



THE CORNERSTONE

M E S S A G E

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

VOLUME VIII, ISSUE I

JANUARY 2020

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Information on the 150th
Annual Communication

2020 Regional
Meeting Dates

William Hooper Council
Wreath Laying Ceremony



SPREADING JOY

THE GRAND MASTER'S TRESTLEBOARD



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*"You've climbed too many mountains
and crossed too many rivers to stop
and turn back now."*

Eleanor Brownn

Mobile, by the releasing of our history book and by embarking upon our cruise to Cozumel, Mexico.

2020 is also very important because it is an election year, as well as, the year of the United States Census. It is incumbent upon us, as citizens of this great country, to participate in both the electoral process and the census. It is our civic duty. We must play a role in the election of the President of the United States, as well as, other elected offices. Your vote counts! The distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants and support to the states, counties and communities are based on census data. The results of the census are also used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets. Also, after each decade's census, state officials redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in their states to account for population shifts.

Public speaker, author, counselor, educator and workshop leader, Eleanor Brownn, once said, "You've climbed too many mountains and crossed too many rivers to stop and turn back now." For 150 years this Grand Lodge has traversed the good and the not so good. This Grand Lodge has continued to be a beacon of light for all mankind. Now it is our duty, our obligation, our charge to protect and nurture our inheritance. We must ensure that we can pass the baton of the Grand Lodge to the next generation in a condition that they can be proud of. We must not stop and turn back now! Long live the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Alabama!

May God Almighty continue to pour His many blessings down upon us all and may he continue to bless the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Alabama.

Thank God for our past. Praise God for our present. Trust God for our future.

Faternally,

Corey D. Hawkins, Sr.

Most Worshipful Grand Master

Front Cover:

W.M. Derric Baker pictured with Miss Kaydence Shaver



RW 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:

As this edition closes out the year, I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Grand Lodge and all subordinate lodges for a very successful 2019. Your good works for 2019 have been displayed for all to see through the use of *The Cornerstone Message*. I hope that 2019 left you with fond memories, the satisfaction of deeds well done and success in all your endeavors.

As we transition into 2020,

we have a challenging but exciting year coming up for us all as we celebrate our 150th Grand Lodge Anniversary. Together there is no task or goal that we cannot achieve, for we all know that "time, patience and perseverance will accomplish all things." I am looking forward to seeing your lodges' events displayed in the upcoming editions of *The Cornerstone Message*. This is our time to build our lodges and to let our light shine so that we may hear those words, "Well done good and faithful servant..." People who shine from within don't need the spotlight and their work speaks for itself.

I'm asking each of you to reach out to those members

of your lodge that have not been in attendance for some time in an attempt to see if they would return, if able, because without some of them, we would not be where we are today. This year is our 150th Grand Lodge Anniversary and we want every Prince Hall Mason in the Jurisdiction of Alabama to participate in our celebration.

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 2020 to add to the mission of making sure Prince Hall Masonry is at the forefront in the state of Alabama.

- RW 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

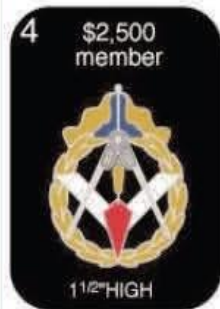
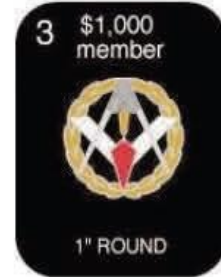
Members suspended after June, 2002, can reinstate by paying the following:

- \$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, 2020.

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!)*

150th ANNIVERSARY

OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL
GRAND LODGE OF ALABAMA



Carnival

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

Celebration Cruise



DATE July 30, 2020 - Aug 03, 2020 (Immediately after Grand Session)

LOCATION 4-Day Cruise from Mobile, AL to Cozumel, Mexico

For more information please contact Traelle Poindexter at:
amazingvacation247@gmail.com or (989) 482-1707

**MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE of ALABAMA
2020 REGIONAL MEETINGS**

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>REGION</u> | <u>CITY</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| MARCH 7, 2020 | REGION 1 | MOBILE |
| MARCH 14, 2020 | REGION 3 | CLIO |
| MARCH 21, 2020 | REGION 5 | BIRMINGHAM |
| MARCH 28, 2020 | REGION 2 | YORK |
| APRIL 25, 2020 | REGION 4 | MONTGOMERY |
| MAY 2, 2020 | REGION 6 | LEIGHTON |

REGION 1 – DISTRICTS 1, 3 and 4

REGION 2 – DISTRICTS 2 and 12

REGION 3 – DISTRICTS 5 and 6

REGION 4 – DISTRICTS 7, 8 and 10

REGION 5 – DISTRICTS 13, 14 and 15

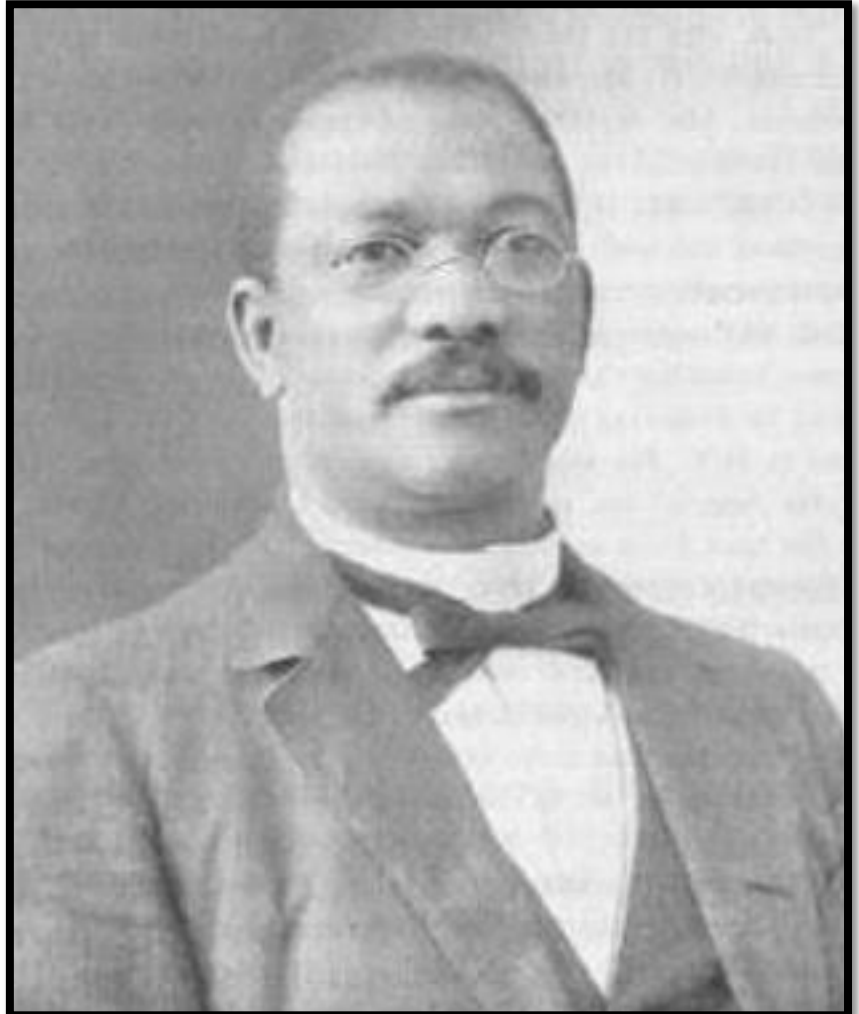
REGION 6 – DISTRICT 17

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!!!

Wreath Laying Ceremony for William Hooper Council

On Thursday, October 13, 2019, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alabama conducted a wreath laying ceremony, for the fourth consecutive year, during homecoming week, at the gravesite of Dr. William Hooper Council, on the campus of Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University. Dr. William Hooper Council founded and was the first President of Alabama A. and M. University. Dr. Council also once served the Grand Lodge as Grand Junior Warden. Brother Council was raised in Rising Sun Lodge No. 7 in Montgomery and later became a member of Evening Star Lodge No. 6 in Huntsville. The wreath laying ceremony was one of many events that took place during homecoming week.

Immediately following the wreath laying ceremony, a scholarship award from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alabama was presented to Dr. Andrew Hugine, President of Alabama A. and M. University, for deserving students, in the amount of \$10,000.00. Dr. Hugine was very gracious and proud to be a Prince Hall Mason, himself. This annual event is very dear to Grand Master Hawkins. He is a proud alumnus of Alabama A. and M. and looks forward to laying a wreath each year, as well as, assisting those students, with a financial need, to attend the prestigious university.





LODGE NAMES

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

ARCHITECT

ATLAS

BETHLEHEM

BROTHERLY LOVE

CURTIS

DAYLIGHT

EASTERN STAR

GOLDEN SQUARE

IONIC

JONES CREEK

MAGIC ART

OSWICHEE

PILGRIM GROVE

RAINBOW

REGUE

SHILOH

SNOW HILL

SOLID ROCK

SOUTHGATE

SWEET LILLY

SWEET PEACE

TUSCAN

WIDOW SON

ZION FOUNTAIN

A Blast from the Past

GREETINGS FROM LITTLE WARRIOR LODGE NO. 406

TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA



Front Row, from left to right: Brothers Willie White, Richard Parham, Albert Stepter, Jr., Secretary; Nathaniel Humphries, S. W.; Lewis May, W. M.; Lewis Kinard, J. W.; Willie Lavendar, Treasurer; Pearl

Noland, Joseph Ellington, Pete Hill. Back Row, Left to right: Brothers E.B. Rice, Samuel Maddox, Henry Loggins, J. D. Sanders, Ed Golightley, Joseph Williams, Rich Dunn, Rufus Cosby.

From Whence We've Come...

Taken from the 1911 proceedings of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, A. F. and A. M. of Alabama

RICHARD B. HUDSON

Right Worshipful Endowment Treasurer Grand Lodge of Alabama



When the Grand Lodge (for urgent reasons) in its wisdom separated the office of Endowment Secretary and Treasurer at this Communication, it proceeded with caution in the selection of a brother to hold the keys to the strong box of its Widows' and Orphans' Department, now grown to mammoth proportions, involving the interests of thousands. The demand was for a brother combining with the ability-sagacity, tact, integrity and patience. Richard B. Hudson, the brother chosen for the great trust is a favorite of Dame Fortune. She was kind to him, even as to place and time of birth, which was at Uniontown, Perry County, in the year 1866. Here he grew into manhood nurtured by his kind and intelligent parents, Richard and Millie Hudson, who possessed means to gratify his ambition early developed for a higher education.

Completing the course in the public schools of Uniontown he was sent to Selma University, at Selma, where he finished the Normal course at the early age of 15, immediately entering the College department for classical culture, having carried along the college preparatory studies with his Normal course. His peculiar aptitude and ambition procured for him favor among the school authorities and he was given employment as student teacher, which assisted him finally in winning the coveted prize of a college diploma. Afterward he studied at Chautauqua, New York.

Elected principal of the Selma city school, now Clark School, nearly a quarter of a century ago, he brought to his work all his rich native endowments and long years of training, winning such decided success that he has ever since from year to year been continued in his place, with added authority and emoluments. Besides his leading position as an educator, he is cashier of the Selma branch of the Alabama Penny Savings Bank and the proprietor of a large coal and wood yard.

Brother Hudson is a member of the Baptist Church at Selma, which has signally honored him as a layman. The National Baptist Convention has for five years unanimously reelected him its Recording secretary. He has been Secretary of the Alabama State Baptist Convention sixteen years.

Mrs. Irene M. Hudson, *nee* Thompson is both wife and friend to her husband and has borne him two children—one a sophomore in the Atlanta Baptist College and the other a pupil in the Selma public school.



ALEXANDER ALLISON - PETERS

Right Worshipful Endowment Secretary Grand Lodge of Alabama

Another officer added to the Grand Master's cabinet by the change in the Endowment Department, made necessary for urgent reasons, is Bro. A. A. Peters, for many years a successful teacher in the public schools of Girard, Russell County, his home town. He is now principal of these schools, which responsible position he has held for the past twelve years. Our brother came into the world as a Christmas gift to his fond parents, Isaac and Mary M. Peters, having been born Dec. 25, 1865, at McKinley, Ala., locally known as "The Flatwoods."

That he was apt as a pupil and unusually attentive to his studies is proven by the fact that at the early age of fourteen he finished from Burrell Academy in the Class of 1879, and at nineteen won another diploma, coming out of Talladega College in the Class of 1884.

Shortly after coming out of school with flying class honors young Peters, vigorous, ambitious and hopeful, decided to take unto himself a helpmeet in life's journey and two days before he was 19 (Dec. 23, 1884) wedded Miss Hattie M. Ware; three children, a son and two daughters afterwards blessing the union.

In 1901 our brother was selected by the late Grand Master Binford for the unusual consideration of receiving the sublime degree of a Master Mason at his hands. April 29, 1902, Silver Star Lodge No. 107 was organized at Girard, Bro. Peters entering it as an active member, becoming Senior Warden in 1903 and W. M., in 1906. That year he appeared in the Grand Lodge at its session in Huntsville, making a good impression by his winning personality and fluent speech. As chairman of the Committee on Grand Master's Address at the 1907 communication he won additional prestige and again in 1908 as chairman of the Committee on Resolutions. At this session he was appointed Grand Orator, a station for which he was peculiarly fitted by his training and natural gift of eloquence. At the session of 1909, he again headed the Committee on Grand Master's Address, also at the 1910 session. Otherwise active and diligent in any work assigned, Bro. Peters managed to hold the favor he had won by this first good impression made, and to wedge his way still further in the confidence of the craft. His election in 1911 by an overwhelming vote to be Secretary of the Endowment Department of the Grand Lodge, at a time when the demand was for a brother, not only competent but true and tried and worthy of a sacred trust the care and preservation of our widows' and orphans' interests and funds, was indeed a high compliment. Rising from the ranks to a station of such commanding influence and trust, all in ten years, is certainly an achievement of which any brother should be proud.

Message from the Grand Medical Registrar

Fatigue

Greetings Brothers: In today's time and society, there is a tendency to try and push ourselves to accomplish many goals in our lives. The United States workforce is quite the busy bee. It has been said in the past that we, as a country, work very hard, but do not really take care of our physical needs. I see this a great deal as patients will come to the office complaining of fatigue, but not really certain as to why they are fatigued. Some patients do realize the causes of their fatigue. Many jobs have increased the company's hours and workday schedules. This can contribute to many people becoming fatigued, as well as, irritable at home and work. Many of us, like most of the workforce, cannot control these factors at our job. There are some people that work six days out of the week, as well as, some that work seven days a week. Changing shifts also contributes greatly to one becoming fatigued. Patients will state that their body has a hard time adjusting to the constant shift changes. Therefore, a good deal of people will start to rely on products to help give them energy to maintain their energy level. Let us discuss some of these issues.

According to the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety, "fatigue is state of feeling tired, weary or sleepy resulting from insufficient sleep, prolonged mental or physical work, or extended periods of stress or anxiety". Fatigue can be intensified by performing boring or repetitive tasks, as well.

Acute fatigue can develop from short term sleep loss or doing heavy physical or mental work in short time periods. This is normally not long lasting and can typically be resolved with rest and relaxation techniques.

Chronic fatigue is when one is constantly expressing signs of severe sensation of tiredness and not relieved by rest. This type of fatigue usually persists for greater than six months and can mimic the flu. There is no known cause for this syndrome.

What makes one person fatigued, may not have the same effect on another person. At your job, it is important to recognize if people around you are exhibiting signs of fatigue. Actually, it is good to have a team approach to this issue because if you are fatigued, someone can step in and hopefully prevent incidents from occurring at the job that can result from fatigue.



A good number of people will start to drink products that are high in caffeine to boost their energy level. I often discourage this practice, as I tell people that you are really "beating a dead horse " when you rely on this technique. I have seen blood pressures elevated and irritability levels extremely high. Instead of using this technique for an energy burst, I will encourage that they learn to balance their schedule as much as possible. I encourage a good diet and exercise regimen, as well. In balancing the schedule, one may have to rely on others to help with daily activities. This can be difficult if the other partner works the same job.

