand Loyal Lady Treasurer

Loyal Lady Barbara Washington State Grand Loyal Lady Herald

Loyal Lady Roxanne Lampkin State Grand Loyal Lady Standard Bearer

Loyal Lady Sandra Mosley State Grand Loyal Lady Inner Guard

**Loyal Lady Irene Jones** State Grand Loyal Lady Outer Guard

**Loyal Lady Wattine Hampton** State Grand Loyal Lady Altar of Flame

Loyal Lady Pauline Brown State Grand Loyal Lady Altar of Water

**Loyal Lady Dianna Caston** State Grand Loyal Lady Photographer

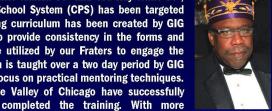
Loyal Lady Rochelle Reed State Grand Loyal Lady Asst. Secretary

# Cradle to College Program - Illinois Efforts

"Train up a child in the ways that he should go and he shall never depart from them." No truer words could have been written in the Holy Bible than these. For by these words, the Cradle to College program which was introduced by Sovereign Grand Commander Solomon Wallace 33° will prove its worth in this regard. The program is making strides in the Orient of Illinois in her current efforts to prepare volunteers for the start of the 2012 School Season. Under the

direction of SGIG Homer Walton 33° and GIG Ray Willis 33°, the Chicago Public School System (CPS) has been targeted and a mentor training curriculum has been created by GIG Charles Burns 33° to provide consistency in the forms and methods that will be utilized by our Fraters to engage the youth. The curriculum is taught over a two day period by GIG Burns who places a focus on practical mentoring techniques. Five Fraters from the Valley of Chicago have successfully

GIG Charles Burns 33



volunteers on the horizon, the Orient will be well prepared when called into action in lieu of the transition of Mayoral duties from Honorable Richard M. Daley to Rahm Emmanuel and new faces on the CPS Board. As a major focus of the new administration is education, the Orient remains hopeful that a smooth transition will occur and that the Cradle to College efforts of the Orient of Illinois will soon take flight.

#### SGLLR Honored at Golden Affair Luncheon

Peace and Unity were the order of the day at the "Golden Affair Luncheon" honoring SGLLR Helen P. Sanders held on Saturday April 30, 2011. This event was held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, Illinois. The attendees enjoyed a delectable luncheon and were entertained by the melodic voice of Mrs. Maureen William and the anointed Old Praise and Mime Ministry of Sis. Mary Ella Chatman.

The event was well attended. SGLLR Sanders was honored by the presence of RW Bro. Aubrey Barlow, 33°- Grand Junior Warden representing MW Bro. Otis W. Cromartie Sr., 33°- Grand Master of MWPHGLIL; SGIG Melvin Frierson, 33°- Illustrious Deputy of the Orient of Illinois; ICG Charles McKinley, 33°- RGCA-LOCOP; Past SGLLR's LL Rachel Carter, LL Margaret Woods and LL Clarice Walker; State Grand Assembly Officer LL Sandra Mosley; III. Sammie L. Ashford Jr. Commander in Chief of Tyree Consistory #64; LL Shirley Thomas, LLR of Tyree Assembly #55; LL Lois Whitaker, LLR of Tri-Cities Assembly #53. LL Gloria Lomas of Tri Cities #53; loving family members; close friends, members of Tyree Assembly # 55 and the Prince Hall Masonic Family of Southwestern Illinois.

The proceeds of this event will go towards the promotion of benevolence and scholarship which are causes LL Sanders holds dear to her heart. LL Helen P. Sanders, SGLLR and the SGLLR Special Effort Committee extends their heartfelt gratitude to Tyree Assembly #55 and all who supported this event especially those who travelled near and far to make it a success. To God Be the Glory,

LL Helen P. Sanders, SGLLR LL Sandra Mosley, Event Chairperson LL Joi Haire, Event Co-Chairperson

### From the Secretary's Desk

Felicitations and best wishes to the newly crowned 33º Illustrious Sirs:

- Eddie Banks, #28
- Sterling Blackmon, #92
- Gordon Brewer, #28
- Donald Cook, #104
- Paul Harris, #64
- · Larry Johnson, #91
- · Aubrey Keller, #64
- Michael Outlaw, #64
- Carl Pickett, #28
- . H.Albert Stubblefield, #28

The 94th Illinois Council of Deliberation will be held on October 14 through October 16, 2011 at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel located 701 State Street, Springfield, Illinois. Registration information will be forthcoming.

Please continue to support the Illinois Council of Deliberation Benevolent Fund by purchasing an AD or making a donation. Your donation and purchase supports our Scholarship Program.

