



To Be Read Twice In Open Lodge



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OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION NUMBER 39

January 20, 2026

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:

*“Real optimism knows the difficulties but believes they can be overcome.”
William Arthur Ward*

Happy New Year to all my brothers and to your families. I am prayerful that each of you have a blessed, healthy, and prosperous new year. It is no secret that presently there is a lot of domestic and international discourse. As we enter 2026, we must remain optimistic and hopeful that things in this great country will get better. We must remain faithful that peace will prevail here in the USA and throughout the globe. We shall overcome!

SELMA MARCH

For the thirteenth consecutive year and in an effort to be more involved in our communities, to stand against voter suppression, to remember our past, and to look to our future, I am calling on the entire jurisdiction to converge on Selma, Alabama, on Sunday, March 8, 2026, to participate in the 61st anniversary of the

historical walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge. I am asking all brothers and sisters to meet at 119 Washington Street, Selma, Alabama 36701, diagonally across from Washington Street Marketplace, at 11:00 a.m. The bridge crossing will begin at approximately 2:30 p.m. A large crowd is expected; therefore, I am asking all brothers and sisters to arrive at the designated time. Please bring plenty of water, snacks and lounging chairs as they will be needed, particularly by our elderly brothers and sisters. **All brothers are to participate in the March dressed in proper masonic regalia to include a black suit (including the jacket), white shirt and solid black tie.**

It is very important that we assemble in Selma, Alabama in mass numbers. Last year we had several hundred brothers and sisters to attend and participate. Let us do our best to continue to increase our numbers this year. Consider this March as a time to remember for the seasoned brother and a history lesson for the younger brother. I am counting on you to help make this another great success.

ALL BLACK SHOES REQUIRED

As I travel throughout the jurisdiction, I see a trend of brothers wearing sneaker oxfords or dress sneakers with white soles or soles other than black. I understand that when sneaker oxfords were first produced, it was difficult to find them with black soles. Now they can easily be found with black soles. **MASONIC DRESS INCLUDES ALL BLACK SHOES.** Effective July 1, 2026, any brother wearing shoes, other than all black, while in Masonic dress, will not be allowed to enter meetings or to participate with the Craft.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

The schedule for 2026 Regional Meetings is as follows:

Saturday, February 7, 2026 – Region #4: District Numbers 7, 8 and 10— Grand District Deputies Erwin Chambliss (#7), Loveless Belser (#8), and M. C. Reeves (#10) at 10:00 a.m. at New Spirit Missionary Baptist Church, 3302 Dale Avenue, Opelika, Alabama 36801.

Saturday, February 28, 2026 – Region #6: District Number 17—Grand District Deputy H. Jerome Glover (#17) at 10:00 a.m. at First Missionary Baptist Church Town Creek, 2057 State Hwy. 20, Town Creek, Alabama 35672.

Saturday, March 7, 2026 – Region #5: District Numbers 13, 14 and 15—Grand District Deputies Alvin Crawford (#13), Walter Greene (#14), and Dr. James Gray, II (#15) at 10:00 a.m. at Beulah Baptist Church, 3100 25th Street, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401.

Saturday, April 4, 2026 – Region #2: District Numbers 2 and 12—Grand District Deputies Lurie Walton (#2) and Rev. Richard Wilson (#12) at 10:00 a.m. at First United Baptist Church, 4481 County Road 20, Forkland, Alabama 36740.

Saturday, May 9, 2026 – Region #1: District Numbers 1, 3 and 4— Grand District Deputies Llewellyn Spencer (#1), Robert L. Stallworth, Jr. (#3) and Billy J. Stallworth (#4) at 10:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church, 504 Whatley Street, Andalusia, Alabama 36420.

Saturday, May 30, 2026 – Region #3: District Numbers 5 and 6—Grand District Deputies Rev. Robert Worlds (#5) and Rev. Raymond Franklin (#6) at 10:00 a.m. at North Highland Baptist Church, 407 Houston Street, Dothan, Alabama 36303.

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

NEWLY DESIGNED LICENSE PLATE

The newly designed 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. The Prince Hall Grand Lodge license plate information is enclosed with this Official Communication. We should be proud to show the world that we are Prince Hall Masons.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

1.) The Traveling Again Reclamation Program (TARP) has been extended until further notice.

- 2.) To enter the Alabama School of Masonry (masonic college) on our website, you must enter the password [REDACTED].
- 3.) The souvenir journal information for 2026 has been disseminated and is also available on the website. Please pay strict attention to the deadline date of May 15th. Please do not wait until the deadline approaches to submit your ads. Begin submitting your ads now. **All subordinate Lodges are REQUIRED to purchase or sell a full-page ad or two half page ads. All Grand Lodge Officers and Grand District Deputies are REQUIRED to purchase a full-page ad.** Let us make this year's souvenir journal the best we have ever had.
- 4.) Addresses and telephone numbers on lodge rolls must be updated at least once a year and as often as needed as members often relocate.
- 5.) When filing a death claim, be sure to mail in the **original death certificate** along with the Endowment/Burial Claim. Please note if the family wishes to have the original copy of the death certificate returned to them and we will return it after review.
- 6.) Brothers who reinstate and demit **must always reinstate to the lodge that they were members of when suspended** and then demit to the lodge of their choice. 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.
- 7.) Brothers who reach exemption status are exempt from endowment dues only. To be approved for exemption status, a brother must have been a member of the Endowment Department at least thirty-two (32) years without a break in time (i.e., suspension for non-payment of dues, suspension from the lodge, etc.). When requesting exemption status on a brother, please complete an Endowment Dues Exemption Application and mail it to the office. If the brother qualifies, you will receive a letter stating that he has been approved. If the brother does not qualify, you will receive a letter stating when he is eligible.
- 8.) 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.
- 9.) **A Request for Dispensation should be made as early as possible and must be made no fewer than fourteen (14) days prior to the event, emergency**

circumstances excepted. Requests must be made to the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

10.) The current fee structure is as follows:

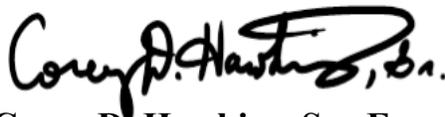
- a.) Reinstatement - \$25.00
- b.) New Membership (includes membership certificate) - \$30.00
- c.) Membership Certificates - \$5.00
- d.) Taxes - \$25.00
- e.) Registration - \$25.00
- f.) Cornerstone & Burial - \$6.00
- g.) Replacement Membership Card - \$10.00
- h.) Membership Card Sticker - 25¢
- i.) Book of Constitutions - \$20.00
- j.) Alabama Prince Hall Monitor (Supplemental Guide) - \$15.00
- k.) Assessment - New Members and those suspended before June 2002 - \$200.00. Those suspended after June 2002 - \$250.00 (all have two years to pay)

11.) Our 156th Annual Communication will be held July 20-22, 2026, in Birmingham, AL.

12.) Our Annual Prince Hall Americanism Classic will be held September 12, 2026, in Fairfield, AL, featuring Edward Waters College vs. Miles College.

13.) Please remember to participate in the GO REGISTER OTHERS TO VOTE (GROV) INITIATIVE

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 20th day of January 2026, A. L. 6026.



**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

Anthony J. Johnson
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary
of the
Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama