



THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF MARYLAND AND ITS JURISDICTION, INC.



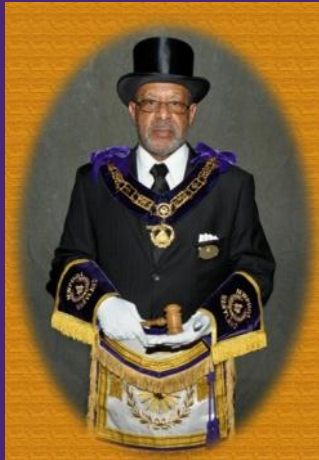
“The Light”

Maryland’s Prince Hall Family Newsletter

January 2012

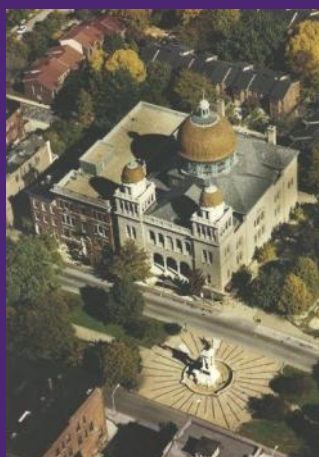
58th Edition

A Message from MWGM Thorpe



Most Worshipful Melvin M. Thorpe, Grand Master

“I’m urging the Craft to purchase a brick in support of the Building Renovations Plan”.



Dear Prince Hall Family,

First giving honor to our Lord and Savior, the provider of all good gifts and graces and the light of my life. I give him all the praise for allowing me the opportunity to lead this great jurisdiction for the past Masonic year.

I wish to THANK YOU, my Brothers, for your continuing trust and confidence in me by again electing me to the Grand East as Most Worshipful Grand Master.

As we begin this new Masonic year, I continually reflect on the year that has passed. I am fully aware that I did not arrive to the Grand East alone, and I am humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve you and this great jurisdiction again. Despite being faced with challenges, trials and tribulations, through the fellowship, brotherly love, unquestionable support, and diligent efforts of many, we have accomplished most of the designs drawn on the Grand Lodge Trestle Board.

To the Elected Grand Lodge Officers, I THANK YOU for your support of the grand lodge mission. Through your untiring efforts, you have made the job of Grand Master just that much easier. We must continue to strategize, develop and implement effective initiatives that will cause the jurisdiction to realize the vision of this Grand Master and progress.

To the District Deputy Grand Master’s and Appointed Grand Lodge Officers, THANK YOU for assuming the responsibilities of your respective offices.

Your leadership and performance continually sets the bar for others to emulate.

To the Brothers and Sisters of Myra Grand Chapter, OES and the other Concordant Bodies of this great jurisdiction, THANK YOU for your support of the Grand Lodge initiatives and this Grand Master. You confirmed that the vision of a Prince Hall Masonic Family in Maryland is not a dream, but a reality.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the grand lodge Administrator, Ms. Toronia Johnson. You have supported me in everything that I have tried to accomplish. Your diligent untiring performance of duty has kept me administratively on point.

To the Constituent Lodges and membership, THANK YOU for your friendship, support and most especially, your Brotherly Love.

I offer my sincere and heartfelt gratitude for your support of me and the recently elected Grand Lodge Officers of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

THANK YOU for all that you do!

Most sincerely,

MW Melvin M. Thorpe
Grand Master



Deputy Grand Master's Corner

MWPHGLMD 164th Grand Session Was a Rousing Success

By RW Steven G. Collier, DGM



*RW Steven G. Collier
Deputy Grand Master*

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

President Barack Obama

“We must commit to the forward progress of Masonry in Maryland.”

First and foremost I give thanks to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for his many blessings in allowing me to serve this great jurisdiction over the past year. I would like to thank the craft of this jurisdiction for your overwhelming confidence in re-electing me as Deputy Grand Master at the 164th Annual Communication held December 2-5, 2011, at the Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel and Conference Center, Ocean City, Maryland.

My congratulations to Most Worshipful Melvin M. Thorpe for his re-election to the Office of Grand Master, an honor he is well deserving of. Congratulations are in order for our newly elected line officers; Senior Grand Warden R.W. Lee A. Taylor, our Junior Grand Warden R.W. Philip S. Lewis, and our Grand Secretary R.W. William Davidson III. To R.W. Wilber Cooper, Grand Treasurer, congratulations on your re-election and to R.W. Wayne E. Paxton, Past Grand Secretary for your service while in office.