Commander-In-Chiefs and Secretaries, please see that all reports get to the Secretary in a timely

> James A. Mitchell, 33° Secretary for the Orient of Illinois



- Vincent Sykes, #28
- · Ray Willis, #28



# Questions & Feedback for the Clarion

"I am very impressed with the caliber of those who served as Deputies of the Orient. Where do you find this info? ... I was elevated when SGIG James Gayles was the Deputy. Can we see a writeup on him?"

 Much has come from Proceedings of the MWPHGL of Illinois, history from Black Greek Letter Organizations and input from a number of Fraters. The Defender Online Archives, Ancestry.com and NewsPaperArchives.com were also researched. Research techniques were obtained from connections with the Phylaxis Society and from the late SGIG Brian L. Abrams Sr. prior to his passing. See the article on both SGIG Gayles and SGIG Abrams in this edition.

"The examples of Professor J.C. Lewis, his wife Cordelia O. Lewis and their son, Dr. Julian Lewis, provided evidence of the truth of the biblical verse which reads 'train up a child in the ways that he should go and he shall not depart from them.' Hiram Chapter picked a great namesake for their Rose Croix Chapter. What about the namesake of its Lodge of Perfection?



The namesake of Hiram's Lodge of Perfection is Past Commander-In-Chief Rev. Charles A. Bowlar. He was a prominent Mason in Southern Illinois who made great contributions to the fraternal order and to the Cairo community. In the early 1900s, Cairo became a haven for those who migrated during the Great Migration. Located at the convergence of three major rivers, Cairo, a major docking point, also experienced a high degree of racial unrest. Worshipful Master of Ionic Lodge #46 in 1915 & 1933, Bowlar was at the forefront of the civil rights movement during this time.

"May peace be unto the ashes of PSGC Algie Oldham, SGIG Rufus Starks, GIG Dave Duerson and all fallen fraters. Can a message be sent to remind everyone of the importance of creating a will? This will help to ensure that the wishes of our fallen members are understood."

"Be ye also ready, for no one knows when the Son of Man cometh....

"The Orient was busy during the Holiday Seasons. It was awesome to see the examples of charity. We need to see this in ALL upcoming editions."

We encourage the Consistories to oblige this request as charitable acts are ongoing throughout the year. Here are a few more examples from North Shore Consistory #91 of the Valley of Waukegan:







Fraters serve the Northern Illinois Community during Thanksgiving and Christmas.





# **Rest in Peace GIG Dave Duerson**

Former Chicago Bears Strong Safety, National Football League (NFL) Pro-Bowler and Superbowl Champion, Grand Inspector General David Duerson,  $33^{\circ}$  of Western Consistory #28 met his demise due to self inflicted wounds in February of this year after long fought battles with recurring injuries sustained from his years of service in the athletic arena. After

retirement, these injuries presumably had a negative effect on his quality of life which prompted many to place an increased focus on safety in athletics, particularly, on the prevention of concussions (see page 12). It is for this reason that GIG Duerson wrote "See that my brain is given to the NFL's Brain Bank." The Brain Bank is a facility established by the NFL to perform post-mortem analysis of players' brains. For by this final, self-less act by GIG Duerson, others may be saved. May peace be unto his ashes.

Source: Marc Serota/The New York Times, 2/21/2011

## Sublime Prince Carl K. Garner Grand Lodge Mason of the Year

A member of the 1998 Lewis Pinckney Class of Western Consistory #28, Sublime Prince Carl K. Garner was honored as Mason of the Year of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois on Saturday, April 23, 2011. His efforts on behalf of the Illinois Masonic Family are too

> numerous to list. However, he played critical roles in the construction and dedication of the Historical Galleries at the Grand East in June of 2010. His efforts in conjunction with those of Worshipful Brother William Alston and Grand Inspector Generals Walter Anderson, Carl Pickett and Daryl Andrews ensured that the

sections dedicated to the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite and other Concordant Bodies were installed securely. As the effort was largely self-funded, his sense of dedication to the tasks at hand were Herculean making him a likely successor to Sublime Prince Christopher Calhoun, the 2010 Mason of the Year. Congratulations!!!

> See www.mwphglil.com to see a complete list of all MWPHGL Masons of

# The Tales of Two Deputie

# By GIG Aubrey K. Barlow 33,° #49; GIG James A. M

ames Gayles was born in Marion, Alabama in the year 1930 to the late Rev. L.L. & Claudia Gayles. The family moved to Peoria, Illinois while James was at an early age and it was in this location that he was educated in the local school system and grew to manhood. He married Deloris Frye, the love of his life, and to this union was born four children. A faithful member of Ward Chapel AME Church, the NAACP, and a board member of Carver Community Center, he worked as a salvage welder at Caterpillar, Inc. for many years to support his family. His retirement in 1984 prompted a boost in his efforts in Freemasonry which led to elevations to leadership roles in all ranks.

