



THE CORNERSTONE MESSAGE

® "The Official Organ of the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F&AM of Alabama."

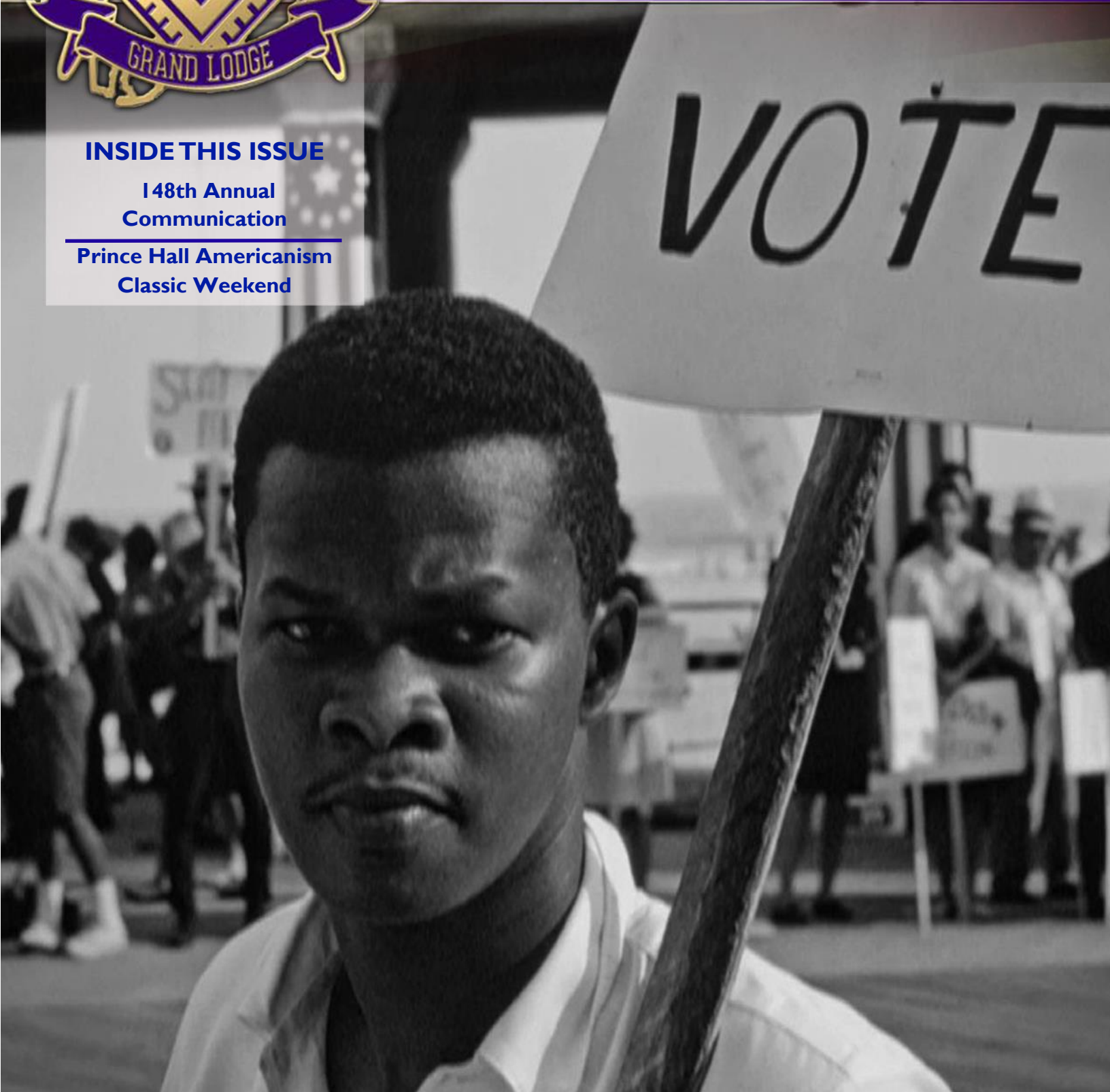
VOLUME VI, ISSUE IV

OCTOBER 2018

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148th Annual
Communication

Prince Hall Americanism
Classic Weekend



THE GRAND MASTER'S TRESTLEBOARD



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*A little **progress** everyday
adds up to big results.*
Satya Nani

Webster's Dictionary defines **progress** as a forward or on-ward movement (as to an objective or to a goal); gradual betterment. Thanks to you, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama continues to **progress** toward its goal of being the model grand lodge for all of freemasonry. We cannot stop to bask in the sunrises of success. We must continue to move forward. Let us continue to **progress**. Let us keep our eyes on the prize and stay focused. There is no doubt in my mind that this prestigious organization will continue to grow and be the best that it can be.

We enjoyed a magnificent 148th Annual Communication, in the port city of Mobile, with a steady **progression** in attendance. Our host hotels were sold out and our sessions and programs were greatly attended. While at the 148th Annual Communication we were fortunate enough to induct five brothers (three posthumously) into our Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alabama's Hall of Fame. We were also blessed to welcome to this great fraternity newly raised Master Masons referred to as the Jimmy L. Farmer Class of 2018. We congratulate those inductees and newly raised brothers. We look forward to great things from you.

In September, we celebrated our 5th Annual Prince Hall Americanism Classic Weekend on the campus of Miles College. Our Classic is **progressively** getting better each year. The enticing aroma of tailgate favorite foods was in the air. For the second consecutive year we took the field at halftime and made a check presentation to Miles College in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the Jimmy L. Farmer Scholarship.

Thanks to each of you who continue to participate in our events. Let us do all we can to encourage others to attend and participate, as well. We are moving in the right direction as we continue to **progress**. The 44th President of the United States of America, the Honorable Barack Obama, once said, "If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make **progress**."

As you read this periodical you will notice some of the great charitable work that many of our subordinate lodges are performing in their communities. I encourage all lodges to get involved. It is our duty to serve mankind.

Within a matter of days citizens will be asked to participate in the democratic process and go to the polls to cast our ballots for those candidates who have our best interests at heart or can best represent us. It is our fundamental right and our imperative duty to get out to the polls and vote. Former First Lady, Michelle Obama, once said, "You've got to vote, vote, vote, vote. That's it; that's the way we move forward. That's how we make **progress** for ourselves and for our country." Many have sacrificed their lives for us to have the fundamental right of voting. Do not take this election for granted! Exercise your right. Go vote! Let us help others who may need transportation to the polls. We should do all we can to make sure that all, who are registered to vote, actually vote. VOTE! VOTE!! VOTE!!!

As we embark upon this holiday season, let us remember the less fortunate; not only during this particular time, but at all times. *If we can help somebody, as we pass along. If we can cheer somebody, with a word or song. If we can show somebody, that he's travelling wrong. Then our living shall not be in vain.* I wish each of you a very enjoyable holiday season! May God bless you. May He bless the Jurisdiction of Alabama and may He bless the United States of America.

Faternally,

Corey D. Hawkins, Sr.

Most Worshipful Grand Master

Front Cover:

thecontributor.com

Blood on the Tea Leaves article

Published June 24, 2014



PM Herman "Jerome" Glover (50)
Publication Editor

"This program is designed to allow suspended members to reinstate for a more affordable fee."

RECLAMATION DRIVE (TARP)!



Message from the Editor

To all readers and supporters of this Official Publication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alabama entitled *The Cornerstone Message*, Greetings:

I would like to take this time to thank all the contributors of this edition of *The Cornerstone Message*. I would also like to take this opportunity to commend the Grand Lodge Staff and all subordinate lodges on a very successful 148th Annual Communication and Fifth Annual Prince Hall Americanism Classic Weekend. The Jurisdiction is moving in a positive direction while building upon the foundation that has been previously laid.

The seasons change and so should we. The daylight hours are getting shorter, the temperature is getting cooler and fall is definitely in the air. As everyone's busy summer schedules are winding down in the fall, I hope it provides opportunities for more free time for community service or activities within your local lodges to allow others to see the activities that make our organization so great.

I was recently asked a few months ago while visiting a lodge with only eleven members, "What is the best way to find new members?" While there is no wrong time to have new members join our ranks. I stated, "The best time may be in the next few

months. Does your lodge have any special events for Thanksgiving or Christmas? How about asking a friend, a relative or a co-worker that may be a prospective member to attend one of those events to show them what made you join our prestigious organization."

As always, I encourage all subordinate lodges to continue to support *The Cornerstone Message* and show all readers of this newsletter what your lodges are doing in 2018 to add to the mission of making sure Prince Hall Masonry is at the forefront in the state of Alabama.

