



TO BE READ TWICE IN OPEN LODGE



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OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION NUMBER 6 January 29, 2015

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:

“A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one’s birth. It is better to go to the house of mourning; than to go to the house of feasting; for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart.”
Ecclesiastes 7:1-2

Recently we celebrated the homegoing of the Honorable Dr. William O. Jones, the 10th Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. and A. M. of Alabama. Although his physical presence on this earth is no more, he will live forever in our hearts and memories. While we may mourn, I am certain that Grand Master Jones is rejoicing. He now resides with the Grand Architect of the Universe in that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. I want to thank all of the brothers who attended Dr. Jones’s funeral and assisted in giving his masonic last rites. Let us continue to keep the family of Dr. Jones in prayer.

SELMA MARCH

In an effort to be more involved in our communities, to remember our past, and to look to our future, I am calling on the entire jurisdiction to converge on Selma, Alabama, on Sunday, March 8, 2015, to participate in the 50 year anniversary of the historical walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge. I am asking all brothers and sisters to meet at 119 Washington Street, Selma, Alabama 36701, diagonally across from Washington Street Marketplace, at 11:00 a.m. The bridge crossing re-enactment will begin at 2:30 p.m. A large crowd is expected; therefore I am asking all brothers and sisters to arrive at the designated time. Please bring plenty of water, snacks and lounging chairs as they will be needed, particularly by our elderly brothers and sisters. All brothers are to participate in the March dressed in proper masonic regalia to include a black suit (including the jacket), white shirt and solid black tie. It is very important that we assemble in Selma, Alabama in mass numbers. Last year we had over 500 brothers to attend. Let us do our best 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.

MASONIC LICENSE PLATE

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”
Matthew 5:16

Our commitment campaign for the Prince Hall License Plate is going well; however, we need your help. Time is winding down! We must have 250 **paid** commitments so that our tag will be printed. We are currently only 70 commitments away. A donation of \$41.25 of the \$50.00 fee will go to the Prince Hall Legacy Foundation for scholarship purposes. **You do not have to wait until your tag renewal month to commit. You may commit at any time. I am calling on all Grand Lodge Officers and Grand District Deputies to commit to purchasing a minimum of one license plate. We must lead by example. I am also calling on all Worshipful Masters and members of the Craft to commit to purchasing one license plate.** We should be proud to show the world that we are Prince Hall Masons. **Let your light shine!** Instructions on how to commit to the license plate are enclosed with this Communication.

STATEWIDE RAISING

After polling the membership and receiving an abundance of positive feedback, I have decided to implement a statewide raising at our upcoming Annual Communication. Lodges can bring their Fellowcrafts to the Annual

Communication to be raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on that Tuesday afternoon. What better way to welcome our brothers into our ranks than by doing so at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication? It is not mandatory for those lodges that have Fellowcrafts to bring them to the session; however, I am asking for each lodge's support in this endeavor.

2015 WELCOME AND AWARDS BANQUET

As I informed you at our 2014 Grand Lodge Session, we will have an inaugural welcome and awards banquet at our 2015 Annual Grand Lodge Communication. The banquet will replace our welcome program on Monday night. Tickets will be made available through our Grand District Deputies and through our website in the very near future.

REGIONAL DISTRICT MEETINGS

The schedule for 2015 Regional District Meetings is as follows:

Saturday, March 7, 2015 – Region #4: District Numbers 7, 8, and 10—Grand District Deputies Morris Tooles, Jr. (#7), Benjamin Beasley (#8), and Dexter Madden (#10) at 10:00 a.m. at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 541 Pitts Street, Auburn, Alabama 36830.

Saturday, March 14, 2015 – Region #2: District Numbers 2 and 12—Grand District Deputies John Mayfield (#2) and Richard Wilson (#12) at 10:00 a.m. at Eastern Star Baptist Church, 110 Curl Road, York, Alabama 36925.

Saturday, March 28, 2015 – Region #5: District Numbers 13, 14 and 15—Grand District Deputies Gregory Rice (#13), A. Derek Bowman (#14), and Kenneth E. Hardy (#15) at 10:00 a.m. at College City Elks Lodge, 229 Long Street, Talladega, Alabama 35160. **A wreath laying ceremony will be held at 9:30 a.m. for Past Grand Master George W. Braxdall.**

Saturday, April 4, 2015 – Region #3: District Numbers 5 and 6—Grand District Deputies Jimmy Farmer (#5) and Billy Morris (#6) at 10:00 a.m. at Mary Magdalene Baptist Church, 153 Girard Street, Abbeville, Alabama 36310.

Saturday, April 18, 2015 – Region #6: District Number 17—Grand District Deputy Anthony J. Johnson (#17) at 10:00 a.m. at Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association Tabernacle, 6378 Pulaski Pike NW, Huntsville, Alabama 35810.

Wreath laying ceremonies will be held at 9:30 a.m. for Past Grand Masters Henry C. Binford and Charles V. Hendley.

Saturday, April 25, 2015 – Region #1: District Numbers 1, 3, and 4—Grand District Deputies Maurice Edwards (#1), George Gibbs (#3), and George Wilson (#4) at 10:00 a.m. at Clarke County High School, 151 South Church Street, Grove Hill, Alabama 36451.

Worshipful Masters, Wardens and Brothers are expected to attend their Regional District Meetings.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

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

2.) The souvenir journal information for 2015 has been disseminated and is also available on the website. Please pay strict attention to the deadline date. **All subordinate Lodges are required to purchase or sell a full page ad or two half page ads. All Grand Lodge Officers and Grand District Deputies are required to purchase a full page ad.** Let us make this year's souvenir journal the best ever.

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

4.) As of January 1, 2014, our joining fee increased to \$25.00 and now includes a membership certificate.

5.) Addresses and telephone numbers on lodge rolls must be updated at least once per year and as often as needed as members often relocate.

6.) The healing of a clandestine or irregular made Mason **must** be approved by the Grand Master. You may seek approval by calling or writing me at the Grand Lodge Office.

7.) Please continue to make use of our Traveling Again Reclamation Program (TARP). It has been extended until July 31, 2015.

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 29th day of January 2015, A. L. 6015.

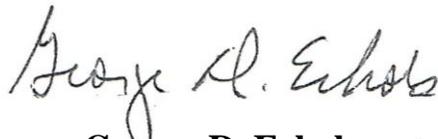


**Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., Esq.
Most Worshipful Grand Master
of the**

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



Attested:



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

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