



# THE CORNERSTONE MESSAGE

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

VOLUME V, ISSUE II

JULY 2022

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Schedule of Events

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# TEMPLE PLANS INSIDE



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*"Showing gratitude is the simplest yet most  
powerful things humans can do for each other."*

Randy Pausch

Welcome to historic Mobile, the port city of Alabama and the birthplace of Mardi Gras. As we assemble for our 152nd Annual Communication we should count our blessings and we should also remember those brothers who have gone before us. Were it not for them and their dedication to this Order, we would not be where we are today.

We are still currently in our "soft reopening" phase of our pandemic plans. It is our hope that we will be back at "full reopen" status by mid to late fall. This is when every lodge will be required to have its meetings in person again. Since our soft reopening we are beginning to see an increase in our membership again.

Several lodges had candidates in waiting and now have had the opportunity to initiate, pass, and raise them. We look forward to a continued increase in membership.

We are continuing to move forward with Temple Renovation Project. In this issue of *The Cornerstone Message*, you will find the floor plans for our cherished headquarters, as well as, the preleasing flyer for office space within the building. Items are being moved out of the Temple and unwanted items are being discarded. A construction fence has been erected around the building. We are eagerly anticipating the next phase of the renovation project.

I want to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU. THANK YOU for being the devoted members that you are. THANK YOU for your allegiance and dedication to this Grand Lodge. THANK YOU for your patience and perseverance during the pandemic. THANK YOU for your unwavering support. We are in this together, and together we will carry this Grand Lodge to the highest of heights. Let us continue to look to the hills from whence cometh our help! May God bless you; may He bless this 152nd Annual Communication, and may He bless our beloved Grand Lodge.

Fraternally,

*Corey D. Hawkins, Sr.*

Most Worshipful Grand Master

Front Cover: Masonic Temple,  
1630 4th Ave N  
Birmingham, AL



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:

I want to continue to stress the importance of Masonic education keeping the brethren engaged and providing specific Masonic context for stated meetings. Your new members may not grasp the importance of an hour-long discussion about why the utility bill is \$40 more this month than last, but they will eagerly soak up a 30-minute discussion about a sprig of acacia, or why the working tools are what they are. Masonic education is part, a large part, of what makes up

the Masonic experience, and many of our members have joined seeking just that. Fulfill their expectations and they will stay engaged. Additionally, by having meaningful Masonic education, you might just induce a few members who have been absent lately to attend more regularly.

In forming your Masonic Education Committee, take care to include members of the lodge who can deliver both stimulating education and understand how new members wish to absorb that education. To help prepare the lodge for the educational preferences, the committee can begin building a library of interesting topics of discussion, investigate interactive methods of delivery, and

explore secure online options for discussion and interaction on educational topics. Don't be afraid to use Grand Lodge resources from the Masonic College as topics of discussion. Invite brothers from other lodges or have multiple lodges in the Masonic Education as we all should be pushing towards the same goal.

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 2022 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:

- \$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

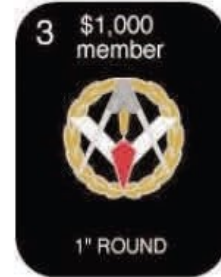
**TARP** serves a two-fold purpose: (1.) It gives suspended Brothers a more affordable means of reinstating and (2.) It gives dying lodges a final opportunity to salvage their existence by increasing their numbers before being forced to close or merge. Our Grand Master has extended a challenge for the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

# Support the Temple Renovation

**M**ost

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.



## PURCHASE YOUR ALABAMA PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE LICENSE PLATE

### YOUR PLATE MAY BE DISPLAYED UPON THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF VEHICLES



- private passenger automobiles
- pickup trucks
- motorcycles
- pleasure motor vehicles (i.e., recreational vehicles)



### FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

<https://revenue.alabama.gov/motor-vehicle/license-plate-information/generic-specialty-plates/prince-hall-grand-lodge/>  
(You may purchase the MWPHGL of AL Tags Anytime, You do not have to wait for your renewal Month!)

# Support the Prince Hall Legacy Foundation

## AmazonSmile Prime

**Support the Prince Hall Legacy Foundation  
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### **What is AmazonSmile?**

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop with AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. You can choose from over one million organizations to support.

### **How do I shop with AmazonSmile?**

To use AmazonSmile, simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your web browser or activate AmazonSmile in the Amazon Shopping app on your iOS or Android phone within the Settings or Programs & Features menu. On your web browser, you can add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping with AmazonSmile.

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AmazonSmile is available for Amazon customers with the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app on their mobile phone, including Android devices with version 7.0+ or iOS devices with version 12+. To activate AmazonSmile in the Amazon Shopping app, simply tap on "AmazonSmile" within the Programs & Features menu or Settings and follow the on-screen instructions.

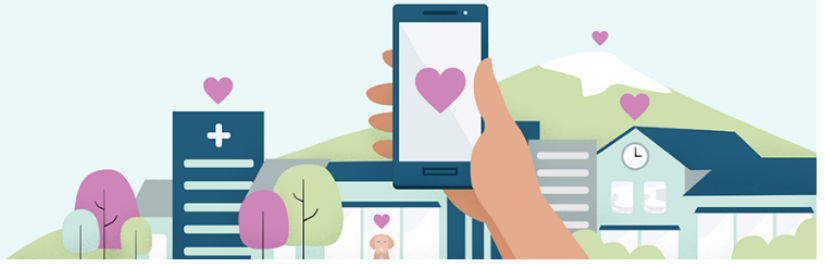
### **Do I need to renew AmazonSmile?**

AmazonSmile renewals happen twice a year to help keep AmazonSmile on mobile app. AmazonSmile will notify you of these renewals via push notifications and through in-app notifications. If you miss a renewal you can reactivate at any time by repeating the steps to "turn on" AmazonSmile on your mobile device. There is no renewal period for browser shopping on AmazonSmile, which you can use anytime by typing 'smile.amazon.com' into your browser.



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You can now support your favorite charity on iPhone & Android phones



### How to turn on AmazonSmile in the mobile app

1

#### Get the app

Download or update to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app on your phone. You can find it in the [App Store](#) for iOS or [Google Play](#) for Android.

2

#### Join AmazonSmile

If you are not already an AmazonSmile member, simply sign up at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select your favorite charity to start generating donations, at no cost to you.

3

#### Turn on AmazonSmile

Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (≡). Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

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All ▼

Prince Hall Legacy of Alabama

Search

Showing 1-1 of 1 Results

Sort by: Relevance ▼

### Prince Hall Legacy of Alabama

Birmingham, AL | Public Foundations

Select

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Remember, only purchases at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) or through AmazonSmile activated in the Amazon Shopping app will support your selected charity.

#### AmazonSmile benefits



#### Same products, same prices, no cost to you

AmazonSmile has the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping as the Amazon you know.



#### Generate donations

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# \$29M Renovation Underway for Masonic Temple Building

*Printed by bhamnow.com in February 2022. We have added photos of preleasing advertisement and floorplan renderings*

The long-awaited renovation of the Masonic Temple Building in Birmingham's 4th Avenue Historic District is soon to be underway. Historic District Developers, the team behind the project, plans to restore the Masonic Temple Building as the center of commerce for the 4th Avenue Historic District with options for retail, makers, office and event space and more.

If you're not familiar with Birmingham's Masonic Temple Building, I wouldn't blame you—the building has been vacant since around the 2010's. I first got an inside look at the building in 2019, when I joined three photojournalists on a rare tour of the building led by Mr. Dennis Simmons, Endowment Secretary for the Prince Hall Grand Lodge—the order of Masons that own the building.



*The Masonic Temple Building's grand ballroom, where greats such as Count Basie, Erskine Hawkins and Duke Ellington performed.*

The Masonic Temple Building was built between 1922 and 1924 for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama, a fraternal organization. Located in the 4th Avenue Historic District, the building quickly became a center for black-owned businesses in Birmingham.

During the city's long period of segregation, the Masonic Temple Building was one of the few places where black people in Birmingham could go to see a doctor, register to vote, see a concert and more. The 8-story temple held a basement pool hall, a grand ballroom for events, an extensive library and other services like a popular drug store and soda parlor, barbershops, physician's and dentist's offices.

Here are a few fun facts about Birmingham's Masonic Temple Building:

- Masons from across the state contributed funds for the Masonic Temple Building, allowing the Prince Hall Grand Lodge to pay the \$658,000 bill in cash—no mortgage needed.
- The Booker T. Washington Library, one of the first libraries to lend books to black people in Alabama, moved into the Masonic Temple Building in 1924.
- The building's grand ballroom, which could seat as many as 2,000 guests, hosted legendary acts like Erskine Hawkins, Count Basie and Duke Ellington.



*The Masonic Temple Building is located at 1630 4th Ave N in Birmingham's 4th Avenue Historic District.*

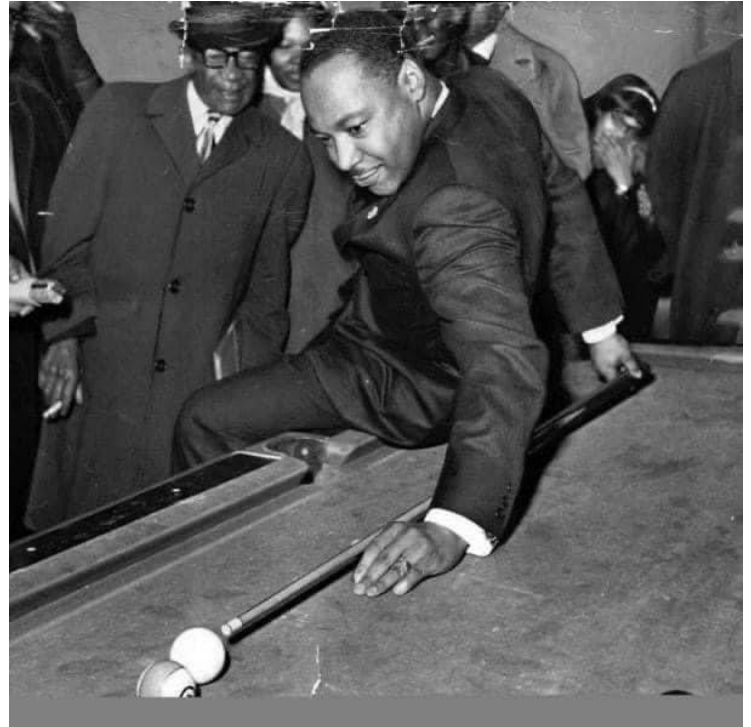




*A 1924 photo showing Grand Master W.T. Woods and other masons in the building's grand ballroom.  
(Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama)*

### **Coming soon: a transformational \$29M renovation**

One thing is for certain—the Masonic Temple Building was built to last. Although the building has suffered from nearly a decade and a half of vacancy, its bones are strong as ever. The building's owners have teamed up with Historic District Developers to bring the building into the 21st century.



*Martin Luther King, Jr. in the basement of the masonic temple with S.J. Bennett in the background.*

Historic District Developers—joint venture between Direct Invest Development LLC and Henderson & Company—is also working on the redevelopment of the Ramsay McCormack Building in Ensley.

In the coming weeks, Historic District Developers will begin removing, cataloging and archiving the artifacts that remain inside the building. Once the building is clear, the team can get to work on the renovation.

“[Historic District Developers’] vision for the renovation is essentially an updated version of the Masonic Temple Building’s original state. We’d love to attract community-serving businesses like the ones that originally utilized this space. We also want this to be a space for prospective entrepreneurs to get started in an iconic, historic building. On the second floor you have the grand ballroom, which we want to continue to utilize as an event space.”