#### Leadership ability and calm demeanor led to election as President

Having been initiated into Henry Brown Lodge #22 in Peoria on June 8, 1964, he became active in multiple Masonic Bodies. Before his retirement, he was active in the following bodies:

- Menelik Consistory #49, AASR in the Valley of Springfield—Served as Commander-n-Chief in 1967 and received the 33° in Toronto, Ontario Canada that same year;
- Henry Brown Lodge #22 of Peoria— Served as Worshipful Master of the Henry Brown Lodge for two terms in 1969 and 1970:
- Kamar Temple #56, Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine;
- Allen A. Rivers Council #65, Holy Royal Arch Masons;
- Silver Star Chapter #74, Order of the Eastern Star;
- Alpha Omega Court #70, Heroines of Jericho.

With free time on hand in the retirement age, his efforts, leadership ability and calm demeanor led to his election as President of the Downstate Brotherhood Club in the 1980s and selection as an Honorary Past Potentate of Kamar Temple #56.

#### Namesake of the 2002 United Supreme Council Class

His services as a Deputy of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois are well noted in the historical annals. It was through his leadership

abilities that he rose through the Grand Lodge ranks in the 1980s to the highest rank. He was first elected Grand Lecturer at the Grand Lodge Session in Joliet in 1983. Having faithfully executed his duties in this role, he was elected Grand Junior Warden, Grand Senior Warden and Deputy Grand Master from 1985 through 1989. He was elected as the 36th Most Worshipful Grand Master at the 1989 Grand Lodge Session in **Springfield** 

and

served through 1992.

#### Remembered for his calm nature

In the 1980s, while elevating through the ranks of the Grand Lodge, his activity within the United Supreme Council Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Northern Jurisdiction also gained notice. In 1994 he was appointed Overseer for the State of Illinois and, in 1995 he succeeded Sovereign Grand Inspector General Charles Stewart to become the new Deputy for the Orient of Illinois. SGIG Gayles served until his death in the year 2000 due



Sovereign Grand Inspector General James Gayles, 33°



# s of the Orient of Illinois

## Titchell 33,° #28 and GIG Daryl L. Andrews 33,° #28

always be remembered for his calm nature and "cool" approach. One of his favorite says was, "Ladies, you're looking good and fellas you're looking". In memory of his dedicated service, he became the namesake of the United Supreme Council Elevation Class of 2002.

# One of the nation's foremost Masonic Historians

SGIG Gayles left a legacy of leadership of service and enhanced the reputation of the Scottish Rite in the same form and fashion of his predecessors. In doing so, he

worked to ensure that the trend of success in the Orient of Illinois would continue through the erection and maintenance of strong relationships across the Orient and the United Supreme Council. As such, his successor, known as one of the nation's foremost Masonic Historians, worked to build upon that foundation and he was none other than Sovereign Grand Inspector General Brian L. Abrams Sr. of Western Consistory #28.

# Activity ...led to leadership positions in multiple bodies

Born in Chicago on December 16, 1937, Brian L. Abrams, affectionately known as "Bird", was the sixth of nine children born to Edna Marie and Milton Abrams. He served his country with pride and distinction as a member of the United States Air Force. He was married for 44 years to his high school sweetheart, Mattie W. Mason, until her untimely passing in the year 2000. Together, they had three children, Brian Jr., D'Wayne Anthony, and Kecia Cassandra Abrams, SGIG Abrams was a highly educated man with a brilliant wit. He earned his associate's degree

Kennedy
King College
in Chicago
and his

Sovereign Grand Inspector General Brian L. Abrams Sr.,33° bachelor's degree from Governors State University in University Park. His activity in the Masonic ranks was extraordinary which led to leadership positions in multiple subordinate bodies:

- Richard E. Moore Lodge #109— Served as Worshipful Master in 1979.
- Western Consistory #28, AASR;
- Tyre Chapter #25, Holy Royal Arch Masons—Past Excellent High Priest;
- Prince Hall Council #1, Royal and Select Masters—Past Thrice Illustrious Master;
- Godfrey Commandery #4, Knights Templar—Past Right Eminent Commander;
- John W. Thompson Priory #3— Past Eminent Prior;
- Arabic Temple #44, Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine—Past Potentate.