This past 164th communication has been one to remember! The turnout attendance and support was a sight to behold looking from the East. I thought that the session was destined to be successful from the outstanding support and attendance at the Memorial Service “Lodge of Sorrow” conducted by the Office of the Grand Lecturer and staff headed by RW Purnell J. Carter on Friday, December 2, 2011. Kudos to RW Carter and his team for a job well done! It can only get better.

From many accounts and comments from those in attendance this past session has raised the bar. There were so many favorable comments in regards to the positive atmosphere, the business and workshop sessions, lodge hospitalities, our visitors and the abundance of food! The

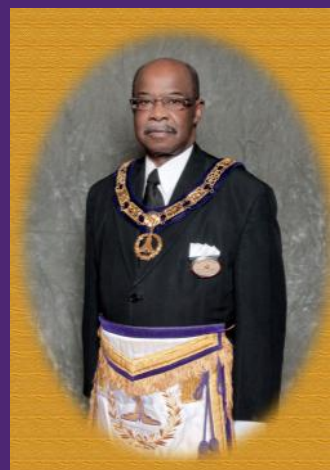
increased attendance by our overseas Districts was noticeable as well. Thank you District Deputy Grand Masters John R. Woodbridge, Lonsdale Skinner, and Carlos Johnson. It was a personal pleasure to see Worshipful Masters in attendance from the overseas lodges doing their duty...representing their lodges. I was also pleased to see the Craft adopt the constitutional change for our annual communication to be held in December vs. August. This will give us great flexibility to negotiate the best possible arrangements and at economical cost.

We now also need to look at trimming further fat in the number of days for our session? Each and every one of you should be proud of the forward progress this Jurisdiction is experiencing. There is still much to do but things are looking up. As a I stated in my annual session report; this past year the Jurisdiction witnessed a new direction for the Brothers and Sisters of the Maryland Jurisdiction. We have met new friends and garnered support from some of our old friends. As with all new beginnings there is a feeling of euphoria, numerous expressions of support, pledges and offers of assistance to the MWGM and Elected Staff. I admit it has been a pleasure to hear this; however, it is incumbent upon all to put action into their words. We must commit to the forward progress of Masonry in Maryland.

I pray that All Mighty God has been kind to you during the holiday season and that you remember the “reason for the season”. May God continue to bless you, your respective families and those less fortunate than we.”

Respectfully submitted,
RW Steven G. Collier
Deputy Grand Master

Senior Grand Warden's Corner



*RW Lee A. Taylor
Senior Grand Warden*

First I would like to thank my Brothers for their support and electing me to be the Senior Grand Warden of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland. God bless each of you.

Brothers, be the kind of man that, when your feet hit the floor each morning, the devil says "Oh Crap, He's up!"

Life is too short to wake up with regrets. So love the people who treat you right.

Forgive the ones who don't, just because you can.

Believe everything happens for a reason. If you get a second chance, grab it with both hands. If it changes your life, let it.

Take a few minutes to think before you act when you're mad. Forgive quickly.

God never said life would be easy, He just promised it would be worth it.

To the cool men that have touched my life. Here's to you!!

A real Brother walks with you when the rest of the world walks on you.

Love Your Brothers.

The Holy Alphabet!

Although things are not perfect

Because of trial or pain

Continue in thanksgiving

Do not begin to blame

Even when the times are hard

Fierce winds are bound to blow

God is forever able

Hold on to what you know

Imagine life without His love

Joy would cease to be

Keep thanking Him for all the things

Love imparts to thee

Move out of "Camp Complaining"

No weapon that is known

On earth can yield the power

Praise can do alone

Quit looking at the future

Redeem the time at hand

Start every day with worship

To thank's a command

Until we see Him coming

Victorious in the sky

We'll run the race with gratitude

Xalting God most high

*Yes, there'll be good times and yes some
will be bad, but...*

*Zion waits in glory...where none are ever
sad!*

"A real Brother walks with you when the rest of the world walks on you."

"I AM Too blessed to be stressed!"

The shortest distance between a problem and a solution is the distance between your knees and the floor.

The one who kneels to the Lord can stand up to anything.

Love and peace be with you forever, Amen.

God loves you and so do I.

Junior Grand Warden's Corner

News is HISTORY!! Or HISTORY is our news!!

By RW Philip S. Lewis, Sr.

For the many years serving within this Grand Lodge, it has been my pleasure to work and serve this jurisdiction. Serving for a number of years, first as an AGL, and WM of the LOI, and since 1987, as the DDGM of the 10th District, I am proud to have served under three MWGMs.