Llevelyn Rhone, Project Manager, Historic District Developers

Historic District Developers’ plans for the Masonic Temple Building include:

- Use as an Innovation Center, Workplace & Gathering Place
- Complete Exterior Historic Preservation & Restoration
- Historically Restored and Preserved Interior Public Space
- 20 Gbps Broadband Fiber Optic Digital Network
- Meeting Space for up to 600 people with Banquet Kitchen & Bar
- Private offices & Coworking Space
- Zoned High-Performance HVAC
- 24 Hour Access and Security
- LEED Gold Green Building Certified
- WELL Building Certified
- Improved Indoor Air Quality
- On Site Renewable Solar Energy
- Wet Labs & Clean Room
- 150 KW Backup Electrical Generator
- Access to Fully Equipped Maker Space and more

According to a representative for Historic District Developers, design is currently underway and construction is scheduled to begin later this year.

“Our goal in restoring the Masonic Temple Building goes beyond just restoring the physical structure; we want this project to recreate community here in the 4th Avenue Historic District. We want to start planting the seeds of community here, with residences and new space to support small businesses.”

Llevelyn Rhone, Project Manager, Historic District Developers

Source: <https://bhamnow.com/2022/02/14/29m-renovation-underway-for-masonic-temple-building-details-exclusive-look/>



## OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE

in the Heart of Birmingham's  
Civil Rights District

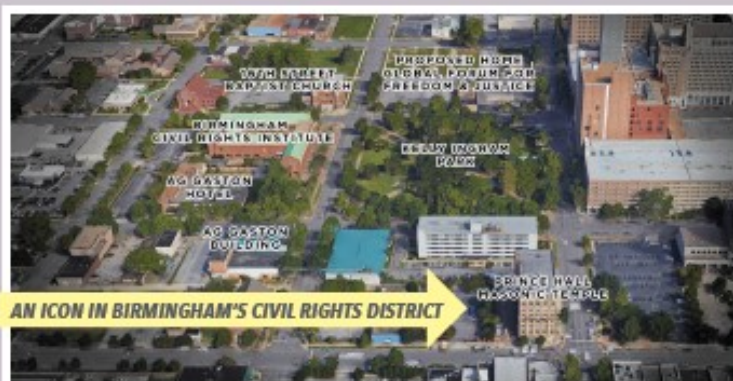
319 17<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Birmingham, AL



**Lease Rate:**  
CALL FOR PRICING

### Amenities

- Completely renovated main lobby, common area, and restrooms
- Favorable leasing terms
- Exterior building signage opportunities
- Access to parking
- 20 Gbps broadband fiber optic Internet
- Cutting edge COVID-19 prevention
- Walkability to an array of restaurants, banks, and other retail amenities



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319 17th Street North Birmingham, AL  
205.871.7100

The Birmingham Prince Hall Masonic Lodge Rehabilitation has accounted for a rigorous sustainability and healthy building approach. With an intentional design and construction strategy, the project team has created a plan that prioritizes the building's energy, water and material consumption performance as well as the betterment of its occupants. We know now, more than ever, that health and wellness must be one of the leading drivers of development within our built environment. The Birmingham Prince Hall Masonic Lodge Rehabilitation has given special attention to incorporating systems to limit the spread of airborne COVID contaminants and improve upon the overall indoor air quality of its future occupants.



Birmingham Prince Hall Masonic Lodge Birmingham Prince Hall Masonic Lodge is designated as one of the most important buildings in the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument.

#### **Sustainability Features**

- Sustainable Site Design
- Reserved LEV Parking Spaces
- Natural Daylight
- Bicycle Storage Facilities

#### **Health & Wellness Programming**

- Cleaning & Disinfecting Protocols
- Contactless Controls
- Exercise Room
- Quiet Room

#### **Water Efficiency**

- Ultra Low Flow Fixtures
- Water Bottle Refilling Stations

#### **Energy and Atmosphere**

- High Efficient HVAC System
- LED Lighting and Lighting Controls
- Enhanced Building Insulation
- Enhanced Commissioning

#### **Material and Resources**

- Low-Emitting Materials
- Daylighting
- Asbestos Safe Property
- Indoor Air Quality Policy
- Integrated Pest Management

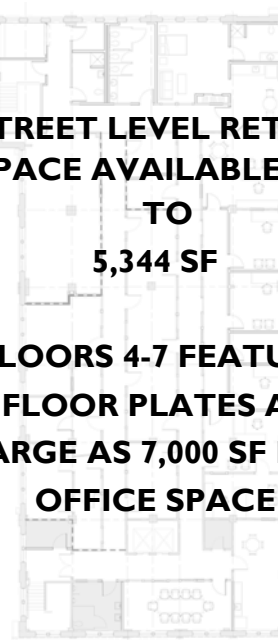
#### **Indoor Environmental Quality**

- Increased Outside Air Ventilation
- State of the Art Filtration (B-Polar Ionization & MERV 13 filter)
- HVAC System Operations