**- PM Herman "Jerome" Glover
Publication Editor**

Reclamation Drive (TARP)

In an attempt to give suspended Brothers an opportunity to become active again during these tough economic times, our Most Worshipful Grand Master has devised a plan named TARP- Traveling Again Reclamation Program. This program is designed to allow suspended members to reinstate for a more affordable fee.

Members suspended before June, 2002, can reinstate by paying the following:

- \$20.00 reinstatement fee
- \$25.00 taxes
- \$25.00 registration
- \$50.00 assessment (Have two years to pay the remaining \$150.00)
- \$120.00 Total

Members suspended after June, 2002, can reinstate by paying the following:

- \$20.00 reinstatement fee
- \$25.00 taxes
- \$25.00 registration
- \$50.00 assessment (Have two years to pay the remaining \$200.00)
- \$120.00 Total

TARP serves a two-fold purpose: (1.) It gives suspended Brothers a more affordable means of reinstating and (2.) It gives dying lodges a final opportunity to salvage their existence by increasing their numbers before being forced to close or merge. Our Grand Master has extended a challenge for the members of this jurisdiction to go out and reclaim our lost Brothers. TARP will be in effect through July 31, 2019.

148th Annual Grand Lodge Communication

July 16th —18th 2018



The Battle House Renaissance Hotel Mobile, AL

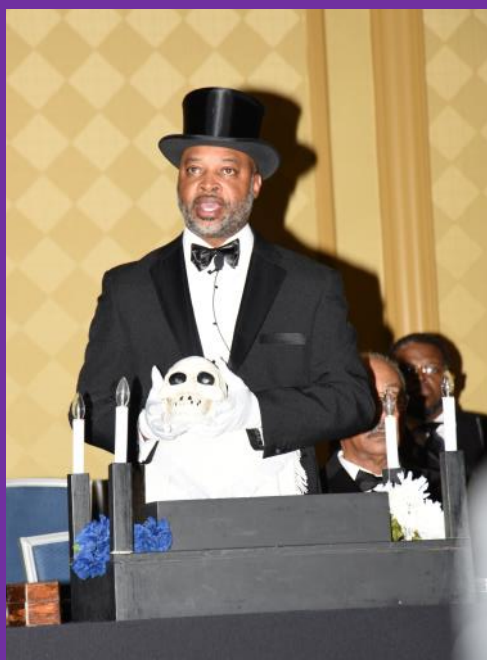


148th Annual Grand Lodge Communication Welcome Program



148th Annual Grand Lodge Communication

Lodge of Sorrow



148th Annual Grand Lodge Communication Training, Workshops & Certifications



148th Annual Grand Lodge Communication



“Hard Work Pays Off”

Congratulations to the 148th Annual Communication's Award Recipients

RURAL LODGE of the YEAR

- 1st Place - Cyrene Lodge No. 844
- 2nd Place - Morrow Grove Lodge No. 800
- 3rd Place - Goshen Lodge No. 132

CITY LODGE of the YEAR

- 1st Place - Morning Star Lodge No. 50
- 2nd Place - Hamilton Lodge No. 365
- 3rd Place (Tie) - Phoenix Lodge No. 428
Goodway Lodge No. 222

DISTRICT DEPUTY of the YEAR

- 1st Place - R. W. Walter Greene, Grand District Deputy of District No. 14
- 2nd Place - R.W. Erwin Chambliss, Grand District Deputy of District No. 7
- 3rd Place - R. W. Anthony J. Johnson, Grand District Deputy of District No. 17

TOP DISTRICTS FOR SOUVENIR JOURNAL AD SALES

- 1st Place - District No. 7
R. W. Erwin Chambliss, Grand District Deputy
- 2nd Place - District No. 5
R. W. Rickey Allen, Grand District Deputy
- 3rd Place - District No. 12
R. W. Richard Wilson, Grand District Deputy

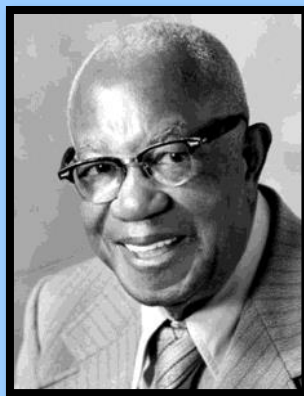
TOP LODGES FOR SOUVENIR JOURNAL AD SALES

- 1st Place - Milton W. Howze Lodge No. 408
Brother Mario Mitchell, Worshipful Master
- 2nd Place - York Lodge No. 642
Brother Charlie Square, Worshipful Master
- 3rd Place - Geometry Lodge No. 410
Brother Curtis Nelson, Worshipful Master

Congratulations
 to the
 2018 Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alabama
 Hall of Fame Inductees



Bro. Roderick B. Thomas, No. 4



Bro. A. G. Gaston, No. 104



Bro. Arthur Shores, No. 104

Posthumous Inductions

Brother Roderick B. Thomas (First Black Judge in Alabama), St. Mark No. 4
 Brother A. G. Gaston (Entrepreneur & Civil Rights Supporter), Triple Tau No. 104
 Brother Arthur Shores (Civil Rights & Grand Lodge Attorney), Triple Tau No. 104



Bro. Jonathan McPherson, No. 431



Bro. Joe Reed, Sr., No. 267

Other Inductions

Brother Jonathan McPherson (Civil Rights Advocate) Tuxedo No. 431
 Brother Joe Reed, Sr. (Political & Civil Rights Activist) Abraham No. 267

Congratulations to the Newly Passed Masters

David Jones	Olive Branch No. 1	Falonte Perry	Liberty Star No. 333
Joe Franklin	St. John No. 2	Bob Rivers	Humphrey's Pride No.344
Archibald Laud-Hammond	King Solomon No. 7	Monquelle Wigfall	Winston No. 414
Clarence Roberts	Red Cross No. 35	Keith Daniel	Phoenix No. 428
Barrington Dames	Morning Star No. 50	Johnny Bibb	Triune No. 430
Chico Chappell	Eastern Star No. 55	Byron Pyles	Pot of Manna No. 478
Thaddeus Moore	Goodwill No. 59	Randy Lawson, Sr.	Star of Zion No. 495
Quinton Coates	Lewis Adams No. 67	Phillip White	Jackson Pride No. 662
Luther Bynum	Saturn No. 80	Eugene Crow	South Griffin No. 697
Wayne McCarroll	Amazon No. 95	Clifford Barren	Cedar Grove No. 722
Jimmie Payne	Lincoln No. 99	Titus Ashley	Peterson-Bibb No. 762
Johnathan Eldridge, Jr.	Triple Tau No. 104	Joshua McConico	Millry No. 777
Danny Roberson	St. Rest/St. Stephen No. 157	Shawn Patrick	Blue Mountain No. 786
Ray Bryant	Landmark No. 199	Tony Humphries	Martin Valley No. 806
Willie Williams	Magnolia No. 218	Joel Shepherd	Pride of Lincoln No. 817
Tarius Garrett	Constella No. 246	Joe Besteda, Sr.	St. Stephens No. 846
Clifford Benson	Abraham No. 267	William Craig	Birt & Tucker No. 880
Illya Card	Loachapoka No. 292	Freddie Watson	New Hope No. 961
Thurman Griffin	Lawrence Weaver No. 316	Ron Boone	New Beginning No. 970
Gerren Whitlock, Sr.	Pride of North Birmingham No. 319		



HOLIDAY SEASON

F B S U T F U D N E T G C G P
 T E S L A U N I E R N H H N Z
 R X L M O A R R Y I R T R I M
 R E I L L R T K V G R S I S M
 Z L T R O Q A I E I M T S S V
 Y L A H Y W G C M Y S F T E S
 E G O T G S S M U C N I M R T
 Q W D V K U I H G U O G A D J
 Q F W N E N A S I Y W K S I O
 M P A W G T Z L Y P N Z D H H
 I H Q S E O T E L T S I M I N
 T S T A R E V A N G E L I S T
 W R E A T H Q U R W B U F A S
 N D E Q U Q E L L N M U T U A
 N W M K Z D C H J C G A P F K

AUTUMN

CAROLS

CHRISTMAS

DRESSING

EVANGELIST

FAMILY

FELLOWSHIP

GARLAND

GIFTS

LAUGHTER

LOVE

MISTLETOE

SNOW

STAR

ST JOHN

THANKSGIVING

TREE

TRIMMINGS

TURKEY

WREATH



54th Anniversary Selma to Montgomery Voting Rights March *'Bloody Sunday'*

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Alabama

**Invites all Brothers and Sisters of the
Jurisdiction to be a part of this
Historic re-enactment of our State's
History in the struggle for equality...**

March 3, 2019

National Participation is Expected
We will gather at 119 Washington Street
Selma, Alabama
at 11:00 a.m.