It is recommended that people get at least between 7 to 9 hours of sleep. Most workers get between 5 to 7 hours of sleep. Try going to bed at the same time if possible and getting up at the same time. I realize swing shifts can make this difficult, but try as much as possible according to the shift. It is encouraged to not lay in bed and eat, watch television or perform work. Make your room as dark as possible and soundproof. Tell family members to try and keep noise at a minimum while you sleep. Eat healthy meals if possible that consist of fruits and vegetables.

Once again, the point here is to investigate why you are fatigued by seeking medical advice and

trying to develop a good regimen that can help improve your situation. Try to get yearly check-ups. Maintain a healthy weight. Seek out good stress relieving techniques such as reading, meditation or playing games. **VACATION TIME!!!** If at all possible, remember to reward the body and mind by taking a vacation and doing what brings you enjoyment whether it is staying home or traveling the world. Do not rely on your opinion if you are constantly fatigued, but rule out possible underlying conditions by seeing your medical doctor.

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



\$ Dollars and Sense \$

You can **walk the walk**, but can **you talk the talk**?

Do's and Don'ts of Talking Money with Family

Staying silent on money issues can cost you both emotionally and fiscally—keep your family on the path to open communication and financial success with these tips for family money talk.

Don't:

Wait for a problem to occur before you address money issues.

Do:

Call a separate family meeting for this discussion—the Christmas dinner table may not be the best time to bring up a sensitive issue like money.

Don't:

Try to cover all your family's money issues in one conversation.

Do:

Realize that this discussion will likely be ongoing and that family money issues will change as you go through life's many transitions.

Don't:

Assume that all family members feel the same way about money.

Do:

Set common goals, both financially and otherwise. Consider all that you share as a family, which may be financial assets as well as values, principles and even stories.

The biggest "don't" when it comes to talking about money with your family is to skip the conversation altogether. For more resources about how to communicate with family members about money, contact your advisor at Prudential.

Don't:

Single family members out negatively.

Do:

Open up the conversation to the whole family—even younger members. The way children learn about money affects how they'll respond to financial situations during adulthood, and learning to communicate responsibly is a great place to start.

Don't:

Avoid difficult money issues just because they might lead to conflict.

Do:

Come up with a plan for conflict resolution. If the family disagrees on an important financial decision, how will you move forward? Will someone be the ultimate decision-maker? Will you vote? Will you use a mediator?

44 percent

of Americans believe talking about personal finance is the most challenging conversation one can have - even more so than talking about death.



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

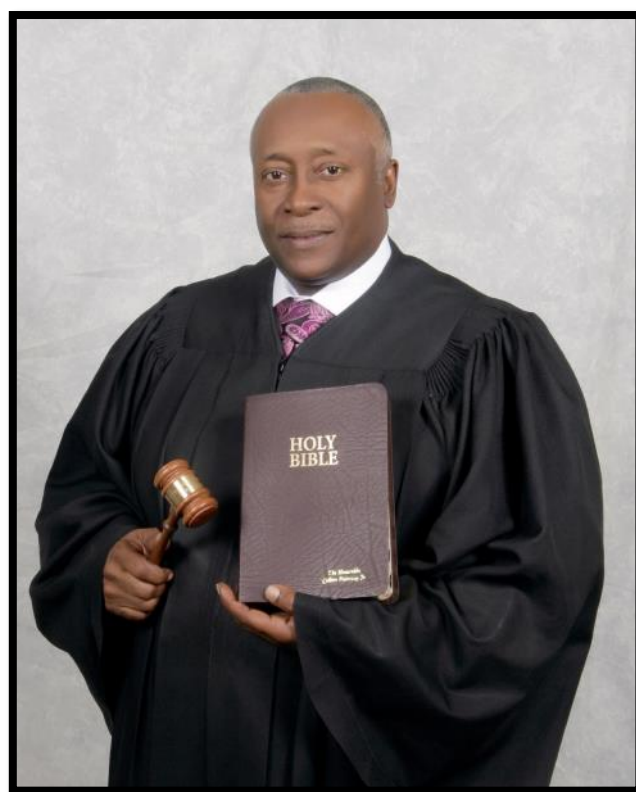
In The Spotlight

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:

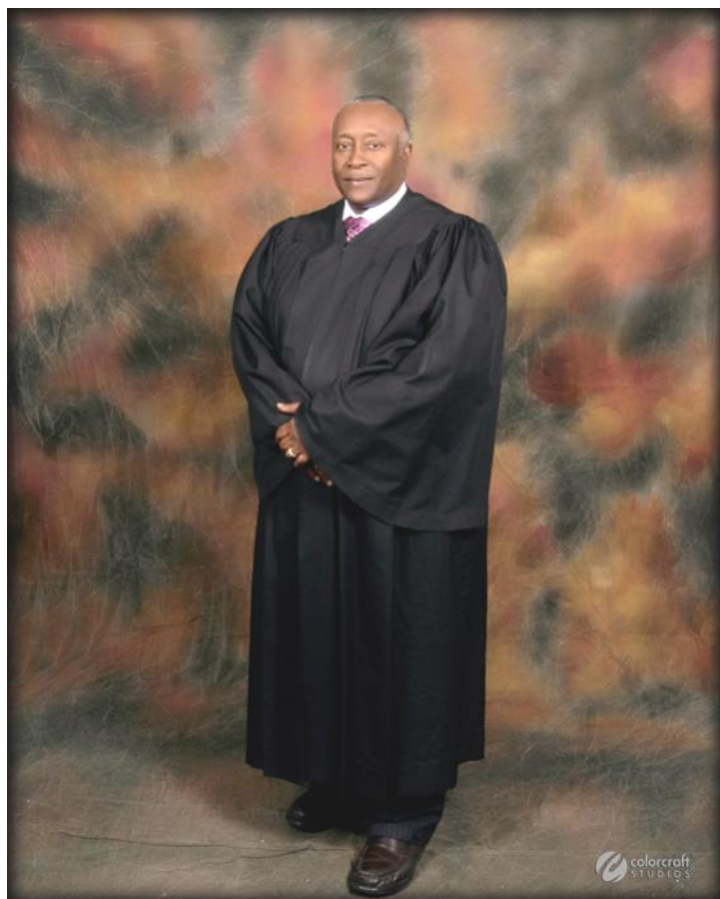
Honorable Collins Pettaway, Jr.

Collins Pettaway, Jr. is a Circuit Judge with the 4th Judicial Circuit of Alabama. Judge Pettaway truly is a product of his hometown. He is a 1978 graduate of Dallas County High School as Salutatorian and was an outstanding athlete setting many records in football and also played basketball, baseball and track. He graduated from Alabama A&M University with the school's top academic Honor, earning straight A's in each course, each year while playing 4 years football and 1-year baseball. He is a 1985 graduate of the National Law Center, George Washington University, Washington, D.C., where he was a student representative and Who's Who Among Law School Students. He practiced law for 28 years before joining the Bench.

Among other positions, Judge Pettaway has served as Board Co-chair and District President for the Seventh District of Alabama New South Coalition, a member of the Dallas County ADC, and a board member for the National Conference of Black Lawyers. Collins is a member of numerous community related organizations including Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (local Chapter Basileus, District and State Officer), President of the Selma Dallas Pan-Hellenic Council (all Greek Organizations in the area), Member of The Pride of Alabama Elks Lodge No. 1170, IBPOE of and Alabama State Association of Elks, James E. Kelley Council No. 79, Member of the Goshen Lodge No. 132, F&AM and Abraham Consistory No. 257, achieving the rank of Grand Inspector General (33rd Degree), River City No.18, Solomon Council No. 11, C.S. Forman Commandery, No. 44, attaining the Rank and Honor of Knight Commander of the Temple (KCT), Chairman of the Selma Early College Advisory Board, President of the Selma-Dallas County Emancipation Proclamation Committee, Board Member of The McRae-Gaines Preparatory School, Founding Member and Team Sponsor of the East Selma Baseball Association, always keeping his eye towards the people. He is a Deacon and Music Director at Ebenezer Baptist Church, performing several community tasks. He has served as First Vice-President of the Alabama Baptist State Congress of Christian Education and is a Certified COPP Instructor. Judge Pettaway served as the 1st and only lay person to serve as a Moderator in the State of Alabama, having served as Vice-Moderator for the Shady Grove District Association, Alabama State Missionary Baptist Convention, Inc.