**STREET LEVEL RETAIL  
SPACE AVAILABLE UP  
TO**

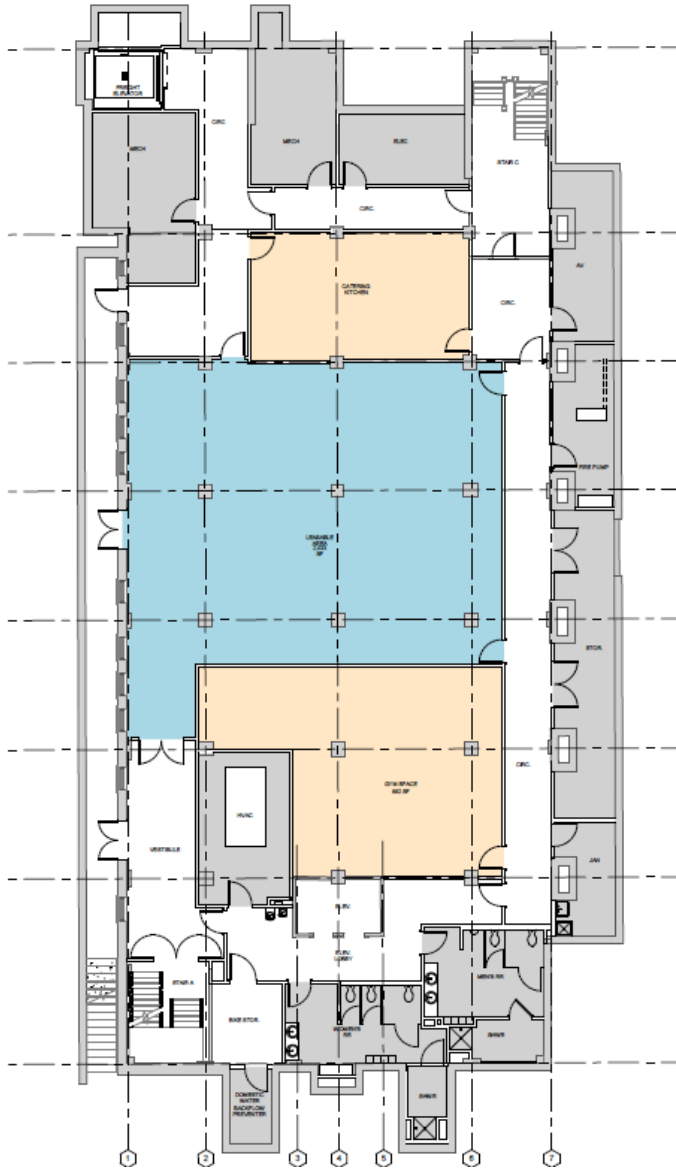
**5,344 SF**

**FLOORS 4-7 FEATURE  
FLOOR PLATES AS  
LARGE AS 7,000 SF FOR  
OFFICE SPACE**

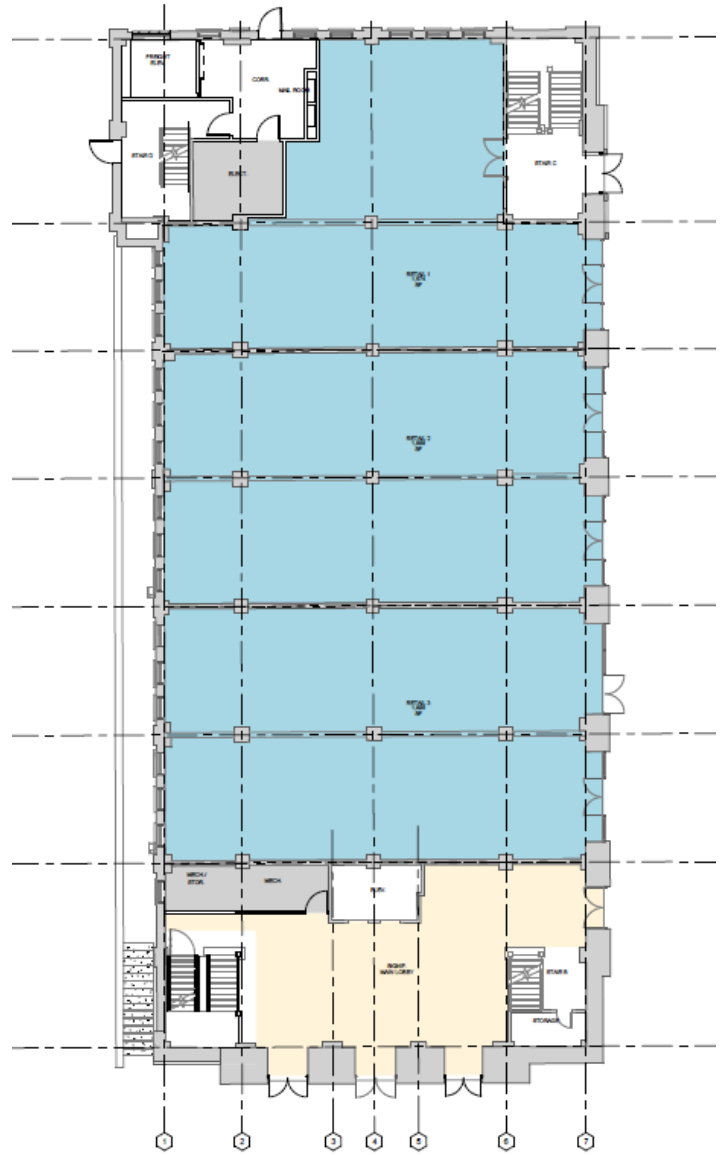




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205.871.7100

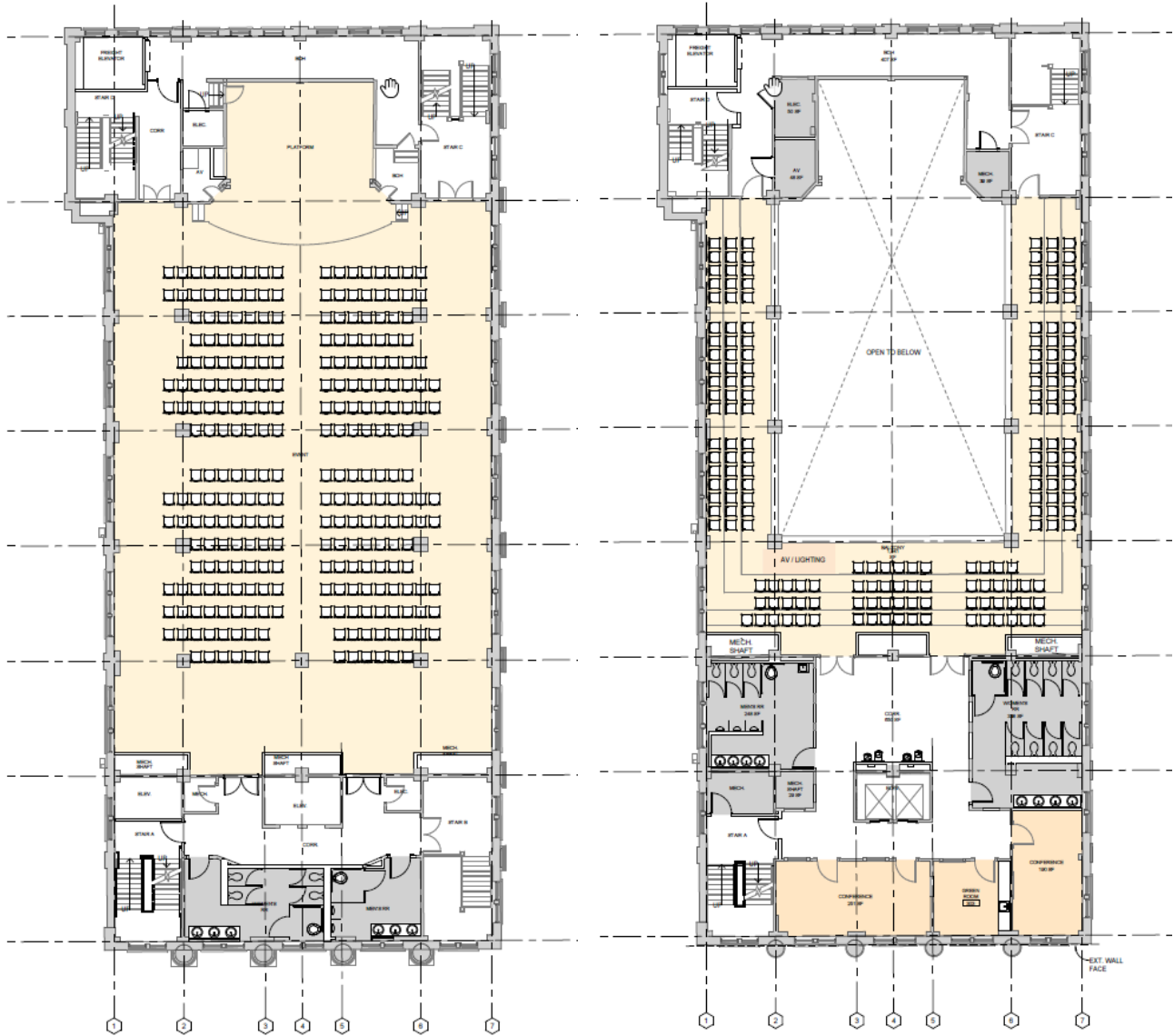


**BASEMENT PLAN**



**FIRST FLOOR PLAN**

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205.871.7100

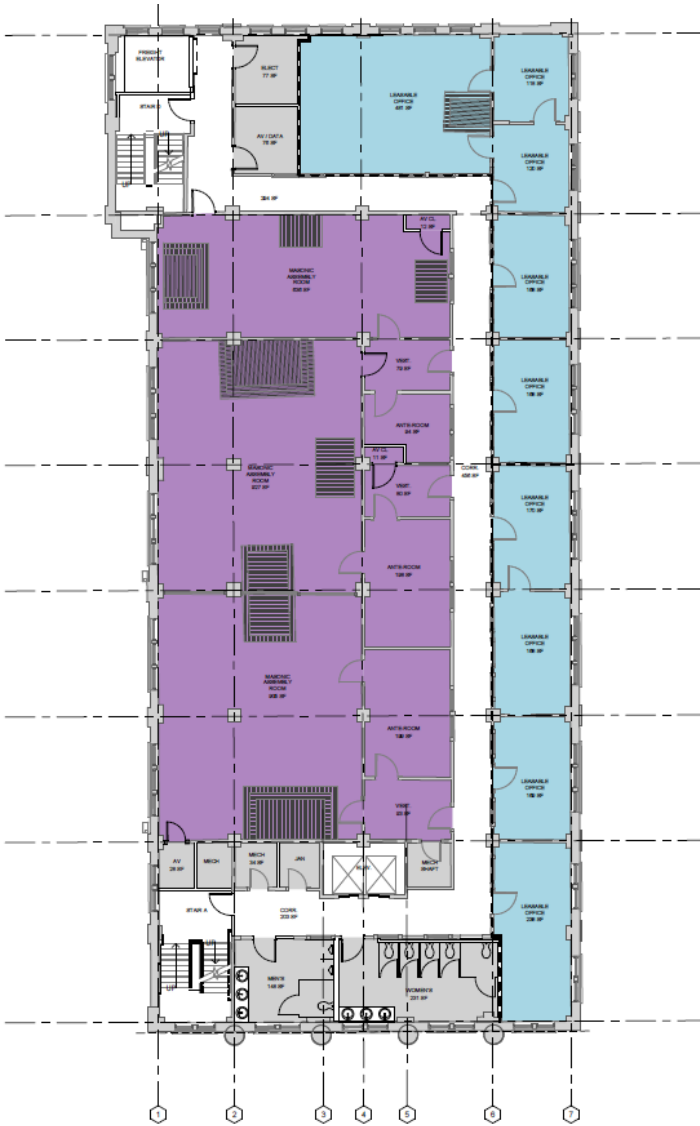


SECOND FLOOR PLAN

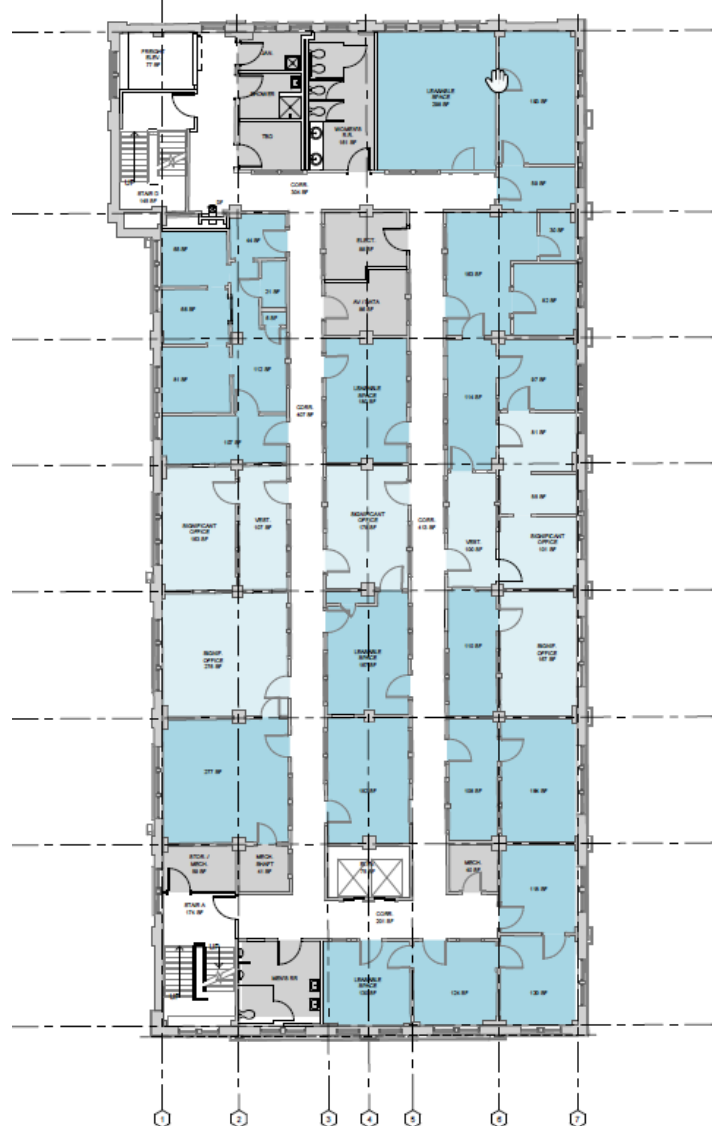
THIRD FLOOR PLAN



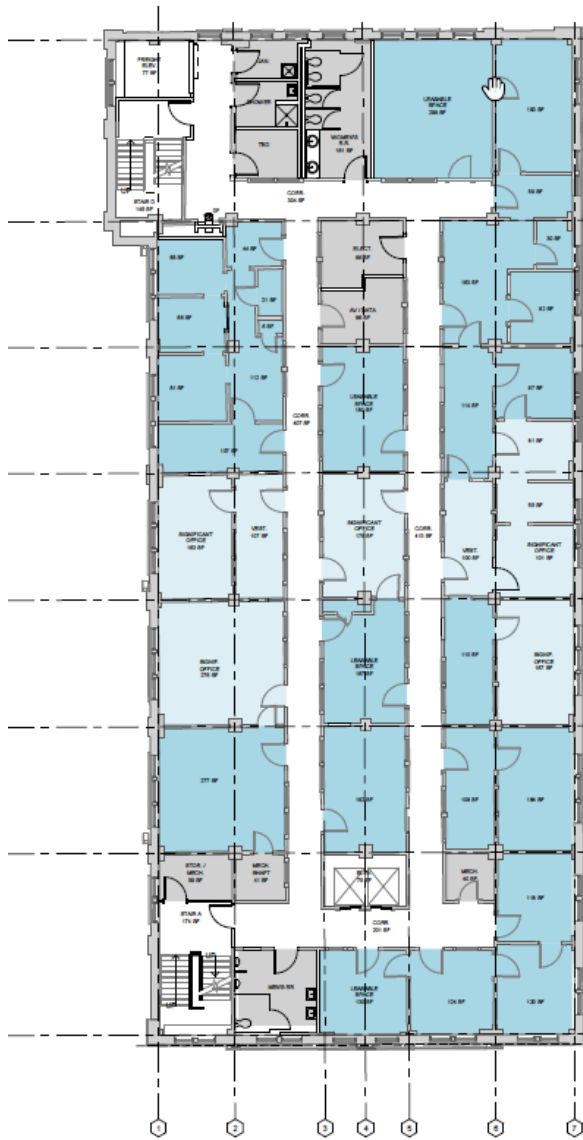
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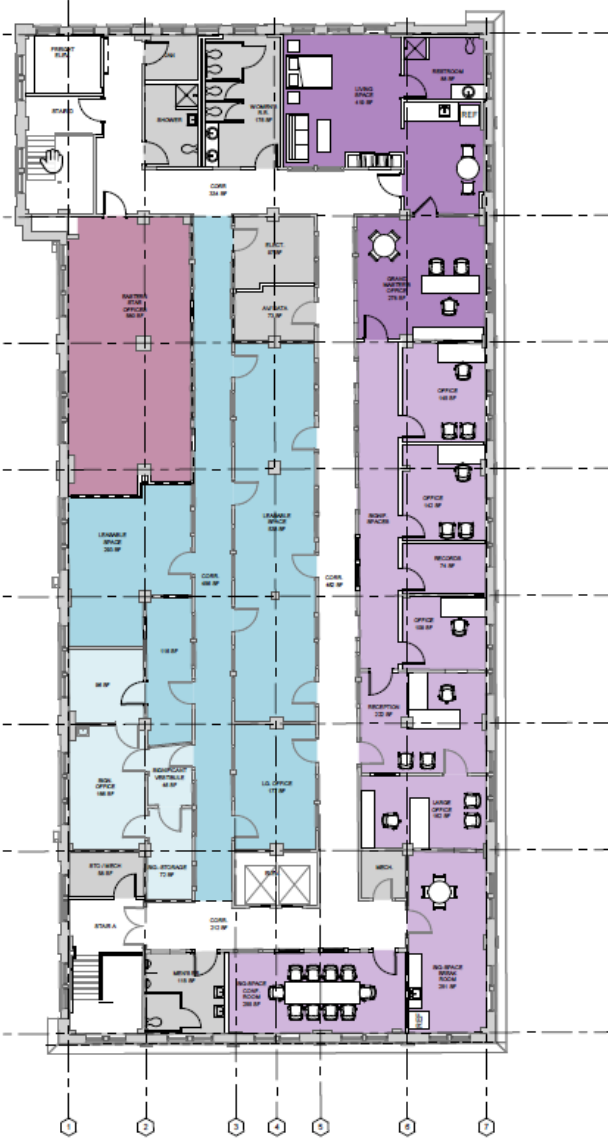
FORTH FLOOR PLAN



FIFTH FLOOR PLAN



SIXTH FLOOR PLAN



SEVENTH FLOOR PLAN



# MOBILE, ALABAMA

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

Africatown

Battleship

Beads

Carnival

Cathedral

Costumes

Cruise

Dauphin Street

Fat Tuesday

Figures

Floats

Fort

Gulf Coast

Hank Aaron

Mardi Gras

Mobile Bay

Moonpies

Museums

Parade

Port

Rain

Sam Jones

Seafood

USS Alabama





HB15

214699-1

By Representative McCampbell

RFD: Ways and Means Education

First Read: 11-JAN-22

PFD: 09/01/2021

214699-1:n:08/04/2021:ANS/cr LSA2021-1656

SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the state imposes sales and use taxes upon certain persons, firms, or corporations. The state also imposes a sales tax on the operation of places of amusement or entertainment. Counties and municipalities impose various additional sales and use taxes. Certain entities are exempted from state, county, or local sales and use taxes. This bill would exempt the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge F. and A.M. of Alabama, from all state, county, and municipal fees and taxes.