150th ANNIVERSARY

OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL
GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA

Celebration Cruise



Carnival

150th ANNIVERSARY
OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL
GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA

Celebration Cruise

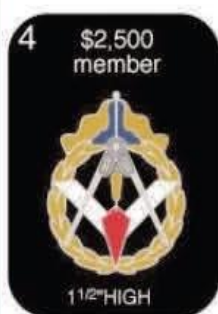
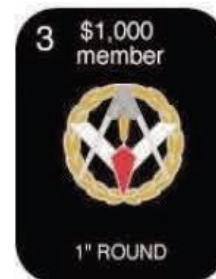
	<p>DATE</p> <p>LOCATION</p> <p>PAYMENT</p> <p>INCLUDES</p>	<p>July, 2020 (Immediately after Grand Session)</p> <p>4-Day Cruise from Mobile, AL to Cozumel, Mexico</p> <p>15-Month Payment Plan begins April 2019, Cabins start at \$454 per person (may be less depending on participation)</p> <p>All Meals, Local Ground Transportation, Lodging, On-board Entertainment</p>
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Support the Temple Renovation

Most

Worshipful Prince
Hall Grand Lodge
of Alabama Temple
Renovation Lapel
Pins are still
available for new
and existing
members upon
receipt of donation
(s). Collect up to
each level.

Display your
support
for the temple
renovation!



Support the Prince Hall Legacy Foundation of Alabama, Inc.



BY PURCHASING YOUR

ALABAMA PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE LICENSE PLATE

TODAY!!!

(We have met and exceeded our required 250 COMMITMENTS)

Tags are now being issued...

For More Information Visit :

<http://revenue.alabama.gov/motorvehicle/princehallgrandlodge.cfm>

*(You may purchase the MWPHGL of AL Tags Anytime,
You do not have to wait for your renewal Month!)*

2018 Prince Hall Americanism Football Classic Weekend

The Fifth Annual Prince Hall Americanism Classic Weekend Celebration took place in Fairfield on September 14 – 16, 2018, on the campus of Miles College.

The celebration consisted of a variety of activities and programs. The celebration began on Friday, September 14, with registration at the headquarters hotel, Comfort Inn & Suites in Bessemer, AL. Friday morning, brothers participated in the golf tournament located at the Frank House Golf Course in Bessemer. There was also a fantastic luncheon to celebrate the tournament participants that followed at 11 a.m. held at the Frank House Clubhouse.

Saturday began early for many of the brothers and sisters with the preparation of the food and other refreshments for the tailgate at Albert J. Sloan—Alumni Stadium on the campus of Miles College in Fairfield, AL. Others were busy setting up tents and arranging tables and chairs for the tailgate. The Grand Lodge was joined by individual lodges in preparing hamburgers, hot dogs and sausages with all the trimmings. The tailgate activity was attended by Honorable Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master, officers of the Grand Lodge, Grand District Deputies, and members of lodges throughout the Jurisdiction of Alabama, as well as, visiting brothers and sisters. Also attending was the Grand Worthy Matron Shirley Pratt, Grand Worthy Patron Calvin Miller, officers and members of Mizpah Grand Chapter and chapters throughout the Jurisdiction of Alabama. Following the tailgate Grand Master Hawkins, Grand Worthy Matron Pratt and other Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter Officers with over 100 brothers and sisters from throughout the Jurisdiction of Alabama proceeded on to the field to present a \$10,000.00 scholarship donation to Dr. George T. French, Jr., President of Miles College, during the half time of the football game between Miles College and Fort Valley State University.

On Sunday morning, September 16, the attendees assembled at Pearson Hall on the campus of Miles College for the formal celebration of Prince Hall Americanism Day. Brothers and Sisters from throughout the Jurisdiction of Alabama were in attendance. Brother Lathan B. Strong, Junior Warden of Morning Star Lodge No. 50 and Associate Pastor at St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, brought the message for the celebration. A brief history of Prince Hall was presented for those in attendance. Introduction of the various auxiliaries and concordant Prince Hall Masonic Bodies was done by Deputy Grand Master Robert Glenn. Comments were made by Grand Worthy Matron Shirley Pratt. The program and the Fifth Annual Prince Hall Americanism Classic Weekend Celebration was closed with comments and remarks by Deputy Grand Master Robert Glenn.

Thanks to Grand District Deputy Greene, the brothers of District 14 and the Prince Hall Legacy Foundation for their sponsorship of a very successful Fifth Annual Prince Hall Americanism Classic Weekend Celebration. We hope to see all of you back in Birmingham, AL for the Sixth Annual Prince Hall Americanism Classic Weekend Celebration on September 13-15, 2019.

PRINCE HALL AMERICANISM CLASSIC WEEKEND

Miles College Campus - Fairfield, AL



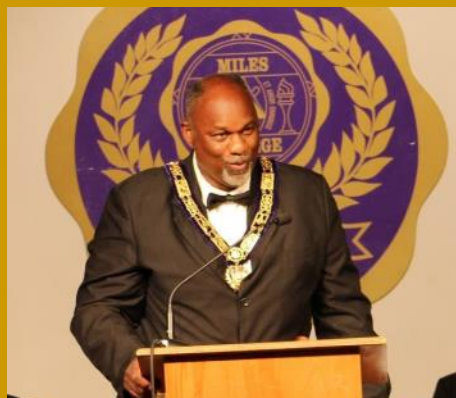
ON THE FIELD WITH THE JIMMY L. FARMER SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION



GAME DAY TAILGATE



PRINCE HALL AMERICANISM DAY CHURCH SERVICE



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>College/University</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Jordan Bailey Thomas	University of West Alabama	\$1,400.00
Jeremy Kennedy	Alabama A. & M. University	\$1,400.00
Joseph Snider	Mississippi State University	\$1,400.00
Jeremiah Jordan	Enterprise State Community College	\$1,400.00
Destiny Morris	Texas A. & M. University	\$1,400.00
Ariyan Johnson	Alabama A. & M. University	\$1,400.00
Alferia Agee	Troy University	\$1,400.00
Demetria Johnson	Lawson State Community College	\$1,400.00
Kei'Aunna Chavis	Alabama A. & M. University	\$1,400.00
Nyeshia Benson	Jacksonville State University	\$1,400.00
	Miles College	\$10,000.00
	Alabama A. & M. University	\$5,000.00
	Tuskegee University	\$5,000.00
	Alabama State University	\$5,000.00
	Stillman College	\$5,000.00
	Talladega College	\$5,000.00
	Selma University	\$5,000.00

From Whence We've Come...

Timeline of Prince Hall Freemasonry in Alabama

- 1821-1822** **1st Documented Prince Hall Mason to Visit Alabama - Richard Trotter**
- 1850's** **1st Prince Hall Masons in Alabama made in PHGL of Louisiana - Ashe, Clement, Daniels, Little, Taylor, Pollard, et. al.**
- 1866** **1st Prince Hall Masonic Lodge Chartered - Olive Branch Lodge (PHGLOH)**
- 1867** **M:.W:. Grand Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Alabama Established**



- 1870** **M:.W:. Grand Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Alabama Established**
- 1874** **M:.W:. Grand Lodge Free & Accepted Ancient York Masons of Alabama (Compact) Established**
- 1878** **M:.W:. Sovereign Grand Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Alabama - Consolidation**



- 1901** **M:.W:. Grand Lodge Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Alabama (Name Change)**
- 1910** **Grand Lodge is Incorporated**
- 1924** **The Colored Masonic Temple is erected in Birmingham, Alabama**
- 1951** **M:.W:. Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM of Alabama (Assumed Name Change to Prince Hall)**



*Contributor - RW Dr. L. Ken Collins, II
Grand Historian*

A Blast from the Past



Chas. H. Evans,
Senior Grand Warden.



James T. Gregory,
Grand Master.



Oscar Lee,
Junior Grand Warden.

Grand Officers
M. W. Grand Lodge
A. F. and A.M. of
Alabama

Elective, 1912-13



J. O. Diffay,
Grand Treasurer.



W. T. Woods,
Deputy Grand Master.



C. N. McDaniels,
Grand Secretary.

[Photos of End. Secretary, Bro. A. A. Peters and End Treasurer, Bro. R. B. Hudson are printed with their reports.—G. S.]