His excellence at the subordinate levels gained him elevation at the Grand Lodge level and the Grand levels of multiple houses:

- District Deputy Grand Lecturer, MWPHGL of Illinois;
- Grand Historian, MWPHGL of Illinois;
- Editor of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal, MWPHGL of Illinois;
- Honorary Past Most Excellent Grand Priest, MEPHGC HRAM;
- Honorary Past Right Eminent Grand Commander, PHGC KT

His stellar service at all levels not only earned him selection as the Mason of the Year for the Grand Lodge in 1986-87, Scottish Rite Mason of the Year in 1989 but also elevation to the 33rd and last degree of Freemasonry. By virtue of his service at the national level, he became an Active member of

(Continued on Next Page)

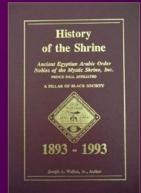


#### The Tales of Two Deputies Continued:

...the United Supreme Council and was appointed Deputy for the Orient of Illinois succeeding SGIG Gayles.

SGIG Abrams was also a member of many social, historical and civic organizations. He was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, Fraternity Inc., the Chicago Urban League; and he was also a Life Member of the NAACP. He was also a founding member of the Phylaxis Society and the Chi Rho Fraternity. The founder and first President of the Scottish Rite Research Institute of the Phylaxis Society, he was a recipient of the John G. Lewis Medal of Excellence and was elected as a Fellow of the Phylaxis Society for which there can only be 15 in the world at a time. In conjunction with the Society's founder, Joseph A. Walkes Jr., he worked diligently to contribute to many of the Masonic works that are held in high esteem among Prince Hall Masons:

- History of the Shrine (1993): Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Inc. 1893-1993 (Prince Hall Affiliated) by Joseph A. Walkes Jr.—SGIG Abrams wrote Chapter #4
- History of the United Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., Inc: 1881-1998 (1998) by Joseph A. Walkes Jr.



He was the catalyst to the formation of the Excelsior Chapter Phylaxis Society of Chicago, Illinois in 2007—the first local chapter in the State

of Illinois. Unfortunately, he was unable to see the Chapter receive its official authorization at the 2008 Annual Session of the Phylaxis Society in Fort Worth, Texas to operate.

In the Spring of 2008, SGIG Abrams went to that undiscovered country from which no traveler returns. In his honor, the name of the local Chapter of the Phylaxis Society was changed in 2008 to the Excelsior-Abrams Chapter and later changed to the Brian L. Abrams Sr. Chapter in 2009. A true Masonic scholar, he will be remembered worldwide for his labors in all branches of the Masonic Order.

The United Supreme Council granted the utmost honor to SGIG James Gayles and SGIG Brian L. Abrams Sr. making them namesakes of the 2002 and 2009 33rd Elevation Classes. This honor was commensurate with their labors and will ensure that their names live on to serve as examples for the Scottish Rite Masons of the future. They both now live in memoriam amongst several other Illinoisans whose memories we all revere, namely:

- TAYLOR-VANDERBURG CLASS OF 1988 (SGIG Obed Vanderburg)
- LEVI H. MORRIS CLASS OF 1991
- FRANK M. SUMMERS CLASS OF 1996



#### Sources:

- "A Shriner You Should Know" by Noble James A. Mitchell, 33°, Pyramid Magazine, AEAONMS
- "Most Worshipful Brother James Gayles, Past Most Worshipful Grand Master" by RW Brother Aubrey K. Barlow, 33°, GJW
- Senate Resolution R0607, 95th Illinois General Assembly, LRB095 20580 GRL 48594 r



Grand Master James Gayles presents Past Master Abrams with the Grand Lodge Mason of the Year Award in 1986



and James Gayles (Deputy) are escorted into the recognition ceremony in 1998 between the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois and the AF&AM brethren



Sovereign Grand Inspectors General Charles Stewart Sovereign Grand Inspector General James Gayles poses with the 1998 Lewis Pinckney Class of Western Consistory #28 in Chicago, Illinois. SGIG Gayles is seated in the middle of the front row flanked by the Most Wise and Perfect Master Irvin Barnes and the Commander-In-Chief Johnny Somerset. SGIG Abrams is standing on the second row and is the fifth person from the left flanked by the officers of the class

# **United Supreme Council - Illinois Council of Deliberation**



#### **UNITED SUPREME COUNCIL**

ARTICLE 111-HONORARY MEMBERS, SECTION 23, ARTICLE IV, 1977 CONSTITUTIONS

SECTION 9 STATES THE FOLLOWING:

"Every Honorary Member who fails to attend one of three consecutive meetings of the Supreme Council without an excuse from the Sovereign Grand Commander or from the Supreme Council shall automatically forfeit his Honorary Thirty-third Degree. However, upon recommendation of the Sovereign Commander, the Supreme Council may revoke such forfeiture and restore the Honorary Thirty-Third Degree to such member by a majority vote of the active membership". (Note: The law states that the Sovereign Grand Commander may excuse you, not the Deputy. You should write the Sovereign Commander with your request and send a copy of your letter to the Deputy). I strongly urge you to comply with this law with fervency and sincerity.