### **A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT**

To exempt the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge F. and A.M. of Alabama, from the payment of all state, county, and municipal fees and taxes.

### **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:**

#### **Section 1.**

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge F. and A.M. of Alabama are exempted from paying all state, county, and municipal fees and taxes until September 30, 2027, unless extended by an act of the Legislature.

#### **Section 2.**

This act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

# A Message from the Grand Trustee

## R.W. Morris Toolles, Jr.

### Reflections

After more than three decades of membership in this grand order, I can say, beyond any doubt, that it has been a high honor to be a part of and to serve in, this glorious body of men. Prince Hall Masonry, in this jurisdiction, has provided so much to so many that have united within our ranks. For instance, Masonry has departed an enormous amount of wisdom and knowledge to its members. I can truly say that the wisdom I have received from the brotherhood has cemented the bricks in my temple of life.

In my travels, both near and far, I have met brothers of the craft that I today count as some of my closest friends, and I consider many of them family. These meaningful and long-lasting relationships would not have been possible but for my membership into this august body of men.

Of course, I am grateful to the brothers of my lodge, Milton W. Howze No. 408 for its steady hand of guidance down through the years. I keenly recall being one of 408's youngest members there for a while and took great pride in absorbing so much wisdom and knowledge that was being bequeathed to me. I observed brothers, even in their meager incomes, give liberally and cheerfully to the cause of Masonry. Each of them, in their own unique and endearing manner, imparted life instructions that I still cherish and implement today. And I too, in like manner, try to share valuable lessons of life to brothers coming along behind me. There is much to be learned from within the four walls of a lodge hall. For that is the way of Masonry.

Naturally, I am in great gratitude to this grand lodge as well. From the annual addresses of our beloved Grand Master to the devotional services rendered by our Grand Chaplain or his designee, all have served to be inspirational to me in some form and have guided my footsteps along the way.

I believe that every brother has something to offer. It is when you give of your time, gifts, and talents that you will come to see the true meaning and beauty of masonry and the brotherhood that is cultivated. I encourage each of you to not allow yourselves to be passive bench members. Take an active and engaging role in your lodge. When you travel, go beyond your normal, comforting circle of brothers and seek new light, new information, and new knowledge. Learn from each other. That is the way.

In today's time, our future seems more uncertain than ever. I am reminded of *Psalms 37:25 KJV; I have been young, and now I am old. Yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.*

No matter how tough times get, or how dark life seems to appear, I know that God will take care of us.



**GRAND TRUSTEE**  
**R.W. Morris Toolles, Jr.**

# A Blast from the Past

## PINE GROVE LODGE No. 639

Daphne, AL



Above: Some of the members of Lodge #639, (Not shown but taking picture, John W. Leonard).



Pine Grover Lodge Hall #639

### OFFICERS:

LEROY LETT, Worshipful Master  
George Armstead, Senior Warden  
John Mims, Jr. Warden  
Herman Thompson, Secretary  
James Conaway, Treasurer

*(Photos taken circa. 1970)*



# From Whence We've Come...

## The Saga of the Scottish Rite in Alabama: Part 1

When one enters the portals of the mysteries and fraternal bonds of this time-honored institution, members eagerly continue their desire to satiate their appetite for *more light in masonry*. Thus, the newly raised Master Mason then looks to either the York Rite or Scottish Rite for many reasons, albeit ambitious feet, genuine inquisitiveness, a study of the mysteries or merely gaining a more comfortable understanding of the breadth of Freemasonry.

Prince Hall Freemasonry in Alabama has historically upheld a well-maintained national platform of respect amongst its peers. So much so, that each era has seen Alabama in the membership ranks of the Fraternity nationally.

The Ancient & Accepted Rite, commonly referred to in modern times as the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry (Scottish Rite) is no exception. Scottish Rite Freemasonry first landed in the state of Alabama, as early as 1887-1889.

The first Alabama Mason to be initiated into the Scottish Rite was Bro. O. C. Clayborne. Bro. Clayborne was advanced as a Sublime Prince in the Orient of Louisiana.

### The Devil in Disguise – The Rise and Fall of John G. Jones

In 1895, a well-respected and rising star in Prince Hall Freemasonry by the name of John G. Jones (JGJ) would initiate a concerted effort to destroy the fabric of Prince Hall Freemasonry throughout the country. JGJ is best known for his position as the Grand Imperial Potentate of the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. While he held high esteem in the Shrine, he was also an influential figure in the African American political and social scenes, to include his leadership roles in the PHGL of Illinois and the USC-SJ.

JGJs status and political prowess would see his ascent into the ranks of the USC-SJ. Sovereign Grand Commander Thornton A. Jackson would appoint him as a Deputy for the USC-SJ and he would be elected Grand Chancellor. While his upward trajectory in the Shrine and African American politics created a strong following, his personality and callous nature fostered a cancerous ill-content within the ranks and leadership of Prince Hall Freemasonry, to include SGC Thornton Jackson.

In 1894, SGC Jackson would attend the World's Fair in Chicago at another meeting of leaders in Prince Hall Freemasonry. SGC Jackson would utilize this meeting to confer both the degrees of the Order of the Eastern Star on numerous Prince Hall leaders, to include, then Grand Master of Alabama, Major Rueben R. Mims. Jackson would also confer the degrees of the Scottish Rite on leaders there, as well.

At this same gathering, JGJ would be shunned from the meetings, just as he was the previous year, but used his status as Grand Imperial Potentate to leverage access to leadership of Prince Hall Freemasonry. During his meetings he created a rift with masonic leaders in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Ohio. These actions would ultimately lead to his descent in the ranks of the Scottish Rite.

The following year, on October 21, 1895, at the Annual Session of the USC-SJ, JGJ would arrive to the Executive Session following the close of the Shrine's Annual Session, held in Washington, DC. JGJ attended the Executive Session and requested to be excused given his fatigue from the meetings he'd attended. SGC Jackson excused JGJ from the meeting and elections for the USC-SJ began immediately. JGJ was currently serving as Lieutenant Grand Commander and the body of leadership ultimately demoted JGJ down two stations to the position of Illustrious Grand Chancellor.

The following morning JGJ would learn of his demotion and call a meeting at the home of Dorsey Seville and illegally advance and elevate 18 men as Honorary Grand Inspectors General and proceeded to organize a clandestine, spurious, irregular and bogus self-styled United Supreme Council. Within a week, JGJ, being a licensed attorney, rushed to incorporate his clandestine organization by taking the name of the original organization, which was designated, United Supreme Council, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern & Western Jurisdiction. This allowed them to own the name legally as a business, but neither any Masonic authority nor Masonic Regularity.

In light of JGJ's standing via the Shrine, politically, and the PHGL of Illinois, he was able to dupe hundreds of unsuspecting Prince Hall Masons and members of the Shrine across the country into becoming members of his self-styled clandestine body. This would ultimately lead to stark divisions of Prince Hall Grand Lodges and a breach of *peace & harmony*; thereby, irreparably harming Prince Hall Ancient Craft Masonry. The ultimate ends would see a series of clandestine Grand Lodges established and solidify the ultimate birth of clandestine Freemasonry amongst people of color in the United States. Of which, JGJ would be the Father of Clandestine Freemasonry in America.

### **Clandestine Scottish Rite Freemasonry Slithers its way into Alabama**

On August 4, 1898, JGJ visited Birmingham and establish St. Joseph's Temple and a Council of Royal & Select Masters. JGJ would also constitute a clandestine Consistory, entitled Red Cross. Wm. R. Taylor was appointed as the Deputy for the Orient of Alabama by JGJ.

The inaugural elected officers of Red Cross Consistory were:

- Wm. R. Taylor – Commander-in-Chief
- Allen Moore – 1<sup>st</sup> Lt.
- D.W. Daniels – 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt.
- R.S. Hoover – Gr. Minster of State
- G.W. Mitchell – Gr. Chancellor
- A.A. McClanahan – Gr. Secretary
- O.S. Saunders – Gr. Treasurer
- Wm. Davis – Gr. Master of Ceremonies

## Beware of Greeks Bearing Gifts

For years Red Cross Consistory struggled to thrive in Alabama, under JGJ. The state of Alabama was not aware of Red Cross Consistory's status due to failing communication at that era and also JGJ's prowess within Prince Hall Freemasonry.

Even the strongest of leaders can be duped into clandestine masonry. As an example, in 1901, Grand Master Henry C. Binford, Sr., Gr. Treasurer H.C. Harris, and Gr. Secretary Henry C. Binford, Jr., were all duped into becoming members of and participating in the JGJ body. Bro. Harris was previously a member of the real USC-SJ; however, he served as an officer in the JGJ Imperial Grand Council. (**Note:** We are not aware of why Harris worked briefly within the JGJ Clandestine body.)

Shortly thereafter, on April 7, 1902, GM H.C. Binford, Sr. and Gr. Treasurer H.C. Harris were elevated to the 33° and Gr. Secretary H.C. Binford, Jr. was advanced to the 32°, at the Inaugural Grand Masonic Congress. Minutes of the USC-SJ highlight their irregularities were healed by SGC Thornton Jackson.

GM Binford was livid concerning the JGJ matter and utilized his paper, *The Journal*, to publish articles from several news outlets regarding JGJ being deemed a "Fakir".

"John G. Jones a Fakir

The negro journals are denouncing as a fake one John G. Jones, an expelled negro Mason, who is travelling over the country establishing lodges of Blue Masons, consistories and shrines. Let the craft track him down and make him bite the dust – *Star of Zion*, Charlotte, N.C.

We have been saying something like this on the quiet for a long time, but never made any publicity of it. This is the same and identical John G. Jones that was refused admission to the Masonic Congress which met in Chicago, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1893. – *The New Light*

## Scottish Rite Regularity Returned to Alabama

In 1897, a young prosperous entrepreneur, well-connected businessman and Prince Hall Freemason hailing from the PHGL of the District of Columbia would move to Alabama, by the name of Bro. H.C. Harris, 33°. Bro. Harris would herald many Masonic leadership positions before his move to the *Yellow Hammer* state. He served as a Past Master, held numerous offices in DC's York Rite bodies, most notably, Most Excellent Grand High Prince of the Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons of the District of Columbia. His most important role at the time was his position as a Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, under the United Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Southern Jurisdiction, USA (USC-SJ). Given Bro. Harris' background and respected status in the order, he would soon spring to leadership status in the PHGL of Alabama. In 1904, H.C. Harris would be made a Deputy of the USC-SJ for Alabama and would be elected and coronated an Active Member.

This concludes this installment of "The Saga of the Scottish Rite in Alabama: Part 1". In Part 2, we will unveil how the Scottish Rite began to thrive under the USC-SJ and how Regular Scottish Rite Freemasonry flourished in this state.





*Fraternally yours,*  
*O B Clayborn,*  
 GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

# FIRST

Consistory of Colored Scot-  
 tish Rite Masons

ORGANIZED IN ALABAMA

Established in Birmingham by  
 Sovereign Grand Commander  
 John G. Jones, of  
 Chicago, Ill.