Message from the Grand Medical Registrar Hair Loss

Greetings Brothers, Everyone loses hair. According to the American Academy of Dermatology, the average person loses 50 to 100 hairs per day, and new hairs will grow. Men are more likely to lose their hair than women, mostly due to male pattern baldness. However, thinning hair and hair loss are also very common in women. Although many causes of hair loss are temporary, hair loss may be a sign of a more serious medical condition that needs evaluation by a dermatologist and possible treatment.

Can hair loss be hereditary?

The most common cause of hair loss is thinning or baldness, a medical condition called hereditary hair loss or androgenetic alopecia. Approximately 80 million people in the United States have hereditary hair loss, and it affects both men and women. Hair loss can be inherited from either the mother's or father's side of the family. In men, you will often see a receding hairline or bald patches, especially on top of the head. The first sign of hereditary hair loss for many women is a widening part and thinning hair. In some cases, women can see a receding hairline or bald patches.

Can medical conditions cause hair loss?

Several medical conditions can cause hair loss, including thyroid disease and anemia. People may also see hair loss following childbirth, major surgery, a high fever, or a severe infection. Ringworm of the scalp, a contagious fungal infection, is the most common form of hair loss in children. Some cancer treatments, such as radiation and chemotherapy, can cause hair loss as well. Stressful events in life, such as the death of a loved one, new job, or divorce, can cause hair loss. Alopecia areata, a type of hair loss that affects all ages, causes hair to fall out in round patches.

Can the way I style my hair lead to hair loss?

Your hairstyle and even some of the products you use on your hair can cause hair loss. Frequent bleaching, permanents, or relaxers can cause the hair to break. The high heat from frequent use of a blow dryer can boil the water in the hair shaft, leaving the hair brittle and prone to breakage. Years of wearing hairstyles that pull on the hair, such as a ponytails, cornrows, or braids, can cause a type of hair loss known as traction alopecia. Also, for many people, hair is more elastic when it is wet. Hence, if you brush or comb wet hair too hard, it breaks off more easily and appears thin.

Central centrifugal cicatricial alopecia (CCCA) is a very common cause of hair loss in women of color. Hair loss occurs primarily in the central part of the scalp and radiates outward in a circular pattern. CCCA can cause destruction of the hair follicles and scarring leading to permanent hair loss. Symptoms can vary and may include itching, burning, tingling, or pain. CCCA is thought to be caused by a combination of factors including family history and repeated use of excessive heat, chemicals, and excessive tension from braids and weaves.

Are there any treatments for hair loss?

Just as there are many causes of hair loss, there are many treatments. Dermatologists recommend treating hair loss early before you lose a lot of hair. Hair loss is harder to treat when a person has lost a significant amount of hair. Minoxidil, a foam or liquid that you apply to the scalp, was the first drug approved by the FDA for the treatment of hair loss. Finasteride, a pill you take by mouth, has also been FDA approved for the treatment of hair loss. Both have been shown to help regrow hair or slow hair loss. Hair loss caused by diseases such as thyroid disease can be reversed with treatment of the underlying disease. Topical or injectable cortisone medications have also been shown to regrow hair for certain conditions. Hair transplantation offers a permanent form of hair replacement, where existing scalp hair is surgically removed to cover bald or thinning areas. Platelet rich plasma injections may also be performed for hair loss. In many cases, hair loss does not need treatment. The hair will start to regrow on its own. In other cases, changing how you care for your hair will allow your hair to start re-growing. After correcting your hair care practices, people who continue to notice their hair thinning or shedding in large amounts after combing or brushing, should consult a dermatologist for proper diagnosis and treatment.

*Guest Contributor – Porcia Love, M.D.
Board Certified Dermatologist*

*Contributor – RW Dr. Belfondia Pou
Grand Medical Registrar*

\$ Dollars and Sense \$

Raising Money

Smart Kids: Teaching Children to Save, Share and Spend Responsibly

Kids are fascinated by how many pennies are in a dollar, or how much candy they can really buy for 75 cents. But teaching them the value of money and the importance of saving – now that's another story. Setting the right example and instilling good money management habits while kids are still young is the first step towards raising financially literate adults.

Allowance Basics: The 10-10-80 Rule

As soon as children are old enough to handle small amounts of money they should be allowed some of their own cash to manage. Once you've established the amount, frequency and guidelines of allowances in your home, sit with your children to discuss a plan for saving, sharing and spending. A good rule of thumb is the 10-10-80 allocation: 10% to savings; 10% to charity/church; and 80% to keep and/or spend.

Like many of us, most children will not be initially thrilled at the idea of saving 10% of their money. But teaching them that saving isn't what we do with money that's leftover, rather, it's what we set aside right off the top, can establish a positive money management pattern that will carry them into adulthood. If you believe in paying your child for odd jobs and chores, help him come up with income producing ideas to accomplish his goal. Not only will this help instill a lesson on the value of money, it will also make the purchased item more meaningful once it is finally obtained.

You can also teach your children about the magic of compound interest by offering to add interest to their savings for each week or month they leave it untouched. Watching their money grow will do more to motivate them than any number of lectures on the subject (saving \$5 a week at 6 percent interest compounded quarterly will total about \$266 after a year!).

Encourage your children to set aside 10% of their allowance for charity. Allow them to contribute to organizations that help families and children within your community, and also allow them to participate in food, clothing and toy drives. Be sure to track their contributions in a notebook you review at the end of the year, so they can see the many ways their generosity impacted others. Pint-size philanthropy pays off in later years by establishing a healthy attitude towards money and the many good things it can accomplish – not just purchase.

Lead by Example.

At the end of the day, children are going to learn more from what we do than what we say. Walk the talk by sticking to an established savings plan and budget; pay off debts in a timely manner; live within your budget and resist impulse shopping; give to charitable causes that are meaningful to you; help protect your family's future with adequate insurance coverage; and finally, maintain a teachable attitude yourself. Make wise money management choices that you can pass on for generations to come.

*Contributor – RW Gregory Clark
Convention Coordinator/Corporate Liaison
and Financial Planner*

Achievements

Colonel Gregory L. Clark

RW Gregory Clark, Convention Coordinator, Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alabama was recently selected and promoted to the rank of Colonel in the United States Army Reserves. COL Clark is a 29-year veteran and graduate of the United States Army Command & General Staff College. COL Clark is a highly decorated soldier and the recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal and Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal to name a few. COL Clark was selected for command by the U.S. Army in November 2013 and assumed command of the 7242nd Medical Support Unit in Gulfport, Mississippi from March 16, 2014 to May 21, 2016. COL Clark's current assignment is Chief, Mobilization Branch, G-3/5/7, United States Army Medical Command, Ft. Sam Houston, TX.



Colonel Gregory L. Clark



Brother Michael C. Ryans Selected as Hale County Schools Superintendent

The Hale County Board of Education unanimously selected Michael C. Ryans as its next superintendent. Brother Ryans is Hale County Schools first African American male superintendent. He also serves as the Junior Warden of Liberty Star Lodge No. 333 and Worthy Patron of Little Bethel Chapter No. 797, OES.

Brother Ryans attended The University of Alabama where he received a degree in Elementary Education. He also attended The University of West Alabama where he received his Master's and Educational Specialist Degrees in Education and Instructional Leadership. In 1998, Brother Ryans began his career as a third-grade teacher at Greensboro East Elementary School.

Brother Ryan's entire education career has been in the Hale County School System. He is a proud product of the Hale County School System. Brother Ryans has served as the football coach for Greensboro High School, Greensboro High School Assistant Principal, Principal of Sunshine High School, Director of Federal Programs, and Assistant Superintendent of Hale County School System before becoming Superintendent of Hale County School System. He is a member of New Jerusalem Baptist Church where he serves faithfully and is also the youth advisor. In addition, Brother Ryans is a member of the York Rite Bodies and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.



*Brother Michael Ryans
Hale County Schools Superintendent*



**Either America will
destroy ignorance or
ignorance will destroy
the United States.**

- W. E. B. Du Bois

**GO
VOTE
NO, SERIOUSLY...GO.**

In The Spotlight

Each quarter the MWPHGL of Alabama will place one of our worthy brothers In The Spotlight. The worthy brother placed In The Spotlight this quarter is:

REVEREND LATHAN B. STRONG, 33°

Lathan Bernard Strong, the son of Davidlyn Pearl Strong, was born and raised in Covington, Georgia by his devout Christian mother and grandmother and educated in the Covington Schools System. Lathan felt an early calling on his life to preach the Word of God but was unwilling to follow the prompting of God and began what he termed “a Jonah like pilgrimage” wondering aimlessly through dark territory. Following an honorable discharge, he settled in Huntsville, Alabama and enrolled at Oakwood College (now Oakwood University), initially pursuing a degree in Theology. However, his passion for educating the youth of this nation led Lathan to an undergraduate degree in Elementary Education from Oakwood College and a Master’s degree from Alabama A&M University as well as Certification in Administration.