Consistories, you are required under penalty of law to send your quarterly reports along with the taxes and fees to the United Supreme Council in a timely manner as prescribed by law. Failure to comply with this law will surely cost your consistory some financial distress. Officers look well to your duties.

All Active, Emeriti and Honorary Members are to pay your Supreme Council dues upon receipt of your statement, please do not procrastinate. Failure to pay these dues will surely, without a doubt lead to suspension and the reduction in grade to that of the Thirty-Second Degree. The reinstatement fee is \$500.00. Do the math, which is cheaper.

Assemblies and Loyal Ladies, you are to strictly comply and adhere without deviation to the approved By-Laws, Manual and Ritual as directed by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the United Supreme Council.

### STAY FINANCIAL WITHIN YOUR CONSISTORIES

It is absolutely imperative that each of us pay our Consistory dues annually to maintain our Scottish Rite membership.

Honorary Members, if you are delinquent in your Consistory dues, I admonish you to pay them promptly. Many of you are under the assumption that if you pay your Supreme Council dues, you cannot be suspended. Nothing can be further from the truth. Consider this as a fair warning from me, you will be reduced in grade to the Thirty-Second Degree and subject to suspension. This type of behavior can no longer be tolerated. IF YOUR CONSISTORY DUES ARE DELINQUENT AND YOUR NAME IS SUBMITTED TO ME, YOU WILL BE SUSPENDED. I have no choice, it's the law. Also let me remind you that should this happen it will cost you \$500.00 to regain your Honorary membership.

At last year's Council of Deliberation Session it was voted on and approved that any Honorary member of this Orient who misses two consecutive Council of Deliberation will be charged the registration fee on the third year and each year thereafter until he attends. Request for an excused absence should be made directly to the Deputy in writing explaining the cause for such requested excuse. This rule became effective with the 2010 Council of Deliberation.

Consistory Officers it is your sworn duty to submit your annual report and such other information that may be required of you to the Grand Secretary of the Council of Deliberation and/or the Deputy. These reports must be properly completed and sent within the time allotted with no exceptions. There is no reason for not submitting these reports other than pure negligence and obstinacy on the part of the officers of your Consistory who are responsible for the completion and submission of the reports. This requirement applies also to the Annual Deputy's report forms that are sent to the Commander in Chiefs, Most Wise and Perfect Masters and Thrice Potent Masters.

THE 2011, 94TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE ILLINOIS COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION
OCTOBER 14-16, 2011
ABRAHAM LINCOLN HOTEL
SPRINGFIELD, IL

#### 94TH ANNUAL SESSION ILLINOIS COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION

The 2011, 94th Annual Session of the Illinois Council of Deliberation will convene October 14-16, 2011 at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield, IL. The following activities will be included at this year's session:

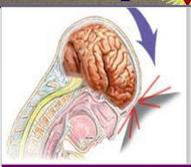
- This year on Friday October 14, 2011, we will have a Gospel Musical, featuring the Christland Singers of Chicago.
- We will be conducting the Thirty-First and Thirty-Second Degree during the Council of Deliberation.
- Joint Memorial Service, this year we are desirous of adding to our Joint Memorial Service a power point presentation of our members who passed during the past year.

I am appealing to each Most Wise and Perfect Master and Loyal Lady Ruler to submit to me an obituary with a picture of your deceased members for the year October 1, 2010 thru September 30, 2011. If you or no members of your Consistory or Assembly have a copy of the obituary, please contact the deceased member's family or the funeral home to obtain one. This is the most sacred and one of the most important and meaningful part of our Council of Deliberation. I am pleading with you to please fulfill this request. Fraters and Loyal Ladies, most of you know that I take this service very much to heart. There is no reason why we can't do this, sure it will require a small amount of time. Therefore no excuse will be acceptable. Failure to comply with this request may well speak of your concern or lack of concern for your members and will cause me to look at your Consistory/ Assembly differently.

Your Council of Deliberation is in the process of completing a Scottish Rite Leadership and Training Manual. Hopefully this Manual will be available for distribution upon approval by the Sovereign Grand Commander at this year's Council of Deliberation.

Additional information regarding the 94th Annual Council of Deliberation will be forthcoming.