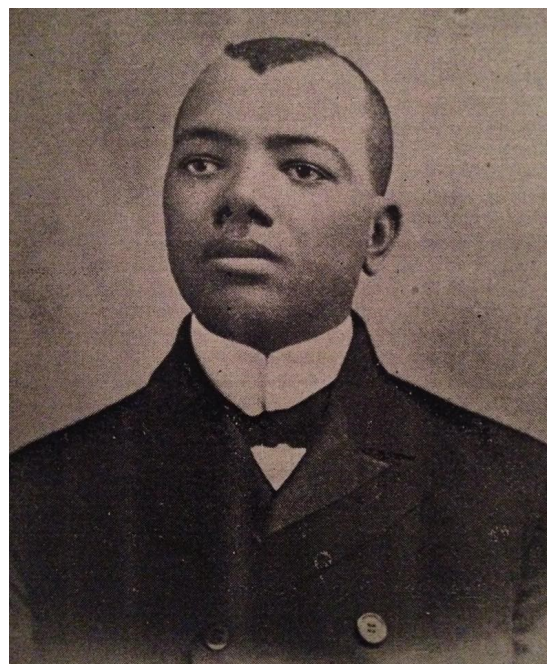
TEMPLE OF THE MYSTIC SHRINE

John G. Jones, of Chicago, Sovereign  
 Grand Commander of the United Su-  
 preme Council of the Ancient Accepted  
 Scottish Rite Masons, arrived in  
 Birmingham yesterday and last night  
 established the Red Cross Consistory  
 of the thirty-second degree, a Temple  
 of the Mystic Shrine and a Council of  
 Royal and Select Masters, which is the  
 first of the kind organized among col-  
 ored Masons in this State.

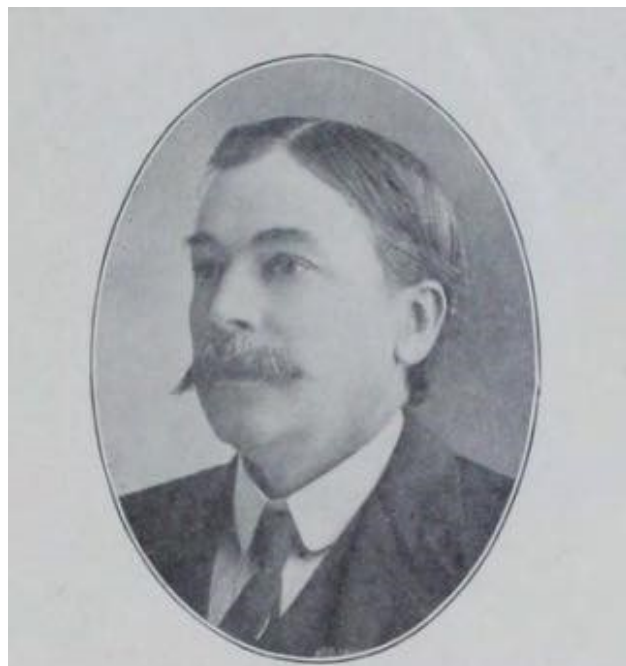
The officers elected are as follow:  
 Illustrious Commander-in-Chief—Wil-  
 liam R. Taylor.



*John G. Jones*



*H. C. Harris*



*Henry C. Binford*

*Contributor — RW L. Ken Collins, II*  
*Grand Historian*

***Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge  
Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama  
152<sup>nd</sup> Annual Communication***

***~ SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ~***

***Sunday, July 17, 2022***

7:00 a. m. - 10:00 p. m.	Vendors.....Preconvene 2 Center (Riverview Plaza Hotel)
12:00 p. m. - 12:00 a. m.	Grand Lodge Office .....Tree House

***Monday, July 18, 2022***

7:00 a. m. - 12:00 a. m.	Grand Lodge Office .....Tree House
7:00 a. m. - 8:00 p. m.	Registration .....Moonlight Foyer
7:00 a. m. - 10:00 p. m.	Vendors .....Preconvene 2 Center (Riverview Plaza Hotel)
7:00 a. m. - 7:00 p. m.	COVID Check-in .....Ashland Place B
8:00 a. m. - 11:00 p. m.	Trustees Meeting .....Moonlight A
8:00 a. m. - 6:00 p. m.	Choir Rehearsal .....Oakleigh Garden
8:00 a. m. - 6:00 p. m.	Committee Meetings .....Bienville Square
8:00 a. m. - 9:00 a. m.	Worshipful Master's Certification Registration.....Moonlight B-E
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p. m.	Worshipful Master's Certification..... Moonlight B-E
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Veteran Affairs Workshop.....Moonlight A
1:00 p. m. - 3:00 p. m.	Trustees Luncheon .....Crystal Ballroom
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Alabama School of Masonry Testing.....Moonlight B-E
3:00 p. m. - 6:00 p. m.	Workshop .....Moonlight A
5:00 p. m. - 7:00 p. m.	Holding Room.....Jubilee Suite (Riverview Plaza Hotel)
6:00 p. m. - 8:00 p. m.	Welcome & Awards Program...Bon Secour Bay (Riverview Plaza Hotel)
8:00 p. m. - 10:00 p. m.	Meet and Greet.....Mobile Bay Ballroom (Riverview Plaza Hotel)

***Tuesday, July 19, 2022***

7:00 a. m. - 8:00 p. m.	Grand Lodge Office.....Tree House
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***Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge  
Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama  
152<sup>nd</sup> Annual Communication***

***~SCHEDULE OF EVENTS~  
(Continued)***

7:00 a. m. - 8:00 p. m.	Registration .....Moonlight Foyer
7:00 a. m. - 10:00 p. m.	Vendors .....Preconvence 2 Center (Riverview Plaza Hotel)
7:00 a. m. - 7:00 p. m.	COVID Check-in.....Ashland Place B
8:00 a. m. - 12:00 p.m.	Dignitaries Holding Room .....Leinkauf
8:00 a. m. - 5:00 p. m.	Grand Lodge Opening Session.....Moonlight Ballroom
8:00 a. m. - 6:00 p. m.	Committee Meetings .....Bienville Square
8:00 a. m. - 7:00 p. m.	Chorus Rehearsal .....Oakleigh Garden
5:00 p. m. - 7:00 p. m.	Dignitaries Holding Room.....Jubilee Suite (Riverview Plaza Hotel)
7:00 p. m. - 9:00 p. m.	Lodge of Sorrow .....Bon Secour Bay (Riverview Plaza Hotel)

***Wednesday, July 20, 2022***

5:00 a. m. - 7:30 a. m.	Past Master's Degree .....Moonlight C-E
7:00 a. m. - 1:00 p. m.	Grand Lodge Office .....Tree House
7:00 a. m. - 12:00 p. m.	Vendors .....Preconvence 2 Center (Riverview Plaza Hotel)
7:00 a. m. - 1:00 p. m.	COVID Check-in.....Ashland Place B
7:00 a. m. - 1:00 p. m.	Registration .....Moonlight Foyer
8:00 a. m. - 1:00 p. m.	Grand Lodge Closing Session .....Moonlight Ballroom

**Our Mission**

***The mission of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama is to continue the legacy of making good men better through fraternal brotherhood, to aid and assist our widows, orphans, and distressed brothers, and to contribute to the community through service, scholarship, charity and training.***



# \$ Dollars and Sense \$

## Money Management

### Debt Consolidation

Are you scrambling each month to pay your credit card, school loan or other debt payments on time? According to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, non-housing debt owned by American households reached \$4.17 trillion in the fourth quarter of 2020. Whether it is paying off the high balances and interest rates of multiple credit cards or just simply trying to better manage your finances, debt consolidation may be an option for you.

#### What is Debt Consolidation?

Debt consolidation is the act of combining several loans or liabilities into one new loan. This allows you to pay off multiple debts through one centralized loan, providing a much simpler repayment plan and, in some cases, a lower overall interest rate. Debt consolidation, unlike a debt settlement, still requires that you pay off your entire debt to avoid negatively affecting your credit score.

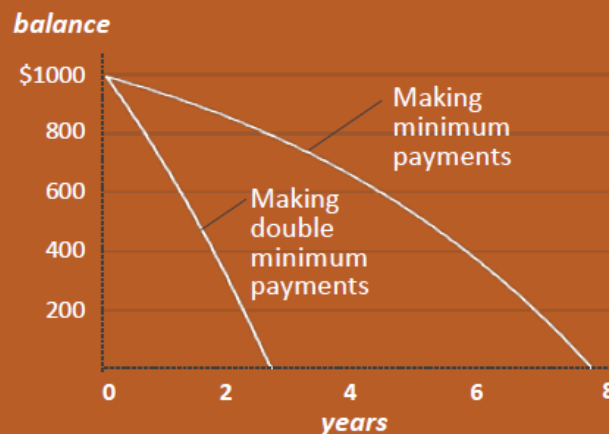
There are two types of consolidation loans. A secured loan requires property to secure against the repayment of the loan. For example, a mortgage uses the house as security for repayment of the loan. In return for the use of an asset as collateral, the secured loan typically carries a lower interest rate, which can lead to lower monthly payments. This obviously puts the asset used as collateral at risk. Common examples of secured loan

debt consolidation include refinancing your home, taking out a second mortgage and borrowing against your automobile as collateral.

Unsecured loans, conversely, do not require a collateral asset to secure a loan. This increases the risk for the lender, which typically translates to a higher interest on the loan. While unsecured consolidated loans were more common in the recent past, today they require much better credit scores to qualify.

#### Pay down debt faster

Paying just the minimum on a credit card can drag out the loan for years. Get rid of bad debt faster by paying extra each month.



For illustrative purposes only

## Direct Consolidation Loans for Students

After graduation, most federal student loans can be consolidated to simplify loan repayment, potentially lower monthly payments or offer alternative repayment plans. A common debt consolidation option is a Direct Consolidation Loan. Private education loans are not eligible for consolidation with a Direct Consolidation Loan.

## Is Debt Consolidation for You?

Debt consolidation is not for everyone, and doesn't always equal savings. While lower interest rates and monthly payments may be a good short-term idea, it can also lead to paying more money over the lifetime of the consolidated loan. There is also an inherent risk that goes along with consolidating unsecured debt into secured debt.

Opponents of debt consolidation claim that it only treats a symptom, not the overall issue. What this means is that while it may be simpler to pay off a consolidated debt loan, it is up to the individual to truly master money management skills and avoid excessive amounts of debt in the future.

There are alternatives to debt consolidation. One method is the debt-snowball method, which calls for paying off your smallest accounts first while paying the minimum balance on larger accounts. After the smallest account is paid, you then move on the next smallest and continue until you've paid off your debt. If a self-reliant plan is not enough, other alternatives to debt consolidation include credit counseling, debt settlement and personal bankruptcy. It is important to note, however, that debt settlements and personal bankruptcy can negatively affect your credit scores and ability to acquire future loans.

## Conclusion

Before you consolidate your debt, make sure you fully understand the benefits and potential pitfalls. Debt consolidation is not meant to be an immediate fix to your debt problems and comes with some serious trade-offs, including larger payments over the long term and potential loss of property. However, the simplicity of one centralized, manageable payment can provide the structure and lower payments to help your financial picture immediately.

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Prudential Advisors  
Gregory L. Clark, LUTCF  
205-948-2580  
gregory.clark@prudnetial.com  
<https://www.prudential.com/advisor/gregory-clark>



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

# Achievements

## Bro. J. Mark Debro Inducted Into the New Class of Fellows

Each year the Alabama Law Foundation inducts a new class of Fellows. Members of the Fellows nominate fellow bar members they feel demonstrate outstanding commitment to the profession and their communities. A committee made up of Fellows to provide leadership and support for the Alabama Foundation's programs that promote access to justice. The Alabama Law Foundation begins each year by hosting the Fellows dinner to acknowledge the service and commitment of the lawyers selected to join the foundation's Fellows Program and those elevated to "Life Fellows" status. No more than 1% of bar members may become Fellows; therefore, the selection committee invites into fellowship an exceptional group of lawyers who have demonstrated their dedication to improving their communities and state. Fellows must be members of the Alabama State Bar in good standing and have been admitted for at least 10 years.