His zeal for knowledge and equipping young people to become leaders of tomorrow, along with his open and charismatic demeanor led Lathan to a distinguished career spanning more than 15 years as a Teacher, Assistant Principal and Principal in the Huntsville City Schools System. After retiring from education, he engaged in further study in Theology at Oakwood University to help prepare him for teaching and preaching the Word of God. He re-entered the field of education recently as a 6th Grade English Instructor at the L.E. Willson Elementary School in Sheffield.

He is a proud member of the Prince Hall Family of Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama, serving as Junior Warden in Morning Star Lodge No. 50, High Priest and Prophet of Al Azhar Temple No. 195, Commander-In Chief of Tennessee Valley Consistory No.160 and Associate Patron of Mizpah Chapter No. 37 OES. He is also active in several York Rite houses. Most recently, Bro. Strong was elevated to the 33° level of Masonry. He is a Life Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated on the State and District Levels and served as Basileus of Xi Omicron Chapter for two years.

Additionally, Lathan and his family have established the “Beyond the Walls Empowerment Ministry.” It was established with Matthew 28: 18-20 as its mantra. “Beyond the Walls” follows the model of Jesus, going out into the streets, touching and impacting the lives of the sick, poor, distressed and downtrodden. The Ministry seeks to empower people -- encouraging them to advance and display their talents beyond the comfortable walls of the church. They have launched an online free conferencing prayer ministry on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. They have as one of their goals to provide dinners to at least 25 needy families during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.

Lathan was ordained as a Minister in 2015 and currently serves as the Associate Pastor and Director of the Men’s Ministry at St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church in Florence, Alabama.

Married to the lovely Tracy Strong, they are the proud parents of five children and two grandchildren and one Bull Mastiff (Isabella). They enjoy spending time together as a family, traveling, playing games, watching movies, and most especially serving in ministry to others.

REGION 1

News and Events from Region 1

Olive Branch Lodge No. 1 Donates School Supplies

On August 15, 2018, the brothers from Olive Branch Lodge No. 1 delivered thirty-five backpacks and various school supplies to Burroughs Elementary School in Theodore, AL to help the kids to start the year off. This is an annual event. Olive Branch Lodge No. 1 chooses a different school each year. Burroughs Elementary School was picked this year because one of the members of the lodge works closely with the school and knew that the school was in need of supplies.



Brothers of Olive Branch Lodge No. 1 pictured with school staff and students

Contributor – WM David Jones (No. 1)

REGION 2

News and Events from Region 2

Liberty Star Lodge No. 333 Supports Wilcox Central High School Marching Band

On Friday, August 3, 2018, the brothers of Liberty Star Lodge No. 333 of Sawyerville, Alabama in District 12 assisted the Wilcox Central High School Marching Band in feeding their band members and staff after their annual week-long band camp. The Wilcox Central High School Marching Band is under the leadership of Brother Sanchez Brown who is a member of Liberty Star Lodge No. 333. Brother Brown is in his second year serving as Director of Bands of Wilcox Central High School. Brother Brown is in his seventh-year as a Band Director and music educator. He's a graduate of The University of Alabama-Birmingham and serves as the associate minister of the Christian Chapel Baptist Church of Demopolis, Alabama where he plays the drums. He has transformed the Wilcox Central Marching Band into a competitive music program. The band has travelled throughout Alabama performing in parades, winning band competitions, and the Mardi Gras Parades in Mobile, Alabama.

The brothers of Liberty Star Lodge No. 333 under the direction of Worshipful Master Folante Perry prepared grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, grilled chicken, salad, beans, and drinks. The students and staff enjoyed the meal grilled by Brothers' Brandon Croom, Robbie Turner, and Charles Moore to celebrate their hard work in preparation for the 2018 marching season. Many of the young boys in the band asked, "How can I become a Mason one day?" This was due to the service and love Liberty Star Lodge No. 333 showed to the Marching Wildcat Band during their annual band camp.

Contributor - WM Folante Perry (No. 333)

Top: Bro. Sanchez Brown, Director of Bands at WCHS

Bottom: Members of Liberty Star Lodge No. 333 cooking for WCHS Band Camp



REGION 4

News and Events from Region 4

Hamilton Lodge No. 365 Provides Community Service

On August 3, 2018, the Brothers of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 painted all the restrooms at Chisolm Elementary School in Montgomery, Alabama. They wanted the staff and kids to have a productive upcoming school year and with the lodge painting all the bathrooms throughout the elementary school, this will be one less burden on the administration to get this done. The lodge provided all the paint and brushes to get the painting completed.



On August 12th, Hamilton Lodge No. 365 mentored the kids at Montgomery Children's Specialty Center in Montgomery. The brothers visited and spoke with each boy at the center. They spent time with each male resident and donated soap, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste. There was one particular girl who remembered the lodge members from their last visit. So, the lodge decided to bring her a personal radio for her enjoyment.

On August 25th, the brothers helped to load a truck for The Montgomery Public School System. The lodge donated two big boxes of snacks for underprivileged kids to have lunch or snacks at school. This program was designed to help those kids by keeping snacks and food available in a pantry for those kids.



On August 28th, the brothers of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 teamed up with the Montgomery Police Department to donate two boxes of food and nonperishable items to a homeless family. The boxes were filled with cookies, crackers, can goods, fruit, candy and other items. The lodge wanted to help out in a big way because giving back is what masons do and helping out in the community is what Hamilton Lodge No. 365 is known for. The lodge said that it was an honor to be called upon by the Montgomery Police Department to help somebody in need.



On September 11th, the brothers of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 and The Blueheart Foundation teamed up to donate soccer balls, basketballs, footballs, and baseballs to The Cleveland Avenue YMCA. The donation was made in an effort to allow kids the opportunity to participate in team sports and physical activities so they may learn the importance of working with others and being physically fit.

On September 15th, The Blueheart Foundation with the help of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 teamed up to have a donation drive for the Alzheimer's Walking Team known as The Purple Rangers at Fred's Super Dollar in Montgomery. Bro. Smith organized the walking team in honor of his late grandmother, Ms. Lobeila Smith, who passed away in March of 2018 from Alzheimer's. Bro. Smith felt as if it was his way to give back in the name of his grandmother by creating the team, donating funds to the Alzheimer's Association, and bringing awareness to the disease. Brother Smith thinks his grandmother would be proud of him by putting this event together in her honor.

On September 28th, Hamilton Lodge No. 365 visited the residents at Country Cottage Assisted Living.



The brothers distributed bibles, large print crossword puzzles and read bible verses to each resident at the facility. The brothers also visited Bro. Sawyer, who is a Past Master of A.A. Peters Lodge No. 900, to bring him some brotherly love and a copy of the *Cornerstone Newsletter* so that he can read up on what the Masons in the Jurisdiction of Alabama are doing. Bro. Sawyer gave the members of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 some inspirational words of wisdom to use in their everyday and masonic lives.

Contributor— Bro. Brian Smith (No. 365)

Phoenix Lodge No. 428 Hosts Annual Back to School Book Bag Drive

On September 29th, Phoenix Lodge No. 428 partnered with Mount Olive Baptist Church to assist them with their back to school initiative. Phoenix Lodge No. 428 was also assisted by the members of Camp Field Joy Chapter No. 690, OES and their support was greatly appreciated. In past endeavors Phoenix Lodge No. 428 collaborated with the American Legion to make this event possible. This year, Phoenix Lodge No. 428, chose to do something different. Mount Olive Baptist Church was adopted by Phoenix Lodge to be their partner school. The pastor of Mount Olive is Doctor Patrick Brown, a member of Phoenix Lodge No. 428.

Guest speakers were present to give the kids and parents good words of wisdom and helpful advice for the upcoming school year. Phoenix Lodge provided book bags for all the kids and assisted in the program by handing out the book bags. Refreshments were served as well. Phoenix Lodge was obliged to be a part of such a wonderful event and were honored in being able to assist these kids in starting the school year on the right track.