History was made when I saw PGM Shelton D. Redden succeed PGM Samuel T. Daniels, who had served for 38 years as such. Few changes occurred within the elected Grand Lodge staff. PGM Redden wanted to involve more of the Craft within the jurisdiction in the Grand Lodge activities. His thoughts considered the jurisdiction, growth within our numbers, and increasing our financial outlook. Our visibility within the PH solidarity improved while he served as President of the Conference of GMs. I was disappointed in the mannerism he chose to step aside, but he started the grounds for growth which we now see continues today. I was amazed as we elected a new MWGM in Melvin M Thorpe, whom I had previously served along with as a DDGM, followed his election as Grand Secretary. What a pleasure to see him move into JGW, and later as SGW. Now he serves as our 24th MWGM.

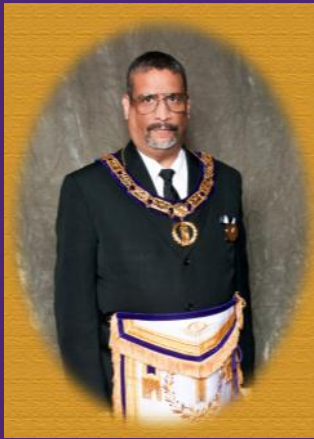
Wow, HISTORY! As our MWGM Melvin M. Thorpe stated for nearly 100 years we have had only four GMs! By my count PGM Willard W. Allen served for 38 years, PGM Samuel T. Daniels for 38 years, and PGM Shelton D. Redden for 13 years. Now who came before PGM Allen? And how long did he serve? So MWGM Melvin M. Thorpe opened up his administration for inclusion of your thoughts. He visited many lodges to see their true daily operations. He maintained an open door policy and invited any and all to come and question him, but few took advantage of this. And to continue his openness, he opened up the elections and did not present a slate for us to accept, but simply opened up the elections. Again, HISTORY!

When was the last time we held an election within our Grand Lodge where five candidates were nominated? Maybe we objected to holding the elections on Saturday, or maybe we didn't agree how it was done, or the nomination process, but to have the opportunity.

HISTORY! As my mother told me that neither she nor her mother ever thought of seeing a Black man elected President of the United States of America, well I never envisioned an open election within our ranks. So thanks for those who came out to participate. There were over 400 ballots to be casted. So thank you for electing me as your Junior Grand Warden, I promise to give it my ALL! Congratulations to all those nominated, because you are also part of history.

Now the work begins! Remember the Vision Statement is to be uniform both administratively and ritualistically throughout the entire jurisdiction. To bring the jurisdiction financially solvent by the year 2013. My intention to facilitate that vision has begun by working on our Grand Lodge Car raffle which the FIRST PRIZE will be a 2012 Cadillac CTS! Remember we cannot sell the tickets if they are not in your hands to work with. OPERATIVE WORD is to sell the tickets! Please DDGMs do not hold them up, and WMs, please do not slow down the process. Get them into the hands of our brothers!

Family members, we need your help to be successful. If we ever need to get behind a project to be successful, now is the time. If we could make the proceeds we require, then the Calling will be accomplished!! I promise to support our current operations and maintenance programs within the Grand Lodge to improve them. Assist in preparing a major fundraiser to benefit the Board of Trustee's Building Fund and Grand Lodge renovation project. Assist in those unprecedented measures to improve the overall operations of this Grand Lodge.



RW Philip S. Lewis
Junior Grand Warden

"Family members, we need your help to be successful. "

Junior Grand Warden's Corner, continued

The task is before us, but we NEED YOUR HELP! I'm asking/begging you for your help.

Many Brothers have asked about having a Trustee's Dinner Dance but we must be committed to be effective. I remember when we had 1400 attendees, but recently we are down to only 750, far short of the mark to be successful. Some enjoyed our two Gospel Concerts which were profitable. The goal before us to bring the jurisdiction financially solvent by the year 2013, but few share in the work. I am committed to seeing us involved in community activities and charitable works.

As a Family, is your lodge, district, chapter involved in charitable baskets, scholarships, checking on our widows, church visitations, and are there other activities we can be involved in? What happened to "...we dispense charity, promote good and solid family values and endeavor to significantly aid in the uplifting of humanity"? Isn't that we are all about? And didn't you feel proud when we donated \$5,000 to a family in need at the Grand Lodge Session. See what we can do, when we want to do!