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





### What are Concussions?

Submitted by Sublime Prince Okey K. Enyia, 32°, #51
Dr. James E. Walker Presidential Fellow
Source: www.MayoClinic.com/health/concussion

Your brain has the consistency of gelatin. It's cushioned from everyday jolts and bumps by the cerebrospinal fluid that it floats in, inside your skull. A violent blow to your head and neck or upper body can cause your brain to slide back and forth forcefully against the inner wall of your skull. Sudden acceleration or deceleration of the head can cause brain injury. These injuries affect brain function, usually for a brief period, resulting in signs and symptoms of concussion.

By definition, a concussion is a traumatic brain injury that alters the way your brain functions. Effects are usually temporary but can include problems with headache, concentration, memory, judgment, balance and coordination. These injuries can cause a loss of consciousness, but most do not. Because of this, some have concussions and don't realize it. They are common, particularly if you play a contact sport, such as football. But every concussion injures your brain to some extent. This injury needs time and rest to heal properly. A brain injury of this sort may even lead to bleeding in or around your brain causing symptoms, such as prolonged drowsiness and confusion, that may develop right away or even later. Potential complications include:



- Epilepsy: People who have had a concussion <u>double</u> their risk of developing epilepsy within the first 5 years after injury. Epilepsy is a disorder that results from the surges in electrical signals inside the brain, causing recurring seizures. Seizure symptoms vary. Some people with epilepsy simply stare blankly for a few seconds during a seizure, while others have full-fledged convulsions.
- Cumulative Effects: People who have had multiple concussive brain injuries over the course of their lives may acquire lasting, and even progressive, cognitive impairment that limits functional ability.
- Second Impact Syndrome: Experiencing a 2<sup>nd</sup> concussion before signs and symptoms of a 1<sup>st</sup> concussion have resolved may result in rapid and typically fatal <u>brain swelling</u>. After a concussion, the levels of brain chemicals are altered. It usually takes about a week for these levels to stabilize again. However, the time it takes to recover from a concussion is variable, and it is important for athletes never to return to sports while they're still experiencing signs and symptoms of concussion.

Rest is the best way to allow your brain to recover from a concussion. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends both physical and mental rest for children. This means avoiding general physical exertion as well as activities that require mental concentration, such as playing video games, watching TV, texting or using a computer. School workloads should also be temporarily reduced.

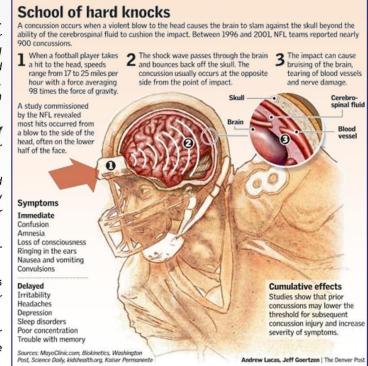
For headaches, use acetaminophen (Tylenol, others). Avoid other pain relievers such as ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin, others) and aspirin, as there's a possibility these medications may increase the risk of bleeding.

If you or your child sustained a concussion while playing competitive sports, ask your doctor or your child's doctor when it is safe to return to play. Resuming sports too soon increases the risk of a second concussion and of lasting, potentially fatal brain injury.

No one should return to play or vigorous activity while signs or symptoms of a concussion are present. Experts recommend that children and adolescents not return to play on the same day as the injury.

The following tips may help you to prevent or minimize your risk of head injury:

- Wear protective gear during sports and other recreational activities. Always use the appropriate protective gear for any sport you or your child undertakes. Make sure the equipment fits properly, is well maintained and worn correctly. Follow the rules of the game and practice good sportsmanship. When bicycling, motorcycling, snowboarding or engaging in any recreational activity that may result in head injury, wear protective headgear.
- Make your home safe. Keep your home well lit and your floors free of clutter. Falls around the home are the leading cause of head injury for infants, toddlers and older adults.
- Protect your children. To help lessen the risk of head injuries, pad countertops and edges of tables, block off stairways and install window guards. Don't let your children play sports that aren't suitable for their ages.
- Buckle your seat belt. Wearing a seat belt may prevent serious injury including an injury to your head.
- Use caution in and around swimming areas. Don't dive into water less than 9 ft (3 meters) deep. Read and follow posted safety rules at water parks and swimming pools.
- Wear sensible shoes. Wear shoes that are easy to walk and maneuver in. Avoid wearing high heels, sandals with thin straps, or shoes that are either too slippery or too sticky.