A famous song writer once wrote, "I believe the children are our future". Phoenix Lodge No. 428 finds that statement to be very true. That is why each year the lodge will donate time and effort to do their part in making sure that the youth in their community have the tools that they need to succeed. Annually Phoenix Lodge helps 50 or more kids in its community with school supplies such as book bags, paper, pencils, rulers, folders, etc.



Phoenix Lodge No 428

Hosts Annual Clothing Drive

On August 4, 2018, Phoenix Lodge No 428 held its Annual Clothing Drive. It is important to remember those who are in need, because one day anyone of us could be in need ourselves. Phoenix Lodge No 428 is just doing its part in making a good world better.

As everyone should already know, whenever someone thinks they have it bad, that someone else has it worst. Acting in the spirit of his philanthropic order, each brother of Phoenix Lodge No 428 cleans out their individual closet at home every year and gives their no longer worn clothing to the less fortunate. In past years Phoenix Lodge has visited homeless shelters and donated the clothing. Last year Phoenix Lodge partnered with Valley Rescue Mission to reach a broader array of people in need, and Phoenix Lodge repeated the process again this year.



Contributor - WM Keith Daniel (No. 428)



Milton W. Howze No. 408

Kicks Off Adopt-A-Mile Program

On Saturday August 11, 2018, the brothers of Milton W. Howze Lodge No. 408 picked up debris along a mile-long portion of Highway 14 West in Lee County, AL. This was the initial cleanup and is scheduled to be done once a month. This highway is a major route into the City of Auburn and Auburn University, Alabama.

Contributor – RW Erwin Chambliss (No. 408)

Bro. Alvin Howard (front center), WM Marion Mitchell (2nd row left), Bro. Lenard Davis, (2nd row center) RW Erwin Chambliss (2nd row right) and Bro. Nazeer Muhammad (center last row)



Shorter Lodge No. 533 Makes School Donations

On August 4, 2018, Shorter Lodge No. 533 attended three back to school giveaways where the lodge helped to pass out bags to the kids and made financial donations to support the local giveaways at Booker T. Washington High School, Tuskegee, AL; Wall Street Center and Tallassee City Hall. Shorter Lodge No. 533, also provided the children in the Shorter community with free book bags, supplies, food and games on August 11th, 2018 at their back to school giveaway. The lodge also adopted the 1st grade at D.C. Wolfe Elementary School in Shorter, AL where they dropped off school supplies.

On September 8th, 2018, Shorter Lodge No. 533 held a free community picnic in honor of their late brother Harold Powell, Jr. Brother Powell was an instrumental laborer in the craft who didn't mind letting his light shine in the community. In honor of all his hard work, dedication and love for the community, every year Shorter Lodge No. 533 will honor his legacy with a Harold Powell, Jr. Day.

Contributor – Bro. Joshua Anthony (No. 533)



Members of Shorter Lodge No. 533 gathered with the kids at their Back to School Giveaway.



Members of Shorter Lodge No. 533 with the mother of Harold Powell, Jr., Honorable Willie Mae Powell, Mayor of Shorter along with family and friends.

South Griffin Lodge No. 697 Attends Men's Day Program

On Sunday, September 23, 2018, the brothers of South Griffin Lodge No. 697 attended the Men's Day program at St. James Baptist Church in Cottonton, AL. The lodge was invited by Bro. Julius Henry. It was a powerful program with men from the community and surrounding churches in attendance. South Griffin Lodge No. 697 was represented by Worshipful Master Crow, Senior Warden Housey, Past Master Harrell, Past Master Dixon, Past Master Sumbry, Past Master Mack, Bro. Henry, Bro. Jordan, and Bro. Grimes.



South Griffin Lodge No. 697 Hosts Mentoring Session

On Friday September 28th, Worshipful Master Eugene Crow and Senior Warden Donald Housey of South Griffin Lodge No. 697 held a mentor session with a group of young boys at Meadowlane Elementary School in Phenix City, AL. The group of young boys had several disciplinary and academic issues in the classroom, but they were attentive and respectful in the mentor session. Worshipful Master Crow and Senior Warden Housey spoke to them about making better choices in their life and at school. They explained to the boys that it's important to have goals and to make sure their choices align with their goals. South Griffin Lodge No. 697 has sponsored multiple events at the school to encourage the young boys to perform better in the classroom.



Contributor – WM Toby Dixon (No. 697)

REGION 5

News and Events from Region 5

New Beginning Lodge No. 970 Hosts Back-to-School Rally

On Saturday, July 28, 2018, the brothers of New Beginning Lodge No. 970 along with special contributors Ms. Natasha Jones and Sis. Tracy McCall of Missionary Chapter No. 810, OES and a host of sponsors came together to host their annual back to school rally. This year's rally featured food, a live DJ, vacation give-a-ways, random prize drawings, face painting and a variety of fun family activities.



This annual event is driven by offering community aid in the form of mesh back packs filled with needed school supplies to every student that attended the rally, free of charge. Grilled hot dogs, chips and beverages were also served. The Annual Back-to-School Rally gets bigger and bigger each year, thanks to the many private and corporate sponsors and partnerships. This year's rally featured a guest appearance by Miss Pre-Teen Alabama, Zena Terry. The lodge issued out nearly 200 backpacks. "Our goal is for this event to grow each year with more sponsors, volunteers and corporate contributors. It's a joy to know that we are able to have a positive impact on our community!" stated Worshipful Master Boone.

On Sunday, July 29th, New Beginning Lodge partnered with the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alabama's Military Affairs Committee to make pantry item donations to Three Hots & A Cot Veteran's Assisted Living Home. The organization services homeless and displaced United States Armed Forces Veterans and is a pillar of the community regarding providing much needed services for those whom have valiantly served their country. Well over 200 pounds of dry goods and nonperishable food items were donated by the brothers of New Beginning and the Grand Lodge Military Affairs Committee.

Contributor- Bro. Carlos Bozeman (No. 970)



REGION 6

News and Events from Region 6

District No. 17 Conducts Summer Worshipful Masters Council Workshops

Every year, after the Annual Grand Lodge Communication, the Worshipful Masters Councils of District No. 17 conduct annual workshops. Grand District Deputy Anthony Johnson deems this as a great opportunity to recap the information that was provided during Grand Lodge Session, as well as, providing guidelines and processes as it pertains to District No. 17. The workshop for the Worshipful Masters in the Northeast Worshipful Masters Council was conducted on July 29, 2018 while the workshop for the Northwest Worshipful Masters Council was conducted on August 12, 2018. During both workshops Deputy Johnson provided presentations on various Masonic topics, as well as, fielded questions from those in attendance in particular the newly elected Worshipful Masters to ensure that they are fully equipped with the pertinent information they needed to be successful during their tenure.

The Worshipful Masters in attendance were able to share information on things that could be improved throughout the district with Deputy Johnson, as well as, the things that are going well. Deputy Johnson was also able to share information that was on his trestle board for the ensuing Masonic calendar year. Deputy Johnson highlighted the new *District Master Craftsman Competition* which will allow the lodges within the district the opportunity to demonstrate their ritualistic proficiency through friendly competition. The lodge that demonstrates the highest level of ritualistic proficiency will be recognized during the regional meeting. At the conclusion of both workshops Deputy Johnson wished the Worshipful Masters well on a successful year and informed them that he was there to provide support to them whenever called upon.

Contributor – RW Anthony Johnson



RW Anthony Johnson in workshop with Worshipful Masters in the Northeast Worshipful Masters Council



RW Anthony Johnson in workshop with Worshipful Masters in the Northwest Worshipful Masters Council

Evening Star Lodge No. 6 Hosts Annual Perry O. Ward Golf Tournament

On July 14, 2018, Evening Star Lodge No. 6 held its Annual Perry O. Ward Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament at Colonial Golf Course in Meridianville, AL. The tournament was created to raise funds for Evening Star Lodge No. 6 to support the advancement of local high school students seeking higher education through scholarship. Proceeds will also be used to support local elementary and middle schools with much needed school supplies.

The tournament format was a two-man scramble and was a big success as this year's tournament had both male and female golfers. Next year's tournament will be in June 2019. Thanks to all the committee members, as well as, all the support from the Prince Hall Affiliated Lodges and Chapters.



Evening Star Lodge No. 6 Hosts Voters Registration/ Rights Restoration Drive

On September 5th, Evening Star Lodge No. 6 teamed up with the League of Women Voters of the Tennessee Valley, along with a representative from Outreach Fellowship, to conduct a Voters Registration and Rights Restoration Drive, at Evening Star Lodge No. 6 Lodge Hall from 4-7pm. The drive not only registered voters but also consisted of: (A) Getting General Election Information Out. (B) Teaching about the Voter ID



Law. (C) How to Initiate the Process to Regain your Voting Rights. With only four hours of work, the drive was considered a success with eleven newly registered voters; two rights restored and one with application/information submitted to Montgomery to complete the process. The drive was supported by Laura Hall of the Alabama House of Representatives representing District 19, Cathy Jones representing the League of Women Voters and John Paul Taylor representing Outreach Fellowship. The attendees applauded Bro. Terrell King, Committee Chairman and Past Master James Lewis for their hard work and the other members of Evening Star Lodge No. 6 for their support.

Contributor – WM Henry Hawkins (No. 6)

Athelstine Lodge No. 71's Annual Fish Fry

On July 28, 2018, the brothers of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 held their Annual Fish Fry Fundraiser at Village View Methodist Church in Athens, AL. The members of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 arrived around 8:00 a.m. and began setting up the church fellowship hall and kitchen for their fish fry which was catered by Swamp John's Restaurants and Catering from Muscle Shoals, AL.

The menu included catfish, chicken strips and shrimp along with the usual sides of french fries, coleslaw, hush puppies and tea. It was a great time of community fellowship and eating at the fundraiser event that was also supported by other lodges in the North Alabama area. The outstanding community support shown Athelstine Lodge No. 71 helped them sell over 200 plates and give away a 32" TV at the end of the event.



All proceeds from our annual fish fry help to support Athelstine Lodge No. 71 in its endeavors of helping our community, supporting our brothers, widows and orphans and making good men better. The brothers of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 would like to thank the Athens Limestone County Community for their continued support. The brothers wish to pass on a special thanks to all Prince Hall Masonic bodies who supported their fundraiser and a special thanks to our volunteers who worked alongside the brothers of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 on this fundraising event.

Athelstine Lodge No. 71's Back-To-School Day Event

On August 26th, the members of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 supported Redus Barber Shop's Annual Back-To-School Day event. Redus Barber Shop, located at 814 Westview Ave, Athens, AL 35611, is owned and operated by one of Athelstine's own, Brother Tito Redus. The Back-To-School event was held at Lincoln-Bridgeforts Park located just across the street from Redus Barber Shop. This event is held annually just prior to the kids returning to school in Athens and Limestone County.

Athelstine Lodge No. 71 supported this Back-To-School event with a \$200.00 donation for food and school supplies. The brothers of Athelstine Lodge reported to the park to help set up and erect their lodge tent with tables and popcorn machines for the kids. They decorated their lodge tables with historical artifacts of Athelstine Lodge No. 71. The lodge was delighted to have members from Naomi Chapter No. 653, Order of the Eastern Star to participate in this event with them. The lodge did provide one petition to a potential candidate who is well known by several of the brothers in Athelstine.

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This event is a way for businesses, fraternities, churches and civil organizations to support the education of the community children through giving away school supplies, articles of clothing, free haircuts and ladies styles for children before returning to school. In addition, free burgers, hot dogs, chips, lemonade and popcorn was provided to over 200 people, from all walks of life, for over three hours.

Worshipful Master Buford Thomas stated, "I couldn't be prouder of our brothers and I'd like to thank them, especially Brother Tito Redus for sponsoring this event and allowing our lodge to participate. I'd also like to thank the members of Naomi Chapter No. 653, OES for participating with us and for their fellowship at this event. The brothers of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 look forward to giving back to our community youth again on next year."

Athelstine Lodge No. 71 Hosts Community Cookout and Election Forum

On September 22nd, the brothers of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 and the Limestone County NAACP joined forces at the Lincoln-Bridgeforth Park Tennis Court in Athens, AL to have a Community Cookout. The purpose of the cookout was to register voters, provide voter education/motivation and provide an opportunity for the community to meet the November 6, 2018, election candidates from all parties across the state.

Twelve candidates participated in the Candidate Forum portion of the event. All candidates were given time to speak to the audience and take questions from the audience. Topics ranged from education and business interests to law enforcement in the black community and district boundaries. The lodge stressed that their Prince Hall Affiliate organizations are non-partisan organizations and do not endorse candidates. Their purpose of inviting candidates was to give the Athens-Limestone County Community a platform to hear from candidates from all parties, ask questions and interact with local and state-wide candidates. Attendees who were not registered to vote were also given the opportunity to register, some completed absentee ballot requests, and turned in absentee ballots for mail in.

The food was grilled by the brothers of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 and served by the members of Naomi Chapter No. 653, OES. This was a great event of brothers and sisters working together for their community. Athelstine Lodge had over 100 citizens of Athens-Limestone County to attend and served all of them hotdogs, hamburgers, chips and sodas.

Athelstine Lodge No. 71 understands the importance of the crucial November election and is encouraging the full participation of the entire Limestone County Community in this election as they focus on registration, education, and participation.

Contributor – WM Buford Thomas (No. 71)



Temple Lodge No. 98

Church Visitations

This summer, the brothers of Temple Lodge No. 98 put extra emphasis on worshipful fellowship by visiting two local churches during their annual Men's Day programs. The visits allowed the brothers of the Lodge to feel closer to each other and closer to God.

In July, Temple Lodge No. 98 visited Douglas Tabernacle Primitive Baptist Church of Christ, where Past Master Tyrone Harris is a member. The speaker was Elder Robert Rogers, Jr., who is the son of the Pastor, Elder Robert Rogers, Sr. The message he delivered was titled "Next Man Up" which focused on the text coming from *Joshua 1:1-2, and 5* reminding men that the work of God is not done until His second coming and that man must be ready to be called upon to pick up the mantle when He commands them.

In August, Temple Lodge No. 98 visited Beaver Dam Primitive Baptist Church where Worshipful Master Richard Fletcher is a member. The guest speaker was Brother Ronnie Patton and his sermon was titled "Men Working Together in the Name of Jesus". In this sermon, men were charged to recognize that God has installed leadership in them and that they are held to certain standards in their lives and as head of household. The sermon reminded men that they are still human and can make mistakes which is why they should lean on the Lord for constant understanding, guidance, and forgiveness.

Temple Lodge was spiritually reinvigorated to start tackling the upcoming Masonic year and to seek the Grand Architect's council and to pay attention to His trestle board for their instruction in the Lodge and in their lives.



Members of Temple Lodge No. 98 at Douglas Tabernacle Primitive Baptist Church of Christ



Members of Temple Lodge No. 98 at Beaver Dam Primitive Baptist Church

Temple Lodge No. 98 Hosts Annual “End-of-Summer/Back-to-School” Picnic



With the end of summer approaching, parents have been mindful that the upcoming school season is rapidly approaching. With this thought in mind, parents, as well as, Temple Lodge No. 98 and Twilight Chapter No. 788, OES are preparing to get students ready for school. Temple Lodge and Twilight Chapter's planning committee decided to expand their traditional "End of Summer Picnic" to include a "Back-to-School" effort to benefit the Merrick Community in Huntsville, Alabama. Because of this rebranding, not only was food and games provided for the families at the picnic, but book bags, as well.

In this joint effort, Temple Lodge and Twilight Chapter provided fifty book bags filled with needed school supplies; including paper, pencils, pens and other assorted school necessities. Over 120 community members were served food at the event. Huntsville City Councilman

Bill Kling was in attendance along with Grand District Deputy Johnson. Both gave glowing accolades at the event. They also were very pleased with the generous donations and the outpouring of love for the community provided by Temple Lodge No. 98 and Twilight Chapter No. 788, OES.

Top Pic: Some of the participants with their backpacks filled with school supplies

Middle Pic L to R: PM Langford, Huntsville City Councilman Bill Kling, Sis. Betty Hodges, Bro. Cooney & WM Fletcher

Bottom: Group picture with members of Temple Lodge No. 98 and Twilight Chapter No. 788, OES, with GDD Anthony Johnson

Contributor – Bro. Malcolm Jessup, Jr. (No. 98)

Leadership and Wisdom Build Momentum at Lincoln Lodge No. 99

“Is this a joke?” Brother Jimmy L. Payne asked, as he was about to be installed as Worshipful Master. The Craft laughed and reaffirmed that his leadership and wisdom would be their guide for the next twelve months.

Now, with all jokes aside, Bro. Payne has approached his leadership role with a very interesting and exciting agenda. He’s been actively listening and observing while putting together a strategy in keeping the only Prince Hall Lodge in the City of Madison as one of the most influential and prominent lodges in District 17.