Honorable Collins Pettaway, Jr.



He is presently married to the former Synethia Electa Perkins. He was attorney and advisor for his brother-in-law, Former Selma Mayor James Perkins, Jr., of Selma during his election campaigns. Judge Pettaway has three adult children, Kendrick, Collins, III and Candice Celeste. His father, Rev. Dr. Collins Pettaway, Sr., is a noted pastor and evangelist throughout the United States and serves as the Foreign Mission Representative for this state. His deceased mother, Alma Mosley Pettaway, was a gifted musician and singer. Her deceased father, Rev. Dr. Andrew Mosley, Sr., was the rock-solid pastor of Green Street Baptist Church, Selma, AL during the forties and fifties. Her mother, Eva O. Mosley, started the first private academy for black school children in Selma, AL. Judge Pettaway has four brothers and four sisters (one sister is deceased), many of whom have significant contributions to their respective communities.

As you can see, Judge Pettaway has strong roots in Christian and Community service.

Judge Pettaway was elected as the Democratic Nominee for Circuit Judge, Place 1, 4th Judicial Circuit Alabama (Bibb, Dallas, Hale, Perry & Wilcox Counties), the largest geographic circuit in the state. With no opposition on the November 6, 2012 ballot, Judge Pettaway took office in January 2013 to begin his first term in office as the first African American Circuit Court Judge from Dallas County since the Reconstruction Era, and was re-elected without opposition in 2018.

“And of some have compassion, making a difference.”

Jude 22:

If you are fortunate to have opportunity, it is your duty to make sure other people have those opportunities as well.

— Kamala Harris

REGION 2

News and Events from Region 2

Morrow Grove Lodge No. 800 Donates to Department of Human Resources

On December 16, 2019, the members of Morrow Grove Lodge No. 800 conducted a toy donation to the Department of Human Resources in Greene County, AL. This is the 4th year the lodge has made the donation to the Department of Human Resources to help children in their community who are less fortunate. The lodge members began collecting toys in October in hopes of having an adequate number of toys to donate, which turned out to be the largest donation the lodge has made. Morrow Grove Lodge No. 800 is located in one of the high poverty areas of the State of Alabama and it is important to the members to make a difference in the lives of children for Christmas. The front desk clerk at the Department of Human Resources stated that they usually have to solicit groups to donate, but they never had to ask Morrow Grove Lodge No. 800 because they knew the lodge would donate. The statement reminded the members of how important service is and the lodge looks forward to continuing efforts to make a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate throughout the community, city, state and the world.



Bro. Brodrick Fulghum and Worshipful Master Robert Stewart delivering toys to the Greene County Department of Human Resources

Contributor – WM Robert Stewart (No. 800)

REGION 4

News and Events from Region 4

King Solomon Lodge No. 7 Donates In Its Community

During the fourth quarter of 2019, King Solomon Lodge No. 7 of Montgomery, AL hit the ground running for its Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. The lodge contributed over 200 pounds of nonperishable foods and 65 pounds of turkey to the Adullum House Children Home in Wetumpka, Alabama. Adullum House provides for children born while the mothers are in a reformatory. These children are scarred by poverty, pain, neglect, and abuse, and are missing out on the normal joys of childhood. King Solomon Lodge No. 7 also donated two complete Thanksgiving Dinners, with all the trimmings, to needy families within the Montgomery area of the Antioch Baptist Association Missionaries Ministry.

In December, King Solomon Lodge No. 7 held its Annual Friends and Family Christmas Dinner at the First Missionary Baptist Church, a historic landmark of the Civil Rights Movement, located in downtown Montgomery, AL where Rev. E. Baxter Morris is Pastor. King Solomon Lodge No. 7 also fulfilled a request from the Family Sunshine Center of Montgomery, by contributing six new bicycles for children of various ages. In addition, the lodge supported the Family Sunshine Center by providing quarterly emergency crisis intervention kits to the shelter for victims and families who fear for their safety due to domestic violence.

Last, King Solomon Lodge No. 7 made its annual monetary contribution to the Vision of Grace Homes, which provides a home to needy mothers and their families for six months while helping them find employment.



Contributor – WM Lionel Macklin, Sr. (No. 7)

Golden Rule Lodge No. 11 Receives City Proclamation

On December 4, 2019, members of Golden Rule Lodge No. 11 were recognized by the city of Opelika, Alabama, for their continued community service clean-up efforts. Opelika Mayor, Gary Fuller, invited Worshipful Master Derric Baker and members of his lodge to the City Government Office and read a proclamation to honor their community clean-up efforts. The lodge has been consistent in its clean-up of Ward 2 and several other community projects to better the city of Opelika. Councilwoman Tiffany Gibson-Pitts who lauded the lodge for their efforts in her Ward spearheaded the initiative for the proclamation. Councilwoman Tiffany Gibson-Pitts cites the involvement of Golden Rule Lodge No.11 in community projects. Golden Rule Lodge members have been instrumental in the annual George Bandy Day, a city community-wide event to honor the late George Bandy. They have also been instrumental in the Ward 2 Academy and Mentorship program. “They are dependable and consistent which is why this initiative has been successful,” says Councilwoman Gibson-Pitts. “It was an honor to include fallen Bro. Michael Pink in this Resolution, as he was dedicated to making our area clean until he left this earth”.



Mayor Gary Fuller, Councilwoman Tiffany Gibson-Pitts, Bro. Darryl Mitchell, WM Derric Baker, Bro. DeMarcie Whatley

On December 21st, Golden Rule Lodge No.11 played an important role in the city’s annual Community Christmas Toy and Turkey give-away. The city asked for community volunteers to step up to donate toys and turkeys for this city-wide event. In the past, several community groups have volunteered their time and effort in this cause. The event has grown in leaps and bounds every year. This year is no different: members of Golden Rule Lodge No. 11 stepped up to donate toys and turkeys to community families in need. The lodge members also volunteered to man the grills to cook for the Christmas event. Community youth were also visited by Santa Claus himself as he listened to each child’s Christmas list. WM Derric Baker of Golden Rule Lodge No. 11 volunteers every year to be Santa Claus. There were also several civic groups and church groups along with Golden Rule No. 11 Masonic Lodge in attendance who blessed the children with bikes and other toys and gifts. In all, there were over 150 children blessed with gifts and food for the event.



Contributor – WM Derric Baker (No. 11)

Abraham Lodge No. 267 Closes the Fourth Quarter of 2019 Strong

On Halloween of 2019, the brothers of Abraham Lodge No. 267 pulled double duty. Some of the brothers of Abraham Lodge No. 267 participated in the Montgomery city-wide Halloween treat giveaway. The lodge sponsored a table at the Garrett Coliseum and provided candy and treats to over 2500+ participants. On the other side of town, other brothers set up at the Kershaw YMCA to provide hotdogs, chips, candy, and drinks to the YMCA's afterschool program students, who were not able to go to the Coliseum.



In November as the temperature drops, Abraham Lodge was asked to partner with the Sidney Lanier High School PTA and help provide jackets to students. The brothers rallied and were able to donate more than twenty-five new and gently used coats and jackets.

November also included, "The Worshipful Master's Breakfast". This breakfast has become a tradition in Abraham Lodge. It centers on the brothers having more time to relax and fellowship with each other in downtime. It reminds the Master of his humbleness and service to the lodge. The current Master cooks' breakfast for all brothers and sisters of Old Ship Chapter No. 343, OES. WM Benson did an excellent job hosting the in-house fellowship.



Closing out November, the brothers of the lodge split up into seven teams and surprised nine less fortunate families with turkeys, sides, desserts and drinks. Everything cooked and ready to enjoy for Thanksgiving. The brothers of Abraham Lodge No. 267 received a lot of hugs and tears of joy!