On April 30, 2011, Marquette-Joliet Consistory No. 104's Eagles Club held a Black and White Ball at the Holiday Inn Conference Center located in the Valley of Joliet, Illinois. This event was well attended by family and friends of the host Consistory and fraternal guests. Supporting this event were Marquette-Joliet Assembly #87 Order of the Golden Circle, Joliet, IL; from Toronto, Canada—Beaver Consistory #74; from Rockford—Balthasar Consistory #92; from Chicago-Western Consistory #28, and from Waukegan—North Shore Consistory #91 represented by Most Worshipful Brother Otis W. Cromartie Sr., 33°, Grand Master.

The theme for the evening was "A Positive View of Our Community". SGIG Neal Carson 33°, a staunch supporter of the event, stated of this program at its infancy stage that "It's time we do something for our community". The Grand Master stated in his closing comments"...A positive view of our community-If Marquette-Joliet Consistory can do it why can't we do it at the Grand Lodge..." What an endorsement of being on the right track of focus.

The "Little People" entertained the audience during the later portion of dinner with soulful renditions by legendary artists such as Michel Jackson, Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell to name a few. The "Little People" also showcased their talent with interactive displays of amusement. Laugher reigned throughout the room, which is a good indicator that everyone in attendance including the hotel staff enjoyed the performance.

The Eagles Club members recognized three (3) college bound High School seniors, a college freshman and an area crossing guard as recipients for this year's "Positive View of Our Community Award". The honorees were:

- Darryl A. Birge- A H.S senior who played football for St. Rita, will be attending "The School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City, South Dakota- He will be playing football as pursues a degree in Industrial Engineering. (Pictured)
- Eugene N. Butler- A freshman attending Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville in Edwardsville, Illinois. His major is Elementary Education. Eugene is a member of the first graduating class from Urban Prep Academy. A school where all the young men who graduate have been accepted to fouryear institutions. Electing to major in Elementary Education he will definitely become a role model, a mentor and a father figure to the generation that he is to heir. (Pictured)
- Shawon K. Jackson- A H.S. senior at the Math and Science Academy in Aurora, Illinois. Shawon will be attending Princeton University, in Princeton, New Jersey, as he pursues a career as a Judicial Legislator.
- Ebonee L. White- A H.S senior at Crete-Monee High School, located in Crete, IL will be attending Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois. She will be majoring in Nursing. Her occupational goal is to become a Nurse Practitioner.
- Mrs. Kathyrn Slaughter- the first recipient of the "Community Caretaker of Children Award". As a crossing guard she is the first line of defense in school safety, ensuring safe passage at an intersection within 201-U school district in University Park, Illinois. Through her dedicated service the community and the educational staff are assured that neither heat, cold, or the varying forms of precipitation will prohibit her from providing safe passage. She has also softened the hearts of many of the young people that have crossed her path at the intersection. It's funny how just saying "hello" and "have a good day" can change the lives of people young and old—in this case the young. She was escorted to this event by her grandson Cameran Giles. (Pictured)

For his dedication, SGIG Neal Carson 33° was also recognized and honored by the consistory he founded in 1983. Marquette-Joliet Consistory #104 was chartered with 64 members. He also received a special award from the Commander-in-Chief Andrew M. Griffin III 32°

Congratulations to the Marquette-Joliet Eagles club members for a job well done in putting on such a splendid event. To the honorees from the bottom of our hearts we extend our sincere congratulations as we encourage each of you to continue to pursue your dreams as you strive to reach your goals



Sublime Prince Antonio Terry.



# Commanders of the Rite Marquette-Joliet Honor GIG Alfred Snoddy, 33°

By GIG Reinaldo Walker 33°, #104 and Loyal Lady Claire Walker, #87



Pictured above: (First Row) Commander-in-Chief, Andrew Griffin, GIG Alfred Snoddy, 33°, the pastor, Reverend Kevin Williams, SGIG Neal Carson, 33°, GIG Reinaldo A. Walker, 33°, Vice President of the Commanders of the Rite; (Second Row) GIG Walter House, 33°, GIG Timothy Harris, 33°, GIG William Robinson, 33°; (Third Row) Worshipful Master of Ashby B. Carter Lodge #138, LaVell McAbee; (Fourth Row) 1st Lt. Clarence Scott; Tommy Simms, Most Wise & Perfect Master; Sublime Prince Ganges Bell,

Pictured right: Loyal Ladies Claire Walker and Carmen Griffin of Marquette-Joliet Assembly #87.

The Commanders of the Rite of Joliet annually honor one of their own by visiting the place of worship of one its stalwart members. On Sunday May 22, 2011, the Commanders of the Rite and Consistory of the Valley of Joliet once again honored one of their own, namely, GIG Alfred Snoddy, 33° by celebrating him during the worship services as Second Baptist Church in Wheaton, Illinois for their morning worship services. They were very well received by all of the members of the congregation and served as excellent examples of men affiliated with the Prince Hall Affiliated Scottish Rite.