On April 30, 2022, Bro. J. Mark Debro, Huntsville – Grace Matthews & Debro and his wife, Angela R. Debro, Normal – Alabama A&M University were inducted as 2021 Fellows to the Alabama Law Foundation. The Alabama Law Foundation established the Fellows program in 1995 to honor bar members who have made a significant contribution to their profession and their community. They are a charitable, tax-exempt organization composed of several separate programs, each providing ways for lawyers to better their profession and their communities. The foundation makes annual grants to organizations that provide free legal aid to the poor in civil cases, for projects that improve the administration of justice, and for law-related education.

As the only charitable, tax-exempt organization affiliated with the Alabama State Bar, the Alabama Law Foundation has helped the state's lawyers make a valuable difference in the lives of Alabama's citizens.

The Alabama Law Foundation provides access to justice for all and respect for and understanding of the law.

Bro. J. Mark Debro is an active member of Morning Star Lodge No. 50 in Huntsville, AL.



*Bro. J. Mark Debro & Debro and his wife,  
Angela R. Debro*



## Grand Master Hawkins Receives Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters



Saturday, May 7, 2022, marked the day that Attorney Corey D. Hawkins, Sr. also became Dr. Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., when Miles College conferred upon him the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. In a letter to Grand Master Hawkins from the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Miles College, Bishop Teresa Jefferson-Snorton, she cited that the degree was presented to Grand Master Hawkins due to his leadership in the community, state, and nation, as well as, his support of Miles College and other HBCU's.

Grand Master Hawkins was very humbled and honored to receive the doctorate. He was also very proud to have his family present for the conferral.

## Brother Brian "Blue" Smith Awarded Montgomery's Volunteer of the Year

Bro. Brian "Blue" Smith from Hamilton Lodge No. 365 was awarded Montgomery's Volunteer of the Year. This award recognizes community humanitarians in the city. The ceremony was held on April 21st at The Montgomery Biscuits Stadium. Bro. Blue credits his brothers from Hamilton Lodge No. 365 for helping and assisting him throughout all his events. Bro. Smith stated, "It's an honor to accept this award on behalf of my nonprofit, The BlueHeart Foundation 334. I want to dedicate this award to my brothers at Hamilton Lodge No. 365 for teaching me and instilling in me how important it is to give back to your community. Without them, I wouldn't be here today at all."



*Brother Brian "Blue" Smith*

# HEALTH AND WELLNESS



## MAINTAINING A HEALTHY WEIGHT

Achieving and maintaining a healthy weight includes healthy eating, physical activity, optimal sleep, and stress reduction. Several other factors may also affect weight gain.

Healthy eating features a variety of healthy foods. Fad diets may promise fast results, but such diets limit your nutritional intake, can be unhealthy, and tend to fail in the long run.

How much physical activity you need depends partly on whether you are trying to maintain your weight or lose weight. Walking is often a good way to add more physical activity to your lifestyle.

Managing your weight contributes to good health now and as you age. In contrast, people who have obesity, compared to those with a healthy weight, are at increased risk for many who are not.

Obesity is a common, serious, and costly chronic disease. Having obesity puts people at risk for many other serious chronic diseases. Everyone has a role to play in turning the tide against obesity and its disproportionate impact on racial and ethnic minority groups.

Eating a healthy diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables, lean protein, and whole grains, as well as, the appropriate amount of calories is important for your health, and can help with weight loss and preventing weight gain. Good nutrition can help support optimal immune function. A healthy diet can help prevent or support self-management of diseases such as heart disease and type 2 diabetes.

People who do little or no physical activity are more likely to get very sick or develop diseases than those who are physically active. Regular physical activity helps you feel better, sleep better, and reduce anxiety. It can also help with preventing weight gain and when combined with calorie reduction, helps with weight loss. Physical activity can also help prevent diseases that increase a person's chances of having severe illness such as heart disease and type 2 diabetes.

*Miguel L Ferguson, BSN, MPH, RN*

# 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:

## Brother Donald E. Blankenship

**J**udge Donald E. Blankenship, a Birmingham, Alabama native, is a member of the Jefferson County Circuit Court, Civil Division. He was elected to the bench in November 2012 and assumed office on January 15, 2013.

Judge Blankenship is a 1974 graduate of Ramsay High School and holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from Samford University, 1978. In 1982, Brother Blankenship received a Master of Arts in Urban Studies from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and a Juris Doctor, cum laude, from Miles Law School in 1989.

Brother Blankenship enjoyed a long and varied employment history, before embarking on a legal career. He served as Planning Administrator for the Birmingham-Jefferson Transit Authority (1979-1981), and later as City Planner, Senior City Planner, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor, and finally Zoning Administrator, all for the City of Birmingham (1981-1990).

From 1990-1994, Judge Blankenship was employed as an Associate in the law firm of Waldrep, Stewart & Kendrick, and from 1994 - 2012, he was engaged in the solo practice of law. During his 23-year tenure as a lawyer, he practiced extensively in the areas of Real Property, Probate, Land Use, Zoning, and General Litigation.

Judge Blankenship brings a wealth of legal and real-world experience to the Tenth Judicial Circuit Court bench.

Brother Blankenship is a member of Tuxedo Lodge No. 431 in Fairfield, Alabama, and a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.



***Judge Donald E. Blankenship***



# Military Affairs

## Keeping our MWPHGL of Alabama Veterans Informed

### The VA has a plan to keep patients safe as COVID level changes

The health and safety of patients and staff continue to be the Veterans Administration's (VA) highest priority. The care will be consistent, and the safety protocols will increase or decrease based on COVID-19 levels in the community.

VA has developed a COVID-19 plan to provide transparent and flexible guidelines for all VA medical centers.

It will:

- Help veterans and VA staff know what to expect when entering a facility.
- Welcome veterans into a facility for the medical care they need and deserve.

### Three Health Protection Levels

Starting May 23, 2022, VA will roll out three standardized VA COVID-19 Health Protection Levels:

- Low;
- Medium;
- High;

These levels echo the other Federal agencies such as CDC and OSHA:

- Each COVID-19 Health Protection Level will include information on masking, PPE, screening, testing, visitation, physical distancing, group care/therapy, and staffing, among other topics.
- Every week, the VA will monitor the local level based on CDC's Community Transmission rate and update COVID-19 Health Protection Levels when needed.
- The VA will notify Veterans and staff of the COVID-19 Health Protection Level signs at all facility entrances and will update levels on local facility websites and social media.
- Transparent communications will make it easy for Veterans, staff, and visitors to know what to expect when they arrive at the VA facility.

Veterans can visit the Department of Veteran Affairs website [www.mobile.va.gov](http://www.mobile.va.gov) for more information.



***This sign will be on all doors.***

*Contributor – RW Carlton Jones*

*Committee on Military and Veteran Affairs*

# Sporting and Outdoors



**O**n Saturday, June 18, 2022, R.W. Desmond Thomas, Assistant Grand Recording Secretary and Past Master of Ruth Lodge No. 33 in Birmingham, caught these four black bullhead catfish at a private pond in Leeds, Alabama using chicken livers. The largest weighed 6 lbs. 13 oz.



## REGION 2

### News and Events from Region 2

# Goshen Lodge No. 132 Distributes Annual Easter Baskets

*“To him that will, ways are not wanting”— George Herbert’s ‘Jacula Prudentum’*

For the past nine years, under the leadership of Worshipful Master Cad Ford, Jr., the brothers of Goshen Lodge No. 132 of Marion, Alabama, have welcomed the community to a free, fun-filled, positive, and safe Easter Egg Hunt Celebration at the historic Lincoln Park in Marion, Alabama. The free event includes thousands of carefully hidden colored, hard-boiled eggs, hundreds of dollars in prize eggs, easter baskets, a feast of tasty treats such as chips, cookies, and cool fruity juices, and freshly prepared hot dogs. But this year, the Holy Saturday, started with storms and continuous rains which presented the lodge with a troubling question this year: How to get the above-listed gifts into the hands of the children and keep them safe and dry at the same time? If children can't come to the event, the group decided, then they would take the event to the community. And that is what the lodge did. Scores of Goshen members mounted their vehicles and drove to 219 Jackson Street and set up tables under an awning, with bags of chips, Easter baskets, candies, prize eggs, and coolers full of juices. Then the group let the community know of the change of plans through telephone calls, word of mouth, and social media. More sooner than later, a line of cars filled with children started to appear. Lodge members donned in facemasks and armed with umbrellas walked the goodies to the vehicles or escorted the children to the table to take their pictures. The children left with all sorts of treats, and most importantly – bright smiles and heart-warming giggles on an, otherwise, dreary day. Someone said that “improvisation is the mother of invention”. Whether that's true or false may be debatable, but it can still make grown men with a desire to see beautiful children smiling and happy during the Easter season come up with some kind of way to do so.

Finally, Goshen Lodge would like to thank all the participants for coming out and having a good time, the Lincolniters for always providing the park; and local media outlets, WJUS radio station, and others for helping to promote the event. The lodge hopes everyone had a safe, blessed, and Happy Easter!!!

*Contributor – Bro. Robert D. Bryant (No. 132)*





## REGION 4

### News and Events from Region 4

# Phoenix Lodge No. 428 Hosts 7th District Annual St. John's Day Program

On Sunday, June 26, 2022, lodges from the seventh district assembled in Bethel AME Church in Phenix City, Alabama to recognize its annual St. John's Day. This year the event was hosted by Phoenix Lodge No. 428 and attended by more than 100 masonic brothers in the district. WM Keith Daniel chaired the event and was responsible for organizing every detail of the event. With the assistance of district Worshipful Masters and District Deputy Erwin Chambliss, the event was a complete success. District Deputy Erwin Chambliss and R.W. Carlton Jones were on hand as representatives of the MWPHGL of Alabama. The speaker for the event was Brother Brandon Thornton, Pastor of Bethel AME Church. Pastor Thornton was recently raised as a Master Mason at South Griffin Lodge No. 697 on the previous day. After the program, lodges in District 7 presented scholarships to deserving students in Russell, Lee, and Macon Counties. The highlight of the scholarship presentation was the awarding of six scholarships presented by Phoenix Lodge No. 428 for a total of \$3,000.00. In addition to Phoenix Lodge No. 428's scholarship presentation, the following lodges also awarded their lodge scholarships to deserving students: Nazareth Lodge No. 927, South Griffin Lodge No. 697, and Shorter Lodge No. 533. Afterward, Grand District Deputy Erwin Chambliss and RW Carlton Jones presented district scholarships to three deserving students in the amount of \$500, Lauren Landry, Dalton Goodson, and Derriona Swanson. Total scholarships presented at the St John's Day Program were over \$6,000.00. Upon conclusion of the program, guests assembled in the fellowship hall where dinner was served. The event was well-received by everyone, and the participation of district lodges exceeded all expectations as they attended in full force. Job Well Done!



Top picture: District 7 St. John's Day line-up

Bottom Picture: Phoenix Lodge No. 428 presents one of six scholarships to deserving students

Contributor – R.W. Carlton Jones (No. 428)

# Hamilton Lodge No. 365 Continues Its Community Service



*Pictured from left to right are; Two staff members, Past Master Sayles, Worshipful Master Belser, Senior Warden Gray, and Brother Kerrick*

In April 2022, the members of Hamilton Lodge No. 365 visited Brantwood Children's Home in Montgomery, Alabama, which provides adoption & foster care services. The Brothers provided bibles and were able to impart their wisdom to some of the young men living at the facility. Brantwood Children's Home provides a safe, stable, and structured environment for abused, neglected, and other "at-risk" children. Brantwood serves children and youth ages 10-21. Brantwood offers programs that are designed to help young people cope with and succeed in society.

In May, Worshipful Master Belser donated blood to the LifeSouth Blood Center in Montgomery, Alabama. LifeSouth is a non-profit community blood bank. They are committed to meeting the blood supply needs of hospitals and their patients. The LifeSouth team is dedicated to making sure a blood supply is there someone is in need.

Later in May, Hamilton Lodge was represented by the Junior Warden, Brother Chavis at the City of Montgomery, Alabama's annual food distribution event. And finally, in May 2022, Hamilton Lodge donated over one hundred hangers to a local alterations shop affected by the supply chain shortage we are all facing in the aftermath of two years of COVID-19 lockdowns and labor shortages. The shop owner supports the community, especially the Masonic lodge.