Leading into December, Abraham Lodge hosted its annual Fellowship Night in conjunction with the St. John's Day Celebration.

The lodge hosted Grand Lodge dignitaries, elected local/state political leaders and members of the immediate community. Various brothers were also personally recognized for their commitment to the lodge and efforts exhibited. All in attendance were treated to a well-planned event and served a delicious dinner.

To finalize the month, Abraham Lodge collected and donated several bikes for kids in the local community. Parents were presented the bikes just before Christmas so all lucky children would wake up to their new surprise. Abraham Lodge No. 267 and Old Ship Chapter No. 343, OES visited the Blue Ridge Healthcare Center in Montgomery. Patients received several items to include Christmas cards, snacks, blankets, and socks.

Contributor – PM Roderick Caswell (No. 267)



Milton W. Howze No. 408

Serving Its Community

The fall months of 2019 were very busy and productive for the brothers of Milton W. Howze Lodge No. 408. In their on-going efforts to serve, they participated in several community events to show love and support. On Saturday, October 12th, the brothers of Milton W. Howze No. 408 partnered with the ladies of SEE (Sisters Exemplifying Excellence) and Golden Rule Lodge No. 11 of Opelika, to participate in the annual SEE Curing the Colors of Cancer Walk, as well as, making financial contributions to their valiant efforts to raise awareness and to provide information about the different cancers and treatment options. The late RW George D. Echols was a proud sponsor of this yearly event and Milton W. Howze No. 408 will be honored to continue contributing in his absence.

The flu virus affects thousands of families yearly, especially during the cooler months, so on Tuesday, November 5th, the brothers of Milton W. Howze Lodge No. 408 made a cleaning supply donation to the Auburn Day Care Center to help prevent the spread of germs among the attending children. Items donated included Lysol, Clorox wipes, hand sanitizer, fabuloso, baby wipes, baby powder, kleenex and rubber gloves.

On November 9th, a few of the brothers teamed with Auburn University in their bi-annual cleaning of the Baptist Hill Cemetery. Also, on Wednesday, November 23rd, the brothers of Milton W. Howze Lodge No. 408 prepared and delivered Thanksgiving Day meals to two families and one of the local fire departments in the community.

A financial contribution, as well as, volunteer services were provided to the East Alabama Foodbank on Friday, December 13th in preparation to provide meals to needy families of Lee county.

Contributor – Bro. Alvin B. Howard (No. 408)



Brothers from Milton W. Howze Lodge No. 408, Golden Rule Lodge No. 11, and the ladies of SEE stopped for a photo during the Annual SEE Curing the Colors of Cancer Walk



L to R: front row: RW Erwin Chambliss, WM Alvin Howard, Ms. Frixie Melton, Bro. Darius Carter. l/r back: Bro. John Knight, JW Avery Martin, Bro. Tyrone McKissic with donations to Auburn Day Care Center.

Hamilton Lodge No. 365

Supporting Its Community



Members of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 at River Region Walk to End Alzheimer's



Members of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 and OES at Evangel Church



Members of District No. 8 in Turkey Day Classic Parade

On October 13, 2019, Hamilton Lodge No. 365 participated in the 2019 River Region Walk to End Alzheimer's at Auburn University Montgomery. This is the second year in a row that Hamilton Lodge has been able to give their time and energy to this event. Lead by WM Loveless Belser with the wise guidance of PM Sayles, the lodge continues to show the Montgomery masonic community how it's done.

The months of November and December are times in which all upright men give thanks and praise to the creator for our Country, our Families and for Christ, our Savior, as well as, the many blessings given, no matter how great or minor. Although The men of Hamilton Lodge actively participate in charitable events throughout the year, it's those two months that can make some people feel overwhelmed by the challenges of daily life. The brothers of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 took this time to actively pursue several charitable endeavors.

On November 24th, the brothers put on their aprons and gloves to serve an early Thanksgiving Dinner to the community hosted by Hillard Baptist Church in Montgomery feeding over 100 individuals. Then after hearing of the plight of a young, soon to be mother, the men of Hamilton Lodge provided a few essential items to help, aid and assist her and her child. Later, on November 25th, the brothers of Hamilton Lodge donated their time and smiles at the Evangel Church along with the members of the Order of the Eastern Star, helping to distribute Thanksgiving turkeys and trimmings to over fifty families.

On November 28th, with Grand District Deputy Donald Parks leading the procession, the brothers of Hamilton Lodge along with brothers from other District 8 lodges marched in the 96th Annual Turkey Day Classic Parade in Montgomery.

On December 15th, WM Belser was honored by Carver High School with the Award of Appreciation for serving as a volunteer coach for the Carver Wolverine Football team for over 10 years. WM Belser's leadership and guidance has been instrumental in motivating the Wolverines to several winning seasons.

Also, during the month of December, the members of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 went to the Baptist East Children's Hospital in Montgomery, to pass out teddy bears and spread Christmas cheer to a group of very special children. They provided a few bags for the Meals on Wheels Program, and donated skull caps and gloves for the kids at Living Legends Barber-shop in Montgomery. They also served as mentors, donating their time and energy at the Regency Park Community center in Montgomery, providing skull caps and snacks for the kids. The lodge sponsored two families for Christmas by providing toys, clothing, and monetary gifts. The Craft continues to live by the motto Faith, Hope, and Charity.

Contributor – Bro. Marion A. Dortch, Jr. (No. 365)



WM Belser with his Award of Appreciation



Members of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 at the Regency Park Community Center



Members of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 at Baptist East Children's Hospital



Members of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 at Living Legends Barbershop

Shorter Lodge No. 533 Showing Its Community Involvement



On Thursday, October 31, 2019, the brothers of Shorter Lodge No. 533 in conjunction with the Town of Shorter held a Trunk or Treat for the children. The lodge was thankful to the Town of Shorter for allowing us to partner with them and use their facility to bring joy to families. Due to a high sense of caution of going door to door, the lodge joined forces to give the kids of Shorter, Alabama, an opportunity to have fun in a safe environment. From 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., the lodge passed out candy. Hugs and laughter were in the air all night. Shorter's Lodge visibility has caused two men to petition the lodge. While at the Trunk or Treat, lodge members had a chance to answer questions from people who didn't know what the lodge was about and allowed the children to see an image of men that they can look up too. It was truly a great night, and this will become a yearly event for Shorter Lodge No. 533.

Community Involvement is an area that Shorter Lodge No. 533 is sincere about, so on Saturday, November 2nd, the brothers of Shorter Lodge, No. 533 volunteered to assist Milestone Learning Center with their yearly fall festival. Milestone Learning Center is one of the hidden gems in Shorter, Alabama. They have a great learning facility, excellent teachers and a heart for the children and the community. Annually, Milestone Learning Center holds a festival to bring together the families of the kids that attend the school, as well as, to give the community an opportunity to stop by to fellowship with them. They offered food, fun and a safe environment for the community to come together for free. Shorter Lodge, No. 533 was honored to participate and volunteered to serve food, work the games and do whatever was needed of the lodge to make it a great event.



On November 23rd, at the Municipal Complex in Tuskegee, AL, the brothers of Shorter Lodge No. 533, in partnership with the sisters of Sojourner Truth Chapter No. 114, OES, held a Western Dance in support of their Scholarship Fund. It was a Wild-Wild West of a night with so many spurs, ten-gallon hats, big belt buckles, boots, and line dancing. It was the first time the lodge has held a Western dance, but it will not be the last. The brothers had a night to remember, it was a packed house with brothers from surrounding lodges coming to support. The community came out to party with the brothers of Shorter Lodge No. 533 and they were graced to have in attendance Grand District Deputy, R.W. Chambliss, of District 7 and Grand District Deputy Strum of the OES. The lodge is thankful to the community for supporting the Scholarship Fund and look forward to more collaboration with the sisters.