# Fire Visits East St. Louis Hall

Fire gutted the hall of Southern Cross Lodge #112 in East St. Louis on Monday night, March 21, 2011. The home of Tyree Consistory #64 and other Concordant Bodies, the fire started at about 9:00PM according to East St. Louis Fire Chief Jason Blackmon destroying the contents of the magnificent edifice which was initially erected in the 19th century. The fire, which was discovered shortly after a meeting on Monday night, continued to burn through early Tuesday morning until the blaze was wrestled under control by the East St. Louis Fire Department. The efforts to rebuild the hall and replace regalia are underway at this time.

#### Visit www.SouthernCross112.com for more information







# Where Have All the Black People Gone?

By Sovereign Grand Inspector General Homer Walton 33º

"Black People, what y'all gonna do?" The name of a poem by what some consider the first rap group: The Last Poets, is significant in that it should be raising the question amongst the population in a very serious way. The latest census figures are showing that the Black population in major U.S. cities has fallen dramatically and this is having a tremendous impact on political, economic and social status for African-Americans. Chicago lost over 200,000 Blacks in the last decade; Washington D.C., which has been widely known as the "Chocolate City" for the last forty years, has reported a nearly 39,000 drop in its Black population. And the trend continues nationally: Atlanta losing nearly 30,000; Oakland, over 33,000; Baltimore with almost 25,000; Cleveland, over 33,000....and the list continues.

This is an alarming statistic which points to a number of factors that have contributed to these declines—the most prevalent being loss of jobs and the high costs of living in an urban environment. Combined with everrising crime rates and taxes, it is no wonder that our brothers and sisters are looking for another place to hang their hats. But is running from the urban areas really the solution to our problems? We see every day that unemployment is rising, the housing market is down, crime is up, etc. And these trends are not just occurring in our urban areas, but in all areas of our society. So what can be done to halt this "mass migration" of African Americans away from our urban areas and turning them back over to the influx of so-called regentrification reformers and the burgeoning illegal immigrant populous who are soaking up our tax dollars in ever increasing demands for social services and healthcare that appear to be dwindling for our people.

These losses will have a significant impact on the remaining Black population in the form of reductions in government representation on

local, state and federal levels. This will have a domino effect of the decline of Black business opportunities and other economic growth opportunities, thus perpetuating the exodus of Blacks. Our people have struggled for countless decades to achieve and attain prominence in our urban landscapes and it is a travesty to see the sweat and suffering of our forbearers wasted as a result of our brothers' and sisters' giving up on what we have fought for so long to attain.

The question that I raise is a simple one: "Where are you running to?" Is flight from the urban environment the answer to all of the existing problems? And what does this decrease in the urban atmosphere do to the current urban landscape? Look at Detroit - the once thriving metropolis, home to the nation's automobile industry, has been reduced to a blighted, decaying city that has become synonymous with crime, violence and hopelessness. Look at Camden, New Jersey - crime-ridden, poverty-stricken and devoid of a dream for its remaining residents. We do not have to allow our urban areas to become desolate, wasted areas or even worse, enclaves of the elitist, gentrified society that wishes to eliminate and subjugate our people to the lowest dregs of existence, a place in life where I would not wish even my worst enemy to be a part of. We must be willing to fight for the freedoms and opportunities that we are the beneficiaries of our ancestor's suffering and pain; that we have achieved with our own hard work and perseverance. For to give back all that we have brought forth, struggled for, slaved for, died for, would only be viewed as a sacrilege to the memories of all those who came before us and worked so diligently to make our lives good and wholesome.

#### References:

- Chicago Sun Times: Black Population shrinking in major cities by Haya El Nasser, March 23, 2011;
- The Washington Post: Number of Black D.C. residents plummets as majority status slips away by Carol Morello and Dan Keating, March 24, 2011;
- USA Today: Black populations fall in major cities by Haya El Nasser for USA Today March 21, 2011;
- Brookings Institute Black Migration analysis of 1990, 2000 and 2010 Decennial Censuses

### ICOD Benevolent Fund Poster Offer

The Scottish Rite Clarion has designed a poster to salute the Orient of Illinois and benefit the cause of Charity. This special 18"x24" poster is a valuable keep sake for all Fraters and Loyal Ladies as it outlines:

- 1. Valleys of the Orient
- 2. All Illinois Consistories & Assemblies
- 3. Origins of the Orient of Illinois

This poster would make an excellent gift. It can also be used as a teaching tool for schools of instruction. For <u>ONLY \$10.00</u> each plus Shipping & Handling this keepsake can be yours. You may purchase this poster directly from:

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