Whether enjoying his favorite dishes ranging from hot wings or something foreign to a southern fried catfish dinner, Bro. Payne is scheduling good meals and talking with each brother to learn every individual perspective that will be the makeup of a lodge whose history shows a readiness to change directions when necessary. Ironically, for many years, Bro. Payne was the cook who catered to the craft after every regular stated communication upon which many celebratory decisions and pressing debates rested on the partaking of his prepared buffets.

“For Bro. Payne to now serve as WM is going to be a key milestone to greater things happening,” said Senior Warden Anthony Williams. “He’s got a network of associates and supporters that will keep us from being a lodge that goes into isolation.”



WM Jimmy Payne and member of Lincoln Lodge No. 99 make a monetary donation along with canned and dry good items to the Huntsville Downtown Rescue Mission

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Bro. Payne serves on the Executive Board of the Huntsville-Madison County branch of the NAACP and is a member of other organizations including R.E. Nelms Elks Lodge, The Fraternal Club, Pershing Rifles Fraternity, J.E. Harris 33rd Club, and Al Azhar Shrine Temple No. 195. How and where he has spent his time in the past is now his recipe for leading Lincoln Lodge No. 99 to accomplish major achievements. His first agenda has been an ongoing initiative in bringing all the brethren back under one umbrella of camaraderie. He's enforcing the democratic process for all active members to participate in selecting qualified candidates to have membership or an officer's seat in the Lodge.

"Our Lodge is capable of making anything happen," Junior Warden Damont Hewlett said, after coordinating a successful Boston Butt Sale in September. "We are very serious about everything we do in our Lodge, and WM Jimmy Payne is teaching us that harmony and fun times should always be at the core of our mission."

WM Payne agreed that it requires a calendar of activities and events filled with food, fun and the right entertainment to attract participation from members, donors, and supporters. WM Payne hopes that each member of the lodge will present an idea for creating newer ways to host fundraisers. The brothers are now in the huddle pondering the next adventure after another. The solidarity beheld in freemasonry is evident throughout the lodge. Worshipful Master Jimmy Payne has seized the opportunity as a leader being called into action.

"I guess I've done something significant enough to be nominated and elected as Worshipful Master," said WM Payne. "I'm amazed at the phone calls and emails from so many brothers who are ready to get to work. But I'm more thankful to see smiles on the faces of these men who are contributing their time and efforts at helping Lincoln Lodge No. 99 fulfill its obligations to our society. I couldn't have asked to be set up for a successful journey any better than how the craft has embraced me."

Contributor – Bro. James Sandefur, III (No. 99)



Members of Lincoln Lodge No. 99 painting the wheelchair ramp for the father of PM Frank Langford



Lincoln Lodge No. 99 set up and prepare for their Annual Boston Butt Sale during Labor Day Weekend



Members of Lincoln Lodge No. 99 during their cleanup of the Park at Pension Row now adopted by Lincoln Lodge No. 99

Red Cross Lodge No. 35 Hosts Annual Scholarship Fundraiser



Members of Red Cross Lodge No. 35 at their Annual Scholarship Fish Fry Fundraiser

On Saturday, August 25, 2018, Red Cross Lodge No. 35 held its Annual Scholarship Fish Fry Fundraiser at The House of Alpha Complex in Huntsville, AL. This event is held every year to honor a high school senior who is a participant with the Alabama Agriculture and Mechanical University (AAMU) Upward Bound Program. The scholarship is given to deserving students who have a financial need and meet the necessary requirements to receive the scholarship award.

Contributor- Bro. Christopher Garner (No. 35)

Eagle Lodge No. 97 Hosts Annual Back-to-School Book Bag Giveaway

On August 5, 2018, the brothers of Eagle Lodge No. 97 in New Market, AL partnered with Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church for their Annual Back-to-School Book Bag Giveaway. The brothers donated funds to purchase both book bags and school supplies. The outreach benefited low-income families of elementary and middle school students in the New Market Community that may be struggling to afford back-to-school supplies. Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church continues to touch the community of New Market by letting its light shine. Christ is blessing people and the brothers of Eagle Lodge No. 97 are proud to be His instruments. The event was a success and the lodge received thanks from both the congregation of Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church and the residents of New Market.



Contributor - WM Alfred L. Mathews (No. 97)

WM Alfred Mathews making donation to Youth Pastor

Goodway Lodge No. 222

Supporting its Community

Only July 23, 2018, the brothers of Goodway Lodge No. 222 participated in the Sparkman Homes Boys and Girls Club's annual back to school book bag drive. The Brothers of Goodway donated 100 book bags to the event, as well as, essential school supplies such as pencils, pens, notebooks and glue sticks. The brothers had a great time interacting with the kids, as well as, the faculty of the Boys and Girls club.

On August 25th, the brothers of Goodway Lodge No. 222 made an initial donation to the Jemison High School "Students-in-need" pantry, located in Huntsville AL. Jemison High School has approximately 100 students that are homeless and/or living below the poverty line. The "Students-in-need" pantry was created to provide some essential supplies to those students in need. The Brothers of Goodway donated sanitary napkins, lotion, cleaning wipes, tights, toothpaste and toothbrushes. The brothers plan to make quarterly donations, as well as, solicit donations from individuals throughout the community to ensure the pantry is stocked throughout the school year.

Contributor – WM Jarvis L. Noel (No. 222)



Top Picture: WM Jarvis L. Noel, Bro. Sam Greene and Bro. Jerome Sandifer posing for a picture with some of the kids after receiving their book bags.

Middle Picture: WM Jarvis L. Noel posing for a picture with Felichia Sullivan, co-sponsor of the book bag drive.

Left Picture: Brothers of Goodway posing with the Assistant Principals of Jemison High and the items donated



Obituaries

Brothers Called Home by the Grand Architect

Brother Willie Cummings, Jr., Age 81, Birmingham, AL, passed away peacefully on September 11, 2018 surrounded by his loving family, Masonic family and friends. He was born to Annie Gray Thomas and Willie Cummings, Sr. in Townley, Alabama. He was the oldest of 12 children. He confessed Christ at an early age and served as a dedicated and faithful member of Lively Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Pratt City, until his death, where he served on the Deacon Board, Superintendent Emeritus of the Sunday School, President of the Usher Board and Trustee Board. He was a graduate of Walker County Trade School. He served in the United States Army and retired from US Steel after over 30 years of service. In 1966, he met and married the love of his life, Louvenia Brown Cummings, with whom he shared a loving union for over 51 years and 11 months. He had a passion for guiding, mentoring and giving unselfishly to others.

He was a member of the Masonic Order, Ruth Lodge No. 33, Omega No. 65 Royal Arch Masons, Central Alabama Council No. 1 Royal Select Masters, Persia Commandry No. 2, Khedive Temple No. 16, Red Cross Consistory No. 2A, United Supreme Council Grand Inspector General, Patron of Carrie & Gloria Truth Seeker No. 896, Advisor of Bush Utopia No. 32 Cyrene Crusaders, Advisor of Khedive Court No. 46 and Past Most Royal Advisor of the International Cyrene Crusaders. He was preceded in death by his father, mother and son (Robert Cummings). He leaves to cherish his memory his wonderful, faithful and supportive wife until the end, Louvenia Brown Cummings, three daughters, LaQuita C. Hall (Trent) of Dallas, TX, Yolanda J. Royal (Roderick) of Birmingham, AL, Dorothy Quinn of Birmingham, AL; five sisters, six brothers, seven grandchildren, one great grandchild and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, godchildren, friends and the Masonic Order.



Brother Willie Cummings, Jr.

July 30 - August 3, 2020 (Immediately following Grand Lodge Session)

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Article Submission Guidelines

The Cornerstone Message accepts submissions of articles, flyers, and information of events of general interest to Prince Hall Masons throughout the state of Alabama. The *Cornerstone Message* is published quarterly in the months of April, July, October, and January. Submission of articles and photographs are to be forwarded to the publication's editor via email (hjeromeglover@yahoo.com). Please include a point of contact and telephone number with each article submission. Articles and photographs become property of the publication and the right is reserved to edit and use the articles and photographs as deemed necessary. **Deadline for sub-missions for the next issue of *The Cornerstone Message* is 10 January 2019.** These articles should include events from **October 2018—December 2018**. Articles are to be submitted with a minimum of one paragraph written in third person using Microsoft Word (Times New Roman 11) and photographs should be of good quality JPEG format and captioned. No more than two articles per lodge can be submitted for each edition. Permission to reprint original articles appearing in *The Cornerstone Message* is granted to all recognized Masonic publications.

THE CORNERSTONE MESSAGE



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