Contributor – Bro. Joshua Anthony (No. 533)



Phoenix Lodge No. 428 Showing Appreciation in Its Community



On Nov 2, 2019, Phoenix Lodge No. 428 was at it again, doing what they do best. At the request of one of their faithful brothers, the lodge decided to do an appreciation luncheon for the members of Campfield Joy No. 690, OES. Campfield Joy has been in existence for over seventy years, and they still have active members with over fifty years of service. Phoenix Lodge No. 428 thought that it would be fitting to give them their flowers while they were still able to see, smell and enjoy them. Not only did the lodge purchase and bring the food to the lodge for them, but the brothers also served them, after having a heart-felt and spirit-filled devo-

tion. The Eastern Stars really appreciated the job that Phoenix Lodge No. 428 did with letting them know that they are still thought of. They also appreciate the hard work and dedication that they have shown throughout the community for the many years that they have. It is good to know that even now, the Eastern Stars are still moving and pushing forward and letting their lights shine, as well as, the brothers in the lodge.

On December 17th, Phoenix Lodge No. 428 participated in their annual nursing home visits to two of the larger facilities in Russell County, Canterbury and Parkwood Nursing Homes. It always does the brothers' hearts well, as well as, residents of the nursing homes to show up with Christmas cards in hand, and just to give a heart-warming Merry Christmas. The residents are thrilled every year when the brothers of Phoenix Lodge No. 428 arrive and saddened when they leave. Phoenix Lodge No. 428 continues to be pillars in the community and to give back to those that have paved the way for them to do and be everything that God has called them to do.



Contributor - WM Keith Daniel (No. 428)

REGION 5

News and Events from Region 5

Steele Scepter Lodge No. 649 Donates in Its Community

On November 26, 2019, the brothers of Steele Scepter Lodge No. 649 surprised the principal and students of Holy Family Catholic Middle School with sports equipment for their Physical Education Department and Basketball Program. The school was left with no equipment when the High School moved to a new location this school year, taking all the equipment including the scoreboard. Steele Scepter was able to supply sixteen basketballs, sixteen pairs of shorts, seven compression shirts, sixteen cases of hand sanitizer, two basketball racks and a host of other items for their use.

The brothers of Steele Scepter Lodge No. 649 held its annual coat drive during the month of November. With the help of Hurst Chapter No. 58, Holy Royal Arch Masons, they were able to collect 27 new and 15 used coats to be given to their local community, more especially the kids at Wylam Elementary School. It is their mission to make sure that no child goes cold this winter. The coats were delivered to the school's counselor on December 17, to ensure their mission.



Contributor – Bro. Marlon Meeks (No. 649)

New Beginning Lodge No. 970 Doing The Most in Its Community

On Saturday, October 19, 2019, the brothers of New Beginning Lodge No. 970 held a Breast Cancer Survivors Luncheon. The purpose of the luncheon was to celebrate those women that have survived this deadly disease. Sister Tracy McCall of Missionary Chapter No. 810, OES served as the MC for the event. She gave her emotional testimony of being a three-time survivor of cancer and the impact it's had on her life. New Beginning had on program three recipients whom Mrs. McCall was supposed to introduce, but little did she know, the luncheon was actually in her honor. WM Ron Boone made the surprise announcement shortly after her testimony. WM Boone, SW Gerald Beal and Brother Klonaris Ingram read inspirational poems that were inspired by faith, hope, and love. Sister McCall was also showered with gifts of appreciation for her continued contributions to her community and the fight for a cure. The brothers also recognized her husband WM Michael McCall, a member of William O. Jones Lodge No. 971, for his continued support of New Beginning Lodge No. 970.



On October 24th, Jefferson County Schools held its annual Special Olympics event. New Beginning Lodge No. 970 jumped into action to provide bottled water and snacks to the participants in lieu of having water provided from coolers. WM Ron Boone, SW Gerald Beal and Assistant Secretary Klonoris Ingram set up a station to provide the refreshment as participants completed their track events. The event hosted over 200 special needs students from over twelve Jefferson County Schools. The Jefferson County School System frequently announced their thanks to New Beginning Lodge No. 970 and Prince Hall Masonry for their unwavering support in this very important undertaking.

On October 27th, the lodge donated candy and a couple of vehicle trunks to the annual Center Point First United Methodist Church Trunk or Treat event. Hundreds of parents and children came out to games, moonwalks, hot dogs and of course candy during this annual event. Assisted by The G.U.M.B.O.S. (Greater Understanding of Multiple Blends of Students) community service club of Center Point High School, the lodge handed out candy to the children and manned the gaming stations for the participants to enjoy.



On October 29th, the brothers of New Beginning hosted a program for fourteen males at Center Point High School that focused on preparing for a job interview. The goal of the program was to provide tools that each young man could utilize when applying and interviewing for a job. WM Ron Boone recruited fourteen 11th and 12th-grade students and will follow their progress until each one graduates. Bro. Gerald Beal gave a presentation on appropriate attire, interviewing skills, and what employers look for in a potential employee. The brothers then presented each student with two neckties and proceeded to give a tutorial on how to tie it. Brothers assisted each student and after a few tries, everyone was able to tie their knot properly. None of the students had ever owned or tied a tie before, so this was very well received by all.

On November 2nd, the brothers of New Beginning Lodge No. 970 held its 2nd Annual "Short Stack for a Tall Cause" pancake breakfast at Applebee's in Center Point, AL. Sponsors were asked to donate to obtain tickets to feed a student a good meal. That morning the brothers came together to prepare a meal of pancakes, eggs, sausage to over 150 + students in the Center Point area. The event also had a DJ play the latest music selections to entertain the students as they ate. Later, the lodge also participated in the Alzheimer's Walk in the Riverchase Galleria in Hoover, AL. Several brothers participated in the walk along with the lodge supplying water and refreshments for all who participated. New Beginning also sponsored Team Alston, which was in honor of our very own PM Delvecchio Alston's mother, Mary Alston who suffers from this condition. PM Alston has frequently stressed the importance of events like these to help and assist families that have members that suffer from this debilitating disease. The proceeds from this event help provide scholarships for adult daycare to assist families in deferring the cost of daily care for Alzheimer's patients. PM Alston expressed his gratitude for the brother's ability to step up and support such a worthy cause that personally meant so much to him and his family.

The morning of November 2nd was a brisk cool day. The sun was shining, and many had gathered to honor those who have made the sacrifice to serve our country by enlisting in our armed forces. In Hoover Alabama at Veterans Memorial Park, the brothers of New Beginning Lodge No. 970 set up refreshment and water stations for the participants of the Walk for Warriors 5K Run. New Beginning was also a co-sponsor of the event. P.M. Dwight Coleman participated in the 5K run as this event was near and dear to his heart as he serves as a Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Army and has served for over 30 years. Bro. Simeon Herrod who also serves in the U.S. Army set up and manned the water station dressed in uniform to show his support for those who have served and currently serve with him.



Members of New Beginning at Center Point High School giving job interview skills



Members of New Beginning at Alzheimer's Walk



Members of New Beginning at Walk for Warrior's 5K

On Thanksgiving Day, New Beginning Lodge No. 970 & Dothan Lodge No. 112 partnered to assist their beloved Bessemer community by providing and serving Thanksgiving meals at the Jefferson County Housing Authority's Jess Lanier Towers. This facility houses some of the older residents in the Bessemer area. Through the outreach of this kind, the lodges continue to build relationships with their community and let its members know they are loved and appreciated, not only in the holiday season, but throughout the year. Many thanks to Bro. Percy Horn for his efforts in communicating with the facility manager to make this amazing event come to pass.

The Brothers of New Beginning also provided four full Thanksgiving dinners to families in the Center Point Community. A student at Center Point High School was identified by WM Ron Boone specifically to receive holiday donations. This young lady lost her mother days before Thanksgiving. The brothers of New Beginning vowed to make sure the family had a full meal that fed ten people and also committed to providing items for Christmas.

On November 28th, New Beginning Lodge No. 970 partnered with Dothan Lodge No. 112 and held their 3rd annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner at De-bardelaben Park in Bessemer, AL. The brothers provided a full Thanksgiving dinner including turkey, dressing, string beans, dinner rolls, and assorted cakes. In addition to the meal, toiletries were provided for those that came out as well. Operating in a spirit of unity and cooperation over these past three years has allowed both lodges the opportunity to expand the number of people reached in this event. WM Ron Boone (970) & WM John Harris (112) look forward to bigger and better things for this event in the years to come.