Our Strategic Planning Committee is coming up with a plan that we, all, can embrace for our future growth. The Trustee's Board is back into action but we have so few workers to work the plan. So let's get on board this train and ride! We have many Brothers and Sisters who can assist us to be better activists, but so few out there in the quarries working to promote the good we can do.

A very close friend stopped me recently and tasked me with a few comments and concerns. He asked me to first concern ourselves about working with our families more but leave Sundays for church and divine services such as the Emancipation Proclamation, etc. Next look at many of our lodges, both large and small, because the smallest of us, needs some help! Finally to avail myself to a new Motto: How can I help you, my Brother! That is my new tasking. How can I help you, my Brother! Again thank you and we need your help! But how can I help you, my Brother!

May God Bless you and yours! This will be our most successful time in history! The old adage was to bring in a new member; I challenge you to bring in two. Or the 2B1ask1! Then we shall rise to be over the top.

2012 GRAND LODGE CHARITY RAFFLE

**MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL
GRAND LODGE OF MARYLAND**

**YOU COULD WIN THIS FIRST PRIZE
2012 CADILLAC CTS**

2012 Annual Raffle

IF THE WINNER ELECTS NO TO ACCEPT THE CAR, THAT
PERSON CAN RECEIVE A \$20,000 CASH PAYOUT

SECOND PRIZE: \$2,500 • THIRD PRIZE \$1,500

**YOU COULD WIN THIS FIRST PRIZE
2012 CADILLAC CTS**

2012 Annual Raffle

RAFFLE DRAWING

SEPTEMBER 15, 2012
STARTING @ 2PM

THE SELLER OF THE FIRST PRIZE WINNING TICKET WILL RECEIVE \$500

RAFFLE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT A COST OF \$5.00 PER TICKET. EACH TICKET OFFERS THE PURCHASER THREE CHANCES TO WIN. THERE ARE THREE STUBS PER TICKET.

MAKE SURE YOU LEGIBLY COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED ON ALL THREE STUBS.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL PRINCE HALL MASONIC LODGES AND ITS CONCORDANT BODIES IN THE JURISDICTION OF MARYLAND

**MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL
GRAND LODGE OF MARYLAND**

1307 EUTAW PLACE • BALTIMORE, MD 21217

MOST WORSHIPFUL MELVIN M. THORPE, GRANDMASTER
JOHN PHILLIP S. LEWIS, SR., CHAIRMAN - 410.569.4920
RW ANDREW PRYOR, CO-CHAIRMAN - 410.688.4966

CAR PROVIDED BY
CAPITOL CADILLAC
GREENBELT, MD

Raffle tickets are available at a cost of \$5.00 per ticket. Each Ticket offers the purchaser three chances to win. Tickets are available at the Prince Hall Masonic Lodges and its concordant bodies in the jurisdictions of Maryland.

If the winner elects not to accept the car, that person can receive a \$20,000 cash payout. Second prize is \$2,500 and third prize is \$1,500. The seller of the first prize winning ticket will receive \$500.

The drawing will be held 2:00 PM, September 15, 2012, at the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, 1307 Eutaw Place, Baltimore, Maryland. You need not be present to win.

Grand Lecturer's Corner

Uniformity, Consistency and Professionalism

By *RW Purnell J. Carter, Sr., Grand Lecturer*

First and foremost, I give the honor and praise to my Lord and Savior for continuing to bless me, my family and our great Fraternity. To the Most Worshipful Melvin M. Thorpe, Grand Master and all brothers & sisters, I pray that the G.A.O.T.U. continues to bless each of you.

I would be remiss if I did not admit that I am greatly humbled by the appointment as the Right Worshipful Grand Lecturer, Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and its Jurisdictions, Inc. I am ultra-clear that this position comes with great duty and responsibility. The magnitude of the task ahead is paramount to the very existence of the craft and its tradition. As the conservator of our ritual, Landmarks and ancient customs, it is incumbent that every Brother upholds and practice these important principles and time-honored traditions. The Office of the Grand Lecturer (OGL) is tasked to disseminate clear, concise and proper instructions for our work. This provides the very basis of the OGL Motto: Uniformity, Consistency, and Professionalism.

