



TO BE READ TWICE IN OPEN LODGE



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OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION NUMBER 15 February 1, 2018

TO: Grand Lodge Officers, Grand Trustees, Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Brothers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Jurisdiction of Alabama

GREETINGS:

“The more you know your history, the more liberated you are.”

Maya Angelou

Black History Month originated as Black History Week in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson. The second week of February, and eventually the entire month was chosen in honor of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, who were both born in the month. I am appreciative that Mr. Woodson had the foresight and ambition to create Black History Week (Month) during a time of accepted oppression and inequality. However, ninety-two years later, the teaching of our history should not still be limited to one month of the year. Alabama native, Dr. Mae Jemison, the first African American woman to travel in space, once said, “Never be limited by other people’s limited imaginations.” Our history is not just Black History. Our history is American History; World History, even. We should not be satisfied with

the teaching of our history twenty-eight, sometimes twenty-nine, days out of three hundred sixty-five. We should not rely on others to teach our history. Let us make a conscious effort to teach our history to the less informed. We owe it to our ancestors to make sure our children and grandchildren are educated about our people.

SELMA MARCH

For the fourth consecutive year and in an effort to be more involved in our communities, to remember our past, and to look to our future, I am calling on the entire jurisdiction to converge on Selma, Alabama, on Sunday, March 4, 2018, to participate in the 53rd anniversary of the historical walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge. I am asking all brothers and sisters to meet at 119 Washington Street, Selma, Alabama 36701, diagonally across from Washington Street Marketplace, at 11:00 a.m. The bridge crossing re-enactment will begin at 2:30 p.m. A large crowd is expected; therefore, I am asking all brothers and sisters to arrive at the designated time. Please bring plenty of water, snacks and lounging chairs as they will be needed, particularly by our elderly brothers and sisters. All brothers are to participate in the March dressed in proper masonic regalia to include a black suit (including the jacket), white shirt and solid black tie. It is very important that we assemble in Selma, Alabama in mass numbers. Each year we have had hundreds of brothers and sisters to attend. Let us do our best to continue to increase our numbers this year. Consider this March as a time to remember for the seasoned brother and a history lesson for the younger brother. I am counting on you to help make this another great success.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

The schedule for 2018 Regional Meetings is as follows:

Saturday, March 10, 2018 – Region #4: District Numbers 7, 8 and 10— Grand District Deputies Erwin Chambliss (#7), Donald R. Parks (#8), and Edward Cobb (#10) at 10:00 a.m. at Mount Olive Baptist Church, 410 Cedar Street, Tuskegee, Alabama 36083. **Wreath laying ceremonies will be held at 9:00 a.m. for Past Grand Masters Malachi Morse and Dr. William O. Jones.**

Saturday, March 24, 2018 – Region #5: District Numbers 13, 14 and 15—Grand District Deputies Alvin Crawford (#13), Walter Greene (#14), and Kenneth E. Hardy (#15) at 10:00 a.m. at Ebenezer Baptist Church Family Life Center, 601 Scott Street, Talladega, Alabama 35160.

Saturday, March 31, 2018 – Region #3: District Numbers 5 and 6—Grand District Deputies Rickey Allen (#5) and Billy Morris (#6) at 10:00 a.m. at Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church, 4850 County Road 73, Newville, Alabama 36350.

Saturday, April 7, 2018 – Region #2: District Numbers 2 and 12— Grand District Deputies Lurie Walton (#2) and Richard Wilson (#12) at 10:00 a.m. at Eastern Star Baptist Church, 112 Curl Road, York, Alabama 36925.

Saturday, April 21, 2018 – Region #6: District Number 17—Grand District Deputy Anthony J. Johnson (#17) at 10:00 a.m. at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, 6775 Old Highway 20, Leighton, Alabama 35646.

Saturday, April 28, 2018 – Region #1: District Numbers 1, 3 and 4—Grand District Deputies Maurice Edwards (#1), Robert Stallworth (#3), and Billy Joe Stallworth (#4) at 10:00 a.m. at Saint Paul Primitive Baptist Church, US Highway 10 East, Pine Hill, Alabama 36769.

WORSHIPFUL MASTERS, WARDENS AND BROTHERS ARE TO BE PRESENT AT THEIR REGIONAL MEETINGS. EVERY LODGE IS TO BE REPRESENTED.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

1.) IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT EACH LODGE SEND ITS GRAND LODGE TAXES TO THE GRAND SECRETARY BY DECEMBER 1ST AND BY MAY 30TH. All Worshipful Masters of all lodges are requested to send all Grand Lodge taxes to R. W. George D. Echols, Grand Secretary, Post Office Box 3967, Auburn, Alabama 36831-3967, as soon as possible. **A \$25.00 late fee will be assessed to each lodge if the Grand Lodge taxes are received more than 30 days past the due dates.**

2.) The souvenir journal information for 2018 has been disseminated and is also available on the website. Please pay strict attention to the deadline date. **All subordinate Lodges are REQUIRED to purchase or sell a full page ad or two half page ads. All Grand Lodge Officers and Grand District Deputies are REQUIRED to purchase a full page ad.** Let us make this year's souvenir journal the best ever.

3.) Every Lodge is required to display its current roll on the Secretary's desk at every meeting. Every Brother has the right to look at the roll to make sure his money is being sent to the Grand Lodge. Grand District Deputies, make certain that when you visit a lodge that you check to make sure that a current lodge roll is displayed on the Secretary's desk.

4.) The healing of a clandestine or irregular made Mason **must** be approved by the Grand Master and requires a dispensation. You may send a Request for Dispensation form to me at the Grand Lodge Office. Please check the "other" box and type or print: to heal and then list the individual(s) name(s).

5.) Every lodge should have a copy of the Jurisdictional Regalia Guide. It is also available on the website. **This guide is to be strictly adhered to by all members without any exceptions.**

6.) Every lodge should have a copy of our Anti-Hazing Policy. This policy is also available on our website. **Every lodge is to be in full compliance with the Anti-Hazing Policy.** No ceremonies or initiation procedures should be used other than what is in our official ritual, *Lester's Look to the East*. **Non-compliance will result in suspensions and/or expulsions.** Please familiarize yourselves with this policy thoroughly.

7.) When you renew your license plates please remember to purchase a Prince Hall Grand Lodge license plate. A donation of \$41.25 of the \$50.00 fee will go to the Prince Hall Legacy Foundation for scholarship purposes. We should be proud to show the world that we are Prince Hall Masons.

8.) Please continue to make use of our Traveling Again Reclamation Program (TARP). It has been extended until July 31, 2018.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Grand Lodge to be affixed and the same to be attested by the Grand Secretary on this 1st day of February 2018, A. L. 6018.

Corey D. Hawkins, Sr.

**Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., Esq.
Most Worshipful Grand Master
of the**

**Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama**



Attested:

George D. Echols

**George D. Echols
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary
of the**

**Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama**