# TO BE DISSEMINATED TO THE CRAFT

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## **OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION NUMBER 23**

**December 1, 2020** 

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:**

"And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger."

Luke 2:15-16

The recent presidential election drew the largest voter turnout in American history. I was delighted to see so many of us participating in the democratic process. We should always be vigilant in exercising our right to vote and we should hold our elected officials accountable for their representation of our best interest. This great country has elected a new President who will be sworn in on January 20, 2021.

During these uncertain times we must continue to keep our hands in the hand of our Lord and Savior. Through it all, we will make it. His grace and mercy will see us through. Please continuously check on the well-being of brothers of the craft and sisters of the Order of Eastern Star. We must remain prayerful and have faith that God Almighty will remove the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **GRAND LODGE OFFICERS**

"Teamwork divides the task and multiplies the success."

Author Unknown

The following is a list of the Grand Lodge Officers for Masonic year 2020-2021:

Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., Esq. (33), Grand Master

Robert W. Glenn (89), Deputy Grand Master

Woodie Pugh, Jr. (139), Senior Grand Warden

Maurice Edwards (3), Junior Grand Warden

Dr. James Gray, II (490), Grand Treasurer

Anthony J. Johnson (50), Grand Secretary/CCFC

Andrew J. Fuller (6), Grand Trustee 3 years

Morris E. Tooles, II (408), Grand Trustee 2 years

Victor B. Pettus (32), Grand Trustee (Chairman), 1 year

Tyrone C. Means, Esq. (345), Grand Attorney

Acie Hale (14), Grand Senior Deacon

Carlton Jones (428), Grand Junior Deacon

John Manuel (1), Grand Senior Steward

Charlie Axle (319), Grand Junior Steward

Rev. E. Baxter Morris (7), Grand Chaplain

Charles L. Motley, Jr. (624), Grand Standard Bearer

Robert L. Goodloe (46), Grand Sword Bearer

Freddie L. Armstead, Jr. (26), Grand Marshal

George Wilson (199), Grand Pursuivant

William Garrett (410), Grand Tyler/Assistant Convention Coordinator

Dennis Simmons (778), Endowment Secretary

Dr. Belfondia Pou (772), Grand Medical Registrar

Dr. L. Ken Collins, II (431), Grand Historian/Corporate Liaison

Dr. Marxlyn David (71), Grand Musician

Kevin Howard (216), Grand Recording Secretary

Johnny Isaac (398), Chief of Security/Special Deputy

Gregory L. Clark (218), Convention Coordinator/Corporate Liaison

Quinton Burrow (59), Aide to the Grand Master Desmond Thomas (33), Assistant Grand Recording Secretary James Littleton (67), Class Organizer

#### **GRAND DISTRICT DEPUTIES**

The following are the Grand District Deputies for Masonic year 2020-2021:

District Number 1 Llewellyn Spencer (2)

District Number 2 Lurie Walton (694)

District Number 3 Robert Stallworth, Jr. (141)

District Number 4 Billy Joe Stallworth (196)

District Number 5 Rickey Allen (218)

District Number 6 Billy Morris (444)

District Number 7 Erwin Chambliss (408)

District Number 8 Donald R. Parks (345)

District Number 10 Edward Cobb (395)

District Number 12 Rev. Richard Wilson, Jr. (642)

District Number 13 Alvin Crawford (213)

District Number 14 Walter Greene (431)

District Number 15 Kenneth Hardy (178)

District Number 17 H. Jerome Glover (50)

Our Grand District Deputies are the lifeline between the Grand Lodge and the Subordinate Lodges. They are the vocal pieces and the representatives of the Grand Master in their particular districts. All Worshipful Masters, Wardens, and Brothers are expected to cooperate fully with their Grand District Deputies. All Grand District Deputies are expected to attend to their respective duties diligently.