These matters are of utmost importance and very near to my heart. In Freemasonry, we are taught to draw our designs upon the trestleboard which will enable the craftsmen to effectively perform their duties. With this precept as our guide, Brothers must be aware of the OGL alignment and its present mission. I will briefly provide insight regarding the OGL's trestleboard. First, the OGL Motto: Uniformity, Consistency and Professionalism will continue to be the OGL banner. It is fundamental that we engage ourselves to "subdue our passions and improve

ourselves in Masonry." It is a constant challenge that begins anew each and every day. The OGL Motto contains the 3 objectives that will ritualistically improve our jurisdiction. Second, this office is dedicated to working with all Brothers including elected and appointed Grand Lodge officers. This directly enhances and leads to the betterment of the Craft and Masonry. Third, the Lodges of Instruction, under the leadership of Right Worshipful Otis Wilson, will continue to provide our wardens with valuable learning tools and training that will enable them to be effective constituent lodge leaders and proficient Worshipful Masters. Finally, this office will wholeheartedly support the Most Worshipful Grand Master and his vision. In performing the aforementioned items, this office will successfully execute his vision of being "ritualistically uniformed" throughout our jurisdiction.

In closing, the OGL stands ready to provide the jurisdiction with the care and commitment to keep it "ritualistically uniformed". We are prepared to go above and beyond to realize our objective. With your support, we will accomplish the task. On behalf of the Office of the Grand Lecturer, we extend a hearty congratulation to the 2012 – 2013 elected and appointed Grand Lodge Officers. Long live this great Maryland Masonic tradition. May the G.A.O.T.U. continue to bless the Brothers, Sisters and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and its Jurisdictions, Incorporated.

Fraternally,
Right Worshipful Purnell J. Carter, Sr.
Grand Lecturer



*RW Purnell J. Carter, Sr.
Grand Lecturer*

"If we continue to work together in unity, truth and brotherly love, we will conquer any and all challenges whilst overcoming the obstacles!"

Grand Chaplain's Corner

By RW Nicholas Padilla, Jr. Grand Chaplain

"Fellowship with him." - 1 John 1:6



When we were united by faith to Christ, we were brought into such complete fellowship with him, that we were made one with him, and his interests and ours became mutual and identical. We have fellowship with Christ in his love. What he loves we love. He loves the saints—so do we. He loves sinners—so do we. He loves the poor perishing race of man, and pants to see earth's deserts transformed into the garden of the Lord—so do we. We have fellowship with him in his desires. He desires the glory of God—we also labor for the same. He desires that the saints may be with him where he is—we desire to be with him there too. He desires to drive out sin—behold we fight under his banner. He desires that his Father's name may be loved and adored by all his creatures—we pray daily, "Let thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, even as it is in heaven." We have fellowship with Christ in his sufferings. We are not nailed to the cross, nor do we die a cruel death, but

when he is reproached, we are reproached; and a very sweet thing it is to be blamed for his sake, to be despised for following the Master, to have the world against us. The disciple should not be above his Lord. In our measure we commune with him in his labors, ministering to men by the word of truth and by deeds of love. Our meat and our drink, like his, is to do the will of him who hath sent us and to finish his work. We have also fellowship with Christ in his joys. We are happy in his happiness, we rejoice in his exaltation. Have you ever tasted that joy, believer? There is no purer or more thrilling delight to be known on this side of heaven than that of having Christ's joy fulfilled in us, that our joy may be full.

His glory awaits us to complete our fellowship, for his Church shall sit with him upon his throne, as his well-beloved bride and queen. ?

Will you fellowship with him?



*RW Nicholas Padilla, Jr.
Grand Chaplain*

"There is no purer or more thrilling delight to be known on this side of heaven than that of having Christ's joy fulfilled in us, that our joy may be full."

HOPE:

"For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one also hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it."

~Romans 8:24-25

"Faith is not simply a patience that passively suffers until the storm is past. Rather, it is a spirit that bears things - with resignations, yes, but above all, with blazing, serene hope."

~Corazon Aquino

"God puts rainbows in the clouds so that each of us- in the dreariest and most dreaded moments- can see a possibility of hope."

~Maya Angelou

"Any people anywhere, being inclined and having the power, have the right to rise up, and shake off the existing government, and form a new one that suits them better. This is a most valuable - a most sacred right - a right, which we hope and believe, is to liberate the world."

~Abraham Lincoln

"What is true of the individual will be tomorrow true of the whole nation if individuals will but refuse to lose heart and hope."

~Mohandas Gandhi

"Hope is something as important to us as water is to a fish, as vital as electricity is to a light bulb, as essential as air is to a jumbo jet. Hope is basic to life....Without that needed spark of hope, we are doomed to a dark, grim existence."