*Pictured above: Junior Warden Brother Chavis at Annual Food Distribution Event.*

*Pictured right: Worshipful Master Belser at the LifeSouth Blood Center.*



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



# Phoenix Lodge No. 428

## Honors Their Fallen Heroes

Memorial Day Weekend is a time to reflect and remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, those who have served their country and now rest from their labors. For the brothers of Phoenix Lodge No. 428, honoring their fallen heroes is something near and dear to their hearts. Every year the brothers assemble at Fort Mitchell National Cemetery in Fort Mitchell, Alabama to honor their fallen brothers. This year was no exception. The brothers came together for this occasion, to honor and pay tribute to the brothers in their lodge who served their country honorably and now rest from their labors. WM Keith Daniel and PM Carlton Jones organized the event that brought the lodge brethren together for this solemn occasion. Weeks before the flag laying event Phoenix Lodge No. 428 was featured on the Veterans View Cable TV program. They reminded everyone that Memorial Day Weekend was approaching. WM Keith Daniel and nine members who are military veterans took part in the Cable TV interview. Highlighting the interview was the invitation to the community to come to lay flags on the headstones of our fallen heroes.

On Saturday, May 28, 2022, the brothers of Phoenix Lodge No. 428 led the effort and placed flags on over 300 graves at the cemetery. In addition, the brothers assembled at the headstones of their fallen heroes, PM David Hall, U.S. Army WWII veteran, PM Robert Carter, U.S. Navy WWII veteran, and Brother James Abron, U.S. Army Korean War veteran. A prayer was offered by the lodge Co-Chaplain, Bro Jason Williams, a U.S. Army veteran. The brothers took the time to reflect on the memories of our fallen heroes. As the brothers departed, they turned and gave a final salute to all who died while serving.

### Current list of Phoenix Lodge No. 428 Brothers who are Military Veterans

Carlton Jones, U.S. Navy	Felton Harley, U.S. Army	Vincent Andrews, U.S. Army
Glen Wiltshire, U.S. Army	Jeffrey Williams, U.S. Navy-Active	Chris Todd, U.S. Army
Savo Fleming, U.S. Navy	Jermaine Phillips, U.S. Army	Corey Jones, U.S. Navy-Active
Randy Dixon, U.S. Navy	Shawn Hardy, U.S. Army	David Hardge, U.S. Army
Larry Cooper, U.S. Army	Mark Carnes, U.S. Marine Corps	Jason Williams, U.S. Army
Billy Lockhart, U.S. Army	Leroy Davis, U.S. Navy	Monte Hundley, U.S. Army
Hugh Dawkins, U.S. Army		



*Right: Phoenix Lodge No. 428 brothers assemble for a group photo at Fort Mitchell National Cemetery*

*Left: Phoenix Lodge No. 428 brothers assemble at the headstone of PM David Hall*

*Contributor –  
R.W. Carlton Jones (No. 428)*





# Shorter Lodge No. 533 Lends a Helping Hand

On May 18, Shorter Lodge No. 533 made a surprise visit to D.C. Wolfe School in Shorter, AL. The purpose of their visit was two-fold. First, they cheered on Ms. Dixon's first-grade students as they were recognized during the Honors Day program at the school. Several students received special recognition for their academic success and were lauded by the staff and the brothers of Shorter Lodge No. 533. In addition, Shorter Lodge purchased the book, "I am Smart, I am Blessed, I can do Anything" for the entire class. The books were well-received by the students and staff. Second, the brothers also donated school supplies for summer school and gave a \$300 donation to go toward their summer field trip to the Montgomery Zoo. Worshipful Master Willie Smith and the brothers encouraged all the students to do well in summer school and behave on their field trip to the zoo. The partnership with the school is something the lodge takes pride in. Their sponsorship has been lauded by school and city officials. Keep up the good work brothers.

On Monday, May 30th, on Memorial Day, the brothers of Shorter Lodge No. 533 took time to honor and pay respect to fallen brothers of their lodge. Worshipful Master Willie Smith and five members of Shorter lodge took the time to pay a visit to two of their fallen heroes, PM Leon Lumpkin, and PM Winston Walker, Sr. The brothers met at First Baptist Church of Shorter, Alabama and assembled at the graves of both deceased brothers to lay flags at their headstone. The brothers in attendance were WM Willie Smith, PM Edward Denmark, Brother Harold Powell, Brother Tyrone Alleyne, Brother Chico Denmark, and Brother Dale Brown. Shorter Lodge has made a tradition of honoring their fallen heroes on special occasions. This occasion is no exception. The brothers' good deeds are in keeping with the highest order of our Masonic beliefs. Well done brothers!

*Contributor – R.W. Carlton Jones (No. 428)*



*Shorter Lodge No. 533 honors their fallen on Memorial Day. Picture from L. to R., WM Willie Smith, Bro. Tyrone Alleyne, Bro. Chico Denmark, Bro. Harold Powell, Bro. Dale Brown, and PM Edward Denmark*



*Shorter Lodge No. 533 brothers with first-grade students at D.C. Wolfe School*

## REGION 5

### News and Events from Region 5

## New Beginning Lodge No. 970 Serving in Its Community

New Beginning Lodge No. 970 partnered with Avient Corporation to assist in Tarrant Elementary School's Career Day event. Several local companies came together to present to the students and their parent's career choices that they made and the paths taken to achieve success. Companies set up stations in various classrooms and spoke to students about their jobs and provided insight to young people about how their jobs affect us in our everyday lives. The brothers of New Beginning and Avient Corp. presented bags of toys and keepsakes to the students of Tarrant, in addition to the information provided to the parents about local job opportunities. Bro. Gerald Beal, Bro. Jerome Womack and Bro. Will Rodgers attended the event and brought a wealth of knowledge to the room about their respective careers. Bro. Beal is a 25-year employee with Avient Corp and serves on the company's community outreach committee which allows partnerships of this kind to flourish.



*Members of Beginning Lodge No. 970 at Tarrant Elementary School's Career Day*



*L-R: WM Boone, Mrs. Thomas and Bro. J. Womack*

As Freemasons, we take on many responsibilities through our obligations. One, in particular, is when a married brother has traveled to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns, his lodge will take on the sad but honorable duty of aiding and assisting his widow. Since Brother John Thomas made his transition back in 2019, New Beginning Lodge No. 970 of District No. 14 has been keeping watch on his widow, Mrs. Cenolia Thomas. They never forget her on the popular days, (Mother's Day, Birthday, and Christmas), the lodge checks on her as often as time permits to make sure she is doing well and invites her to functions the lodge may be having. WM Ron Boone and Bro. Jerome Womack visited Mrs. Thomas on May 18th to deliver love and a Visa gift card to assist. Mrs. Thomas expressed her appreciation to the brothers for checking on her and spending that quality time that everyone benefited from. Although this union has come through a tragedy, the beauty that transpired will always be a reflection of the promise the brothers make at the altar; promising to help, aid, and assist all poor distressed Master Masons, their Widows, and Orphans.



The brothers of New Beginning met with Mrs. Christi Butler, Principal at Center Point Elementary School on May 20th to deliver items and participate in the May Day festivities. The lodge and CPES have a partnership through various programs and mentoring groups in the Center Point community. WM Boone reached out to Mrs. Butler to find out the needs of the faculty members. Far too often the faculty is not recognized for all the hard work they have put in educating our children and sacrificing their time. New Beginning decided to provide the entire faculty, over 100 people with hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, and wings. A small token of their appreciation for their dedication and sacrifices made daily when educating our children. The brothers also assisted with the game setup and safety monitoring.

On May 23rd, New Beginning Lodge No. 970 partnered with the City of Tarrant to provide items needed for a successful May Day event at the elementary school. The brothers were tasked with renting the bounce houses for the event, as well as, assisting faculty as needed. WM Boone, SW Beal, and Bro. Jackie Rankin meet with The City of Tarrant's Mayor, Wayman Newtown to discuss future collaborations that will improve the lives of the children in that community. Mayor Newtown was excited to see masons giving back and expressed a strong belief that more needs to be done for our children. Sister Tracy McCall and WM Michael McCall (W. O. Jones Lodge No. 971) were also present and graciously lended their helping hands for this awesome event. Food and beverages were provided to the faculty and students of Tarrant Elementary.

On June 1st, the brothers of New Beginning began a new partnership with the City of Center Point's Community Center and Library to be reading coaches for its Summer Reading Enrichment Program. The program is strategically focused on getting children to read at least an hour or more a day. There is significant evidence that supports children who read daily achieve greater success both academically and socially than those that do not. The brothers will volunteer at least twice a week for the entire summer, providing critical reading support to children ages 5-16 along with mentorship. Co-Director of the program Mrs. Emily Martin was excited and encouraged by the brothers' willingness to step in to assist with the project. Mrs. Martin gave the brothers an extensive tour of the facility and provided an office and resources during times when the lodge is volunteering. The lodge donated snacks, water, and juices for the program's refreshment hour and will continue this throughout the program's entirety. New Beginning is committed to the academic and social development of every student in the community.

*Contributor – WM Ron Boone (No. 970)*



*Members of Lodge No. 970 at Center Point Elementary School's May Day*



*Members of Lodge No. 970 at Tarrant Elementary School's May Day*



*Members of Lodge No. 970 at City of Center Point's Community Center and Library for Summer Reading Enrichment Program*



## REGION 6

### News and Events from Region 6

# District No. 17 Awards Educational Scholarship

On June 26, 2022, Ms. Payton Elise Gray was awarded the District 17 Educational Scholarship for \$1,000 after the Annual St John's Day Program. Ms. Gray is an outstanding student who, while attending the Madison County Virtual Academy (MCVA) maintained a 4.0 GPA, graduated Summa Cum Laude, and is a 14-year dancer at the Heidi Knight School of Dance. Ms. Gray was an A Honor Roll student from 2019 to the present, garnered First Place in the National Dance Alliance Competition, and was titled "Breakout Artist at the Nuvo Dance Competition and came highly recommended by Jennifer McKinney, Principal MCVA, Ms. Heidi Knight, Owner/Director Heidi Knight School of Dance and Carl J' Cooney, Jr., Worshipful Master of Temple Lodge No. 98. Ms. Gray is also a member of the National Society of High School Scholars.

In addition to the many accolades and accomplishments listed, Ms. Payton supported Huntsville/Madison community thru volunteering at a local nursing home and food pantry. Her drive, dedication, and devotion made it a pleasure to award her with the District 17 Scholarship. Ms. Payton will be attending the University of Alabama in the fall with a double major in Nursing and Dance. She plans to pursue a career in Nursing, focusing on becoming a Neonatal Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, or travel Nurse. She also plans to continue her dance education by continuing to develop her skills in ballet, modern, contemporary, lyrical, and jazz dance. She plans to obtain her Bachelor's Degree in dance education so she can teach/choreograph various genres of dance.



*District No. 17 Educational Scholarship Chairman, WM Carl Cooney (right) presenting Ms. Payton Elise Gray (middle) with the \$1,000 District No. 17 Educational Scholarship with her cousin, Bro. Corwin Jones (left).*



# District No. 17 Celebrates St. John's Day Weekend



On Saturday, June 25, 2022, the brothers of District No. 17 came together with District No. 15 and District No. 16, Order of Eastern Star to kick off a weekend celebration that culminated with the Annual St John's Day Program. The annual joint picnic was reinstated after being canceled in the previous years due to covid to promote fellowship once again between the brothers and sisters and their families. The picnic was held at Jesse Lewis Smith Park in Decatur, AL. There were many activities available, during the picnic, for kids and adults including inflatables, playground activities, spades, bid-wiz and dominoes tournaments, and just sitting back and enjoying good conversation while eating great food and listening to music. Planning has already started for next year's event to make it even better than this year's picnic. At the close of the event, prizes were presented to the winning teams of the spades, bid-wiz, and dominoes tournaments. Grand District Deputy H. Jerome Glover, Grand District Deputy Michele King and Grand District Deputy Glenda Reynolds thanked the brothers and sisters for attending and wished everyone safe travels back to their final destinations.



*Above Pictures: Various pictures from the District No. 17 Prince Hall Masons and District No. 15 and No. 16 Prince Hall Order of Eastern Stars, Joint St. John's Day Picnic*

*District Deputy Glover presenting gift cards to the winners of the spades, bid-wiz, and dominoes tournaments*



On Sunday, June 26, the Northeast and Northwest Regions of District No. 17 held programs to celebrate St. John's Day. The Northeast region held its program at Big Shiloh Baptist Church in Madison, AL hosted by the Northeast Worshipful Masters Council. The speaker of the hour was Pastor Daylan Woodall of First Missionary Baptist Church in Decatur, AL who delivered a very inspirational message during the program. Dignitaries in attendance were Grand Trustee Andrew Fuller, Grand Secretary Anthony Johnson, Grand District Deputy H. Jerome Glover, Grand District Deputy Michele King (District No. 15 OES), and Grand District Deputy Quartina Hines-Trafford (District No.4 OES). After the program, remarks were provided by Grand District Deputy H. Jerome Glover, Grand District Deputy Michele King, and PM Jarvis Noel who is president of the Northeast Worshipful Masters Council.



*Brothers of Northeast Region of District No. 17  
at St. John's Day Service*

The lodges of the Northwest region held their program at Mt. Hope MB Church in Sheffield, AL. hosted by the Northwest Worshipful Masters Council. Reverend Latham B. Strong served as the speaker of the hour. The dignitary in attendance was Grand District Deputy Glenda Reynolds (District No. 16 OES). Also present was Robert Johnson who also serves as Assistant Grand District Deputy and President of the Northwest Worshipful Masters Council. Reverend Strong's message was very inspiring and truly left a lasting impression on the minds of all those in attendance. Both programs were well attended by the brothers and sisters and they look forward to next year's celebration.



*Brothers of Northwest Region of District No. 17  
at St. John's Day Service*

*Contributor – RW H. Jerome Glover (No. 50)*



*Members of District No. 15 OES at St. John's Day Service*



*Members of District No. 16 OES at St. John's Day Service*



# Morning Star Lodge No. 50 Partners to Uplift Children in the Community

On April 16, 2022, the brothers of Morning Star Lodge No. 50 partnered with the sisters of Hendley Chapter No. 855 to uplift children in the community. This lodge and their sister OES chapter decided to collect Easter baskets for each child at the New Futures Family Lodge for homeless families in Huntsville, Alabama. This facility is the only homeless shelter in North Alabama that allows families to reside in a unit together to maintain healthy relationships to thrive together as they seek out permanent housing and financial security. The lodge and chapter came together to provide Easter baskets filled with candy, games, crayons, markers, and coloring books. Partnering with the Hendley Chapter to assist the families of New Futures brings joy to the members of both houses and they will continue this partnership in the future.

*Contributor – Bro. Taurean F. Dawkins (No. 50)*





# Goodway Lodge No. 222

## Providing Community Service

On June 17, 2022, the brothers of Goodway Lodge No. 222 held their 4th annual All Black Party celebrating excellence in the Black Community. The brothers had another great turnout and were once again able to honor three individuals that have stood out in the local community for their charitable and philanthropic work. This year the brothers recognized Sheena “Lashay B” Townsend of *Lashay B in the Midday* on 103.1 WEUP, who sponsors the largest free prom dress drive in North Alabama, Jessica Fortune Barker, who founded Affluent Business Solutions, LLC, a successful business management firm, and Ashley Hunt-Poole, who founded the Mommy and Me Organization, a non-profit that supports single parents in her community. The brothers also recognized Past Master Jarvis L. Noel, who served as Worshipful Master for 6 years.

On June 24th, the brothers of Goodway Lodge No. 222 participated in the Fun Day for the kids at the Calvary Hills Summer Camp. The Brothers of Goodway donated towards the rental of a bouncy house. The Brothers had a great time interacting with the kids, as well as, the faculty of the Calvary Hills Youth Center.

On June 25th, the lodge participated in a back-to-school backpack drive, partnering with Pittsburgh Steeler’s football player Trent Scott at the Boys and Girls Club. The Brothers of Goodway donated 100 book bags for 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 and different people throughout the community.



*Pictured from left to right: Shenna "Lashay B" Townsend, PM Jarvis L. Noel, Jessica Fortune Barker, Ashley Hunt-Poole.*

*Contributor – WM Brian Johnson (No. 222)*



# Athelstine Lodge No. 71 Hosts Scholarship and Community Service Awards Luncheon

On May 28, 2022, at 11:00 am Athelstine Lodge No. 71 held our Annual Scholarship and Community Service Awards Luncheon at the Round Island Mission Center in Athens, Alabama. This year's scholarship presentation was different in that on May 2, 2022, in their regular business meeting, the craft voted to name the lodge scholarship in honor of Past Master Johnnie L. Pryor, Sr. Past Master Pryor served as No. 71's Worshipful Master for over 32 years. No. 71 presented three \$500.00 scholarships to deserving high school graduates from the Athens-Limestone County School District. This year's scholarship winners are Miss Daviyonna Faith-Jannise Young, Miss Jada S. Dillard, and Miss Jayna T. Long all of whom are graduates of Athens High School. In attendance at the presentation were their very proud parents and siblings.

In addition to our scholarship awards, No. 71 presented the following community awards to deserving citizens of Athens-Limestone County, Alabama. Pastor of the Year, Keith Shoulder, Pastor of David Temple. Pastor Shoulder's services extend beyond his congregation through providing community COVID-19 vaccination sites, support to Tanner High School with supplies, community food boxes, and young men's ministry. Citizen of the Year, Mrs. Jan Matthews. Mrs. Matthews, through her non-profit organization MTM (Marcella, Tristian, and Malik; the names of Ms. Matthews's children), provides scholarship and mentorship to those high school students that are not fortunate to receive traditional scholarships. These students are commonly referred to as unsung heroes. Public Servant of the Year, Dale C. Townsend, Investigator Limestone County Sheriff Department. Dale for over 24 years has placed himself in harm's way daily to keep our community safe. Educator of the Year, Mrs. Myisha Walton, for over two years Myisha has been teaching Third Grade in the Athens School System and truly believe in not leaving any student behind. Miss Ruth G. Harris was named Educator of the Decade. Mrs. Harris taught in Athens-Limestone County, Alabama for over 42 years and still lives by the motto "once an educator, always an educator".



*WM Buford Thomas presenting Mrs. Jan Matthews with the Citizen of The Year Award*



*WM Buford Thomas presenting Miss Ruth G. Harris with the Educator of the Decade Award*





*Athelstine Lodge No. 71 with Award recipients from the Awards Luncheon*



*All of the Award recipients from Athelstine Lodge No. 71*



*Senior Warden Timothy Irving and Junior Warden Michael Wiley delivering cases of water to the Athens Boys and Girls Club*

Worshipful Master Buford Thomas presented annual awards to deserving brothers of Athelstine Lodge No. 71. Master Mason of the Year was awarded to Treasurer Leonard Sewell and Most Improved Master Mason was awarded to Brother Everette Walton. The following brothers were presented awards for outstanding service, dedication, and support to No. 71: Senior Warden Timothy Irving, Junior Warden Michael Wiley, Secretary Johnathan Scott, Treasurer Leonard Sewell, Chaplain John Irving, Brothers Mansfield Scott, and Mike Bailey. The craft also presented a thank-you award to Worshipful Master Buford Thomas. A small lunch reception was provided by the brothers of No. 71 after the presentations.

On June 8, Athelstine Lodge No. 71 community service consisted of supporting the Athens Boys & Girls Club. The Athens Boys & Girls Club located at 1017 W. Washington St., Athens, Al 35611, is led by its director Mrs. Candance Byrd-Vinson. Athelstine Lodge No. 71 is honored to partner with and support the Athens Boys & Girls Club. Its mission is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us the most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. Its code is, *I believe in God and the right to worship according to my faith and religion. I believe in America and the American way of life, in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. I believe in fair play, honesty, and sportsmanship. I believe in my Boys & Girls Club, which stands for these things.* The mission and code of the Athens Boys and Girls Club closely align with the goals and purpose of our Prince Hall Masonic Order, so No. 71 found it easy to partner with and support the club. The club needed water for the summer programs to be a success. The brothers of No. 71 donated 17 cases of water, and they were delivered by Senior Warden Timothy Irving and Junior Warden Michael Wiley.

*Contributor – WM Buford Thomas (No. 71)*



# Temple Lodge No. 98

## Supports Brookshire Nursing Home

As the COVID restrictions eased and the numbers come down, Temple Lodge No. 98 was ready to get back to the Masonic standard of aiding their community and that started with their adopted nursing home: The Brookshire Nursing home.

The brothers of Temple Lodge No. 98 met up with their Sister O.E.S Chapter Twilight No. 788 to assist in hosting a Summer Fun Day, with the residents at Brookshire, at their facility. Temple Lodge and Twilight Chapter provided beverages, food, popsicles, and popcorn for the residents.

The staff at Brookshire provided indoor games such as five-pin bowling, ring toss, and cornhole.

The residents enjoyed the games and the fellowship that we provided them while the lodge and chapter members were there, they even had the opportunity to win some of the two-liter soda bottles the lodge had bought for the ring toss game.

It was great to see the resident's faces light up while the lodge members helped them play the games and serve them snacks and refreshments. The staff thanked the lodge and chapter members for remembering the nursing home facility and coming by to help with the little fellowship event as it raised their spirits.

Temple Lodge No. 98 reminded them that it is the lodge's duty. They enjoy bringing the elders that level of joy and they will help again in the future.



# Temple Lodge No. 98

## Awards E. F. Sampson Scholarship

In June 2022, Temple Lodge's Worshipful Master and Junior Warden presented the lodge's E. F. Sampson Scholarship Award to Ms. Je'Mya Brown. Ms. Brown is a Virgil Grissom High School graduate who plans to attend the University of Alabama in Birmingham, AL to study Nursing. Her note-worthy high school career included recognition from HOSA-Future Health Care Professionals, the National Honor Society, and the National Honor Society of Dance Arts. While maintaining a 3.9 GPA, Ms. Brown also served as a Student Government Ambassador. This great young citizen will do great things and make her family, her community, and Temple Lodge proud.

*Contributor – WM Carl Cooney (No. 98)*



*Pictured Left to Right: WM Carl J. Cooney, Jr., Ms. Je'Mya Brown, and Junior Warden Jayson Wilson*



# 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](mailto: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 or not use the articles and photographs as deemed necessary. **Deadline for submissions for the next issue of *The Cornerstone Message* is 1 October 2022.** These articles should include events from **July 2022 - September 2022.** 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



### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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

**RW Anthony J. Johnson**  
*Grand Secretary*

**Post Office Box 10504**  
**Birmingham, Alabama 35202**

### CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

**Brother Taurean F. Dawkins**  
*Morning Star Lodge No. 50*

**Brother Robert D. Bryant**  
*Goshen Lodge No. 132*

**Brother Marion Avery Dortch, Jr.**  
*Hamilton Lodge No. 365*

**WM Buford Thomas**  
*Athelstine Lodge No. 71*

**WM Carl Cooney**  
*Temple Lodge No. 98*

**WM Brian Johnson**  
*Goodway Lodge No. 222*

**WM Ron Boone**  
*New Beginning Lodge No. 970*

**RW H. Jerome Glover**  
*Morning Star Lodge No. 50*

**RW Carlton Jones**  
*Phoenix Lodge No. 428*

**RW Herman "Jerome" Glover**  
*Publication Editor*

**PM Roderick Caswell**  
*Front Cover Designer*

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

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

**RW Carlton Jones**  
*Committee on Military  
and Veteran Affairs*

**Brother Miguel L. Ferguson**  
*Health and Awareness Contributor*