On December 22, the brothers of New Beginning Lodge No. 970 provided services and support for the Free Braids & Cuts event put on by Slay & Way. For a donation of a blanket or hygiene product to assist those in need during the holidays, donors would receive either a hair braiding or a haircut. New Beginning members provided the refreshments for the event along with the lodge's very own Bro. Judson Young providing well over 40 haircuts to those that donated items.

In fulfilling the spirit of the Christmas season, New Beginning Lodge No. 970 set out to make the Christmas of two sets of children under DHR care very happy, indeed. DHR representative Jasmine Toles was contacted and provided a list of items that the children desired for Christmas gifts. These included items ranging from easy bake ovens to motorized small riding cars and bicycles. New Beginning was happy to provide these items and more to make sure the children had a very Blessed & Merry Christmas.

Contributor- Bro. Carlos Bozeman (No. 970)



New Beginning Lodge No. 970 & Dothan Lodge No. 112 serving Thanksgiving Dinner at Bessemer Park



Members of New Beginning serving Thanksgiving dinner at Jess Lanier Towers



New Beginning's Free Braids & Cuts event



Members of New Beginning Lodge No. 970 serving at their "Short Stack for a Tall Cause" pancake breakfast



Members of New Beginning bringing joy in the season of giving



WM Ron Boone presenting Holiday meal to family

Triune Lodge No. 430 Donates to The Greater Birmingham Ministries

On December 13, 2019, Triune Lodge No. 430, delivered an assortment of toys and bicycles to the Greater Birmingham Ministries, located in Birmingham, AL. Greater Birmingham Ministries (GBM) was founded in 1969 in response to urgent human and justice needs in the greater Birmingham area. GBM is a multi-faith, multi-racial organization that provides emergency services for people in need and engages the poor and the non-poor in systemic change efforts to build a strong, supportive, engaged community and pursue a more just society for all people.

Contributor – Bro. Kelley D. Burroughs (No. 430)



Ruth Lodge No. 33

Serving in Its Community

On November 9, 2019, the brothers of Ruth Lodge No. 33, with the help of members of Josephine Chapter No. 835, OES, worked together to cook and serve meals in the Pratt City Community. We are taught early in life that charity begins at home and then spreads abroad, and this is the virtue that was on full display at Dugan Square Retirement Community. Worshipful Master Deven Hawkins and the brothers of Ruth Lodge No. 33 decided to feed the residents of Dugan Square instead of handing out food baskets for the holidays. With the help of Worthy Matron Lovenia Cummings and the members of Josephine Chapter, Ruth Lodge was able to feed forty households. The men of Ruth Lodge deep fried and served several turkeys while the sisters served the residents. The seniors of Dugan Square are often faced with difficult discussions on a daily basis. They must decide to use their limited resources on bills, medication, or food, and far too often buying food is low on their list of priorities. The goal of the event was to, not only provide the residents with a hot home cook meal but, to have enough food for the residents to take home. WM Hawkins believes these are the type of events that can move the needle in communities and help spread the brotherly love of Masonry.



The brothers of Ruth Lodge No. 33 worked in conjunction with Genie Deason the Director of the Sunday Supper Club at South Highland Presbyterian Church located at 2035 Highland Ave, Birmingham, AL 35205. The Charity Project brings awareness to mental illness as a condition that is greatly affecting our community, and the damage is even greater to African Americans. On November 16th, the brothers of Ruth Lodge No. 33 and their families participated in the South Highland Presbyterian Church Sunday Supper Club. The church discovered that



members in the community who suffer from mental illness did not have access to food on Sundays. The residents would eat all of their prepared meals on Saturday and they would not have enough for Sunday meals. Ruth Lodge, their families, and the church partnered up, cooked and served to provide meals for the residents and their families.

On December 27th, the brothers of Ruth Lodge No. 33 donated clothing, school supplies and gift cards to the Brown Family who lost everything in a house fire. The Brown Family home was located in the North Birmingham area. Brother Jerry Peebles contacted WM Deven Hawkins and made the lodge aware of the fire and expressed a desire to help the Brown Family. Ruth Lodge responded in the traditional masonic fashion and raised funds to help the family and also help with providing a holiday meal.

Contributor – Bro. Armar J. Wagner (No. 33)

REGION 6

News and Events from Region 6

Morning Star Lodge No. 50 Serving in Its Community

On October 25, 2019, the brothers of Morning Star Lodge No. 50, and sisters of Hendley Chapter No. 855, OES participated in the Annual Trunk or Treat Fall Festival at the Huntsville Downtown Rescue Mission for their continued joint community service outreach. The Rescue Mission welcomed and thanked both the brothers and sisters for their continued support and dedication to their community events, allowing for a safe environment for parents to bring their kids to participate in the festivities of Halloween. The brothers and sisters donated over 300 bags of candy and handed it out to the kids of the community. The costumes and smiles on the children's faces were priceless. This is just one of the many community service projects that Morning Star Lodge No. 50 supports throughout the year.



The brothers of Morning Star Lodge No. 50 and sisters of Hendley Chapter No. 855, OES also teamed up to spread some holiday cheer and lift the spirits of the residents in Valley View Health and Rehabilitation of Alabama LLC with their Socks for Seniors event. The goal of this event was to provide all the residents at Valley View Madison facility with a socks care package during their dinner time. Because of the participation between the lodge and the chapter, they were able to provide all of the patients with a socks care package along with the employees. On December 15th, the



lodge and the chapter members met at the Valley View facility with their children to spread some holiday cheer. The patients were overjoyed to see the volunteers and their children with the individual socks package; however they quickly realized they enjoyed the children and their conversation much more. It was truly a blessing to provide a moment of peace and conversation for the patients during the holiday season and the children learn the importance of giving back to the community.

Valley View Health and Rehabilitation of Alabama LLC is a caring, home-like environment with the added bonus of professionally trained nurses, certified nurses' aides and therapists. Valley View's goal is to provide skilled nursing and rehabilitation, all while maintaining the resident's dignity.

Contributor – Bro. Thomas Flowers (No. 50)

Athelstine Lodge No. 71's Food Basket Giveaway

On November 18, 2019, the brothers of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 met and assembled their Annual Thanksgiving/Christmas Food Baskets to present to needy families in the Athens-Limestone County Community. Each Thanksgiving/Christmas Food Baskets consist of the normal food to be prepared at Thanksgiving/Christmas: one Turkey or Ham, vegetables, stuffing mix, yams, and cranberry sauce were just a few items to name. On November 19th, Past Master Johnnie L. Pryor, Brother Mansfield Scott, and Chaplain John Irving delivered four Thanksgiving Baskets to the families in Athens-Limestone County. The brothers of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 gave thanks to God for him allowing their lodge to be a blessing to their community and each other, for without Him nothing is possible but through Him all things are possible.

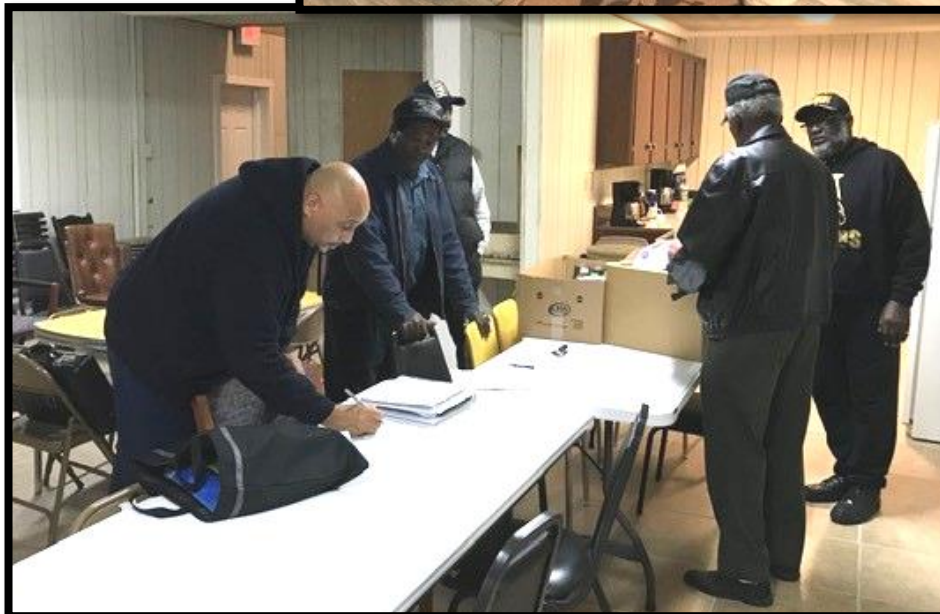
On December 17th, Worshipful Master Buford Thomas, Past Master Johnnie L. Pryor, Brother Mansfield Scott, and Chaplain John Irving delivered Christmas Baskets to the families in Athens-Limestone County, Alabama. The lodge also delivered twelve Annual Christmas Fruit baskets to widows of their deceased brothers. The widows were very much appreciative that the brothers of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 continue to think of them and check on them. The fruit baskets during this time of year just add a special warmth to their hearts.