#### **SOUVENIR JOURNAL**

Although we did not print a book, our souvenir journal efforts for 2020 were a great success. I congratulate and thank all who participated. We will print ads for the 2020 and 2021 souvenir journal in our upcoming book. The souvenir journal information for 2021 is enclosed with this Communication and will be available on the website. Please sell as many ads as you can and pay strict attention to the deadline date of May 15, 2021. All subordinate lodges are <u>REQUIRED</u> to purchase or to sell a full-page ad or two half-page ads. If the lodge purchased or sold an ad for the 2020 souvenir journal, it is also responsible for selling or

purchasing an ad for the 2021 souvenir journal. Both ads will be placed in the book.

#### NEW LICENSE PLATE

The new Prince Hall Grand Lodge license plate is now available. Please renew or 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.

#### **NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS**

This Grand Lodge tax season we will migrate to plastic membership cards without charge to the present membership. I was able to purchase the card printing machine and the supplies with funds from the discretionary donations. In the ensuing year, as lodges pay up to current in the tax department, all members, who are presently on the roll, will receive a plastic membership card. Five dollars will be added to the new membership fee and reinstatement fee to cover the cost of a new membership card for those joining and reinstating. There will be a \$10.00 fee to replace a lost or stolen card. In the past, paper membership cards were printed at ten cents per card; however, we will be using stickers to place on the plastic cards at a cost of twenty-five cents per sticker. Because our system has not been updated, the current tax invoice will have a charge of ten cents per sticker; however, the extra fifteen cents per sticker will be added to the invoice in May.

#### TRAVELING AGAIN RECLAMATION PROGRAM (TARP)

Our Traveling Again Reclamation Program (TARP) has been an asset to this great organization. "Out of Bounds" Brothers are continuing to come back home to Prince Hall Freemasonry. Let us continue to welcome those Brothers back and encourage more to come. Below reflects the increase in the reinstatement fee.

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

\$25.00 reinstatement fee

\$25.00 taxes

\$25.00 registration

\$50.00 assessment—Have two years to pay the remaining \$150.00 \$125.00 TOTAL

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

\$25.00 reinstatement fee \$25.00 taxes \$25.00 registration \$50.00 assessment—Have two years to pay the remaining \$200.00 \$125.00 TOTAL

\*Add \$5.00 if the reinstating member desires a membership certificate.

The two years to pay the assessment will be closely monitored by me. Those who do not pay the assessment will be suspended again for non-payment. If a Brother had already made payments on his assessment to the Grand Lodge he will be credited for his payment(s). If a Brother's lodge no longer exists he is to be referred to his Grand District Deputy to help in completing the paperwork to place him on another lodge's roll.

Brothers continue to go out and reclaim our lost membership. This is an excellent way to rebuild our lodges. I have extended TARP through July 31, 2021.

# COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS & "SOFT" RE-OPENING of the JURISDICTION of ALABAMA

On October 8, 2020, I issued a directive allowing all masonic bodies to participate in community service projects, effective immediately. **CDC guidelines are to be** followed while participating in community service projects. Participants must wear masks and practice social distancing. Also, within said directive, was as of January 1, 2021, the Jurisdiction of Alabama will engage in a "soft" re-opening of masonic functions. During this "soft" re-opening, lodges will have the option of meeting in person or may opt not to meet. REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE LODGES OPT TO MEET IN PERSON OR NOT, ALL LODGES ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OBLIGATIONS TO THE GRAND **LODGE.** If lodges do opt to meet in person, they must conform to a list of The immediate reinstatement of participation in **mandatory** stipulations. community service projects and the "soft" re-opening of the jurisdiction as of January 1, 2021, will remain in effect until upgraded to a "full" re-opening, unless otherwise rescinded in part or in its entirety. To see the Community Service Projects and "Soft" Re-opening of the Jurisdiction of Alabama directive in its

entirety and to study the list of mandatory stipulations please log on to www.mwphglofal.org.