~Chuck Swindoll

MYRA GRAND CHAPTER TRAVELS TO ITALY

October 17, 2011

By Juanita L. Clarke, Past Grand Worthy Matron

Grand Worthy Matron Juanita L. Clarke led a delegation of five to the 2011 Joint European Grand Visitation on September 14, 2011. She was accompanied by Grand Associate Matron Faye H. Williams, Grand Treasurer Judith Williams, District Deputy Grand Associate Matron Joyce Dyson (No. 2) and Past Grand Matron Shirley M. Price. The purpose of the visit was to meet with the Sisters and Brothers from the O.E.S. Districts in Germany (No. 8), England (No. 9) and Italy (No. 10), to share procedural information and answer questions.



PGWM Clarke, MWGM Thorpe and DGM Collier

On Thursday, we were treated to dinner. Ask us about the "fried olives," they were excellent!



Enjoying dinner

On Friday, September 16, Grand Worthy Matron Juanita L. Clarke led an information exchange for the European O.E.S. District Deputy Grand Matrons, District Deputy Grand Associate Matrons, District Deputy Grand Patrons, Worthy Matrons and Associate Matrons.

During this Information Exchange with the European O.E.S. leadership, Grand Worthy Matron Clarke presented her expectations. She expected our European Chapters to follow the programs being followed stateside. She recognizes the fact that it may be difficult due to deployments and the geographic location of the chapters, however it is doable to have Schools of Instruction once a month for five months. Grand Worthy Matron Clarke asked that a more concerted effort be made to ensure the Schools of Instruction are held.



GT Williams, MWGM Thorpe, GWM Clarke, GAM Williams with some of the Maryland and European delegation

GWM Clarke commended the sisters for attending the Joint European Visitation, and informed the leadership group that our Annual Grand Session in the States is their session. An effort should be made to attend their own session where they can see the ritualistic work being per-

formed and develop relationships with their counterparts stateside. Other procedural and administrative issues were discussed and the leadership group had an opportunity to have their questions answered.

Friday evening we attended a welcome social where a good time was had by all.

Saturday morning, September 17, was the official opening of the Joint European Session and Myra Grand Chapter was officially received. After the Joint Management Leadership Presentation, Myra Grand Chapter members went to their O.E.S. Session. The members of Districts 8, 9, and 10 were very open to all that was presented. GWM Clarke discussed the important characteristics of relationships and the importance of being on one accord. A handbook was given to the membership containing arrangement of the chapter



Arriving for the social

room, line up of officers, duties of the Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron and Associate Patron.

Grand Treasurer Judith Williams presented a module on the Treasurer's duties and what and how certain materials

MYRA GRAND CHAPTER TRAVELS TO ITALY Continued

should be sent to Myra Grand Chapter. A copy of the forms was given to the DDGM, DDGAM and DDGP.

District Deputy Grand Associate Matron Joyce Dyson (No. 2) presented a module on the Schools of Instruction and gave each DDGM and DDGAM a disk with the materials taught at each of the schools.

A module on the revised Constitution was presented by Grand Associate Matron Faye Williams. The attendees

were informed that work on the revised Constitution began in 2005 and is now complete. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee performed a thorough review and deleted obsolete articles and the language was made more relevant to today's way of operating procedures. All passed recommendations from 1997 to the present were incorporated in its proper place within the revised Constitution. All chapters were sent an electronic copy of the revised Constitution to review and discuss during their chapter meetings in September and October. The Revised Constitution will be presented for adoption at the 115th Annual Grand Session.

We enjoyed a wonderful banquet Saturday night with delicious Italian cuisine and a jazz trio. GWM Clarke presented Certificates of Appreciation and gifts to incoming DDGM Cantrenna Williams (OES District No. 8), incoming DDGM Adrienne Williams (OES District No. 10) and DDGP Carlos Johnson (OES District No. 10).

On Sunday we relaxed and toured Venice, Italy. What a wonderful trip. The sisters and brothers of O.E.S. District No. 10 were superb hosts. We wanted for nothing during our visitation. We cannot thank O.E.S. District No. 10 enough for all their hard work and dedication to the Order.



GWM Clarke, GAM Williams, PGM Price with members from OES District No. 10



Myra Grand Chapter Visits Delaware's St. Matthew Grand Chapter

By Juanita L. Clarke, Past Grand Worthy Matron

On Saturday November 5, 2011 GWM Juanita L. Clarke and GWP Robert E. Williams along with a delegation of 43 supportive members traveled to the 89th Annual Grand Session of St. Matthew's