Contributor – WM Buford Thomas (No. 71)

Top Right Picture: Members of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 delivering Fruit Basket to Widow

Bottom Right Picture: Members of Athelstine Lodge No. 71 assembling their Annual Thanksgiving/Christmas Food Baskets



Temple Lodge No. 98 Continues to Fill the Gap

On Saturday, October 12, 2019, Temple Lodge No. 98 delivered bags of assorted fresh vegetables to senior citizens in the local Huntsville, AL area. This is an ongoing, monthly delivery service that brothers from Temple Lodge No. 98 provides for the Care Assurance System for the Aging and Home Bound (CASA). The brothers arrived at the CASA Garden on Bob Wallace Avenue, met with volunteers that provided the already bagged vegetables and the delivery addresses. Then it was off to make the deliveries. Temple Lodge No. 98 continues to be ready and available to help their seniors in their time of need, and they always greet the lodge brother with warm, loving, and God-filled hearts.

On November 21st, Temple Lodge No. 98 completed its Inaugural Thanksgiving “Feed-a-Family” event. Temple Lodge No. 98 partnered with Publix Grocery Store and the Clearwater Cancer Institute (CCI) of Huntsville, AL, to provide meal boxes to six less fortunate families in the Huntsville area. Ms. Audra Williams from CCI assisted the brothers in selecting the families, and Mr. Mike O’Brien, Publix Store Manager, Store No. 1629, Huntsville, AL, provided a gift card, coupons, and assembled the meal boxes for delivery. This collaboration enabled the brothers of Lodge No. 98 with the ability to deliver complete meals boxes filled with turkey, ham and all the fix-ins. Each family was very appreciative of the donation, and Temple Lodge No. 98 continued this year’s mantra “Filling the Gap Through Usefulness.”

On Friday, December 20th, the brothers of Temple Lodge No. 98 were employed as elves for CASA of Madison County. They were tasked with delivering Christmas gifts to the aging and homebound. The brothers successfully delivered gifts to seven families in the Huntsville area. As CASA is an ongoing community service event for Temple Lodge No. 98, this event was a continuous event towards “Filling the Gap”.

Contributor – WM Carl Cooney. (No. 98)



Member of Temple Lodge No. 98 delivery Christmas gifts to aging and homebound



Members of Temple Lodge No. 98 and Public's Store Manager gathering items for donation

Goodway Lodge No. 222 Provides Holiday Meals

On December 12th, the brothers of Goodway Lodge No. 222 provided a holiday meal for the entire staff of Lakewood Elementary School. Lakewood Elementary School is one of the many schools Goodway Lodge No. 222 is involved with through mentoring and tutoring. While having a conversation with Assistant Principal Wilma L. DeYampert about the needs of the school, the Assistant Principal mentioned to one of the Brothers that catering a holiday meal for the faculty was going to cost the school nearly \$700. The brothers figured that money could be spent elsewhere in the school and decided to cater a meal for over sixty school faculty members.



Members of Goodway Lodge No. 222 and Assistant Principal Wilma L. DeYampert getting ready to serve school faculty

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

Red Cross Lodge No. 35 Serves up Holiday Cheer



WM Clarence Roberts, Bro. Carl Whitman, Bro. Tim Edwards and Bro. Eugene Renfroe serving the homeless on Thanksgiving

On Thanksgiving, members of Red Cross Lodge No. 35 served at the Downtown Rescue Mission in their efforts of giving back to their community. In addition, the lodge made a monetary donation to two families for Thanksgiving to help them during the holiday season.

The members of Red Cross Lodge No. 35 returned to the Downtown Rescue Mission on Christmas Day to help serve Christmas Dinner to the attendees while helping to spread Christmas cheer. The lodge also made a monetary donation to one family for Christmas.

Contributor- Brother Christopher Garner (No. 35)

Obituaries

Brothers Called Home by the Grand Architect

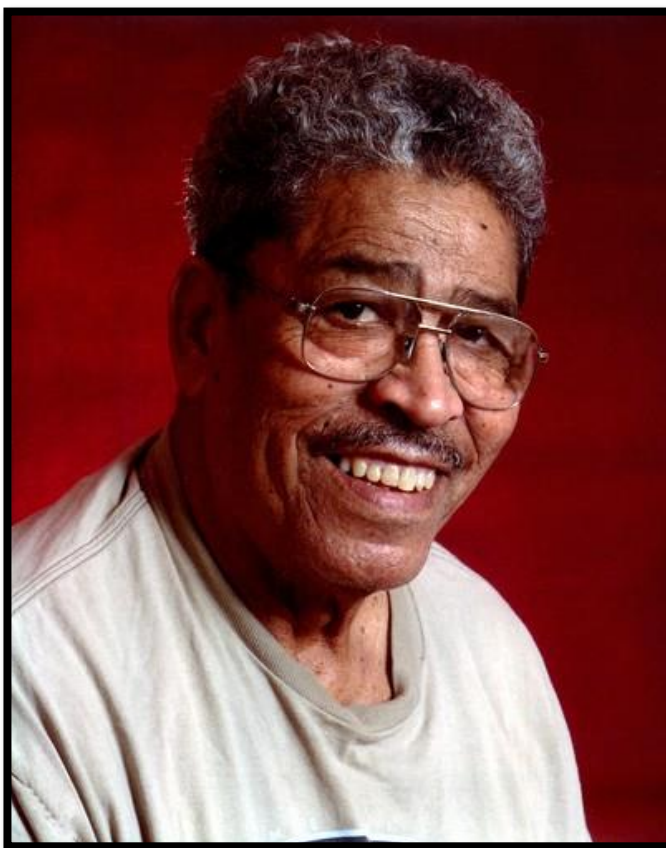
Brother Elder Will Sledge, 86, of Athens, AL, lived a full life from January 12, 1933 to December 28, 2019. Bro. Sledge was one of 11 children born to the late Mr. and Mrs. Walter and Ada Bell Sledge. He was preceded in death by eight brothers and one sister.

Bro. Sledge accepted Jesus Christ on August 18, 1976 and remained a faithful member of Antioch Cumberland Presbyterian Church of America in Athens, AL, until his death where his seat cushion rests in the front corner pew. He was also a member of Athelstine Lodge No. 71.

Bro. Sledge was married for 48 years to the late Mildred (Turner) Sledge. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. His life sang a beautiful song of faith, excellence in his work, and a love for people.

Bro. Sledge was also preceded in death by five sons: William Henry Sledge, Ronnie Sledge, Mose Turner, Carl Burrell, and Michael Burrell.

Bro. Sledge leaves his memory to four sons: Will Roger Sledge, Donnie Sledge, Perry (Barbara) Burrell, and Kenneth (Kathy) Sledge; one daughter, Wilma Sledge; one sister, Fannie Mae Johnson; two sisters in law: Fannie Mae Griffin and Mable Sledge; 22 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, one three-times-great-grandchild, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends that over his lifetime became like family.



Elder Will Sledge, Sr.
Jan. 12, 1933 - Dec. 28, 2019

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 submissions for the next issue of *The Cornerstone Message* is 5 April 2020.** These articles should include events from **January 2020 — March 2020**. 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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