#### 2020 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

Applicant Name	College/University	<b>Amount Given</b>
Taylor Moore-Jones	Samford University	\$1,400.00
Chaeli White	Wallace Community College	\$1,400.00
Zamaya Arnold	Enterprise State Community College	\$1,400.00
Jazmyne Isaac	University of Alabama	\$1,400.00
Aumaria Lindsey	University of Alabama	\$1,400.00
Autumn Hawkins	Troy University	\$1,400.00
Cole Cooney	Troy University	\$1,400.00
Keyshauna Bryant	Auburn University at Montgomery	\$1,400.00
Scholarships	Alabama A.&M. University	\$5,000.00
Scholarships	Alabama State University	\$5,000.00
Scholarships	Tuskegee University	\$5,000.00
Scholarships	Miles College	\$2,500.00
Scholarships	Stillman College	\$2,500.00
Scholarships	Talladega College	\$2,500.00

### WINNING DISTRICTS FOR SOUVENIR JOURNAL AD SALES

1<sup>st</sup> Place – District No. 4 R. W. Billy Joe Stallworth, Grand District Deputy

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - District No. 14 R. W. Walter Greene, Grand District Deputy

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – District No. 7 R. W. Erwin Chambliss, Grand District Deputy

#### GRAND LODGE OFFICE CLOSED TO APPOINTMENTS and WALK-INS

In a continued attempt to eliminate risk of exposure to our employees, the Office of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. and A. M. of Alabama remains closed to appointments and walk-ins until further notice. The business of the Grand Lodge will continue to be transacted via U.S. Mail, email, telephone, and/or facsimile, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

#### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

- 1.) Grand Lodge taxes are \$25.00 per member, per year. IF YOUR LODGE PAYS ITS TAXES SEMI-ANNUALLY, THE AMOUNT DUE WILL BE \$12.50 PER MEMBER BY DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> AND MAY 30<sup>TH</sup>. IF YOUR LODGE PAYS ITS TAXES ANNUALLY, THE AMOUNT DUE WILL BE \$25.00 PER MEMBER BY DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>. All Worshipful Masters of all lodges are requested to send all Grand Lodge taxes to R. W. Anthony J. Johnson, Grand Secretary, Post Office Box 6468, Huntsville, Alabama 35813-6468, 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.) Be sure to send all endowment reports to our Endowment Office Supervisor, Mrs. Kathy Dunnigan-Taylor, Post Office Box 10504, Birmingham, Alabama 35202-0504, each month—but not later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- **3.**) To enter the Alabama School of Masonry (masonic college) on our website, you must enter the password
- **4.)** When filing a death claim, be sure to mail in the **original death certificate** along with the Endowment/Burial Claim. Please notate if the family wishes to have the original copy of the death certificate returned to them and we will return it after review.
- **5.)** The current fee structure is as follows:
  - a.) Reinstatement \$25.00
  - b.) New Membership (includes membership certificate) \$30.00
  - c.) Membership Certificates \$5.00
  - d.) Taxes \$25.00
  - e.) Registration \$25.00
  - f.) Cornerstone & Burial \$6.00
  - g.) Replacement Membership Card \$10.00
  - h.) Membership Card Sticker 25C
  - i.) Book of Constitutions \$20.00
  - j.) Assessment New Members and those suspended before June 2002 \$200.00. Those suspended after June 2002 \$250.00 (all have two years to pay)

**6.)** Any current or reinstating member who would like to receive a membership certificate may send a check or money order in the amount of \$5.00 to the Grand Lodge Office along with a note requesting a certificate.

#### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

During this holiday season, and always, let us be thankful for the many blessings the Grand Architect of the Universe has bestowed upon us, and let us remember the less fortunate. Let us pray for peace, safety and prosperity for our families, our dear country and for our beloved Grand Lodge during the holidays and for the upcoming new year. I implore each of you to please remember the true reason for the Christmas season, the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior. I wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed, Safe and Prosperous New Year!

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 1<sup>st</sup> day of December 2020, A. L. 6020

Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., Esq. Most Worshipful Grand Master

of the

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

Attested:

Anthony J. Johnson

**Right Worshipful Grand Secretary** 

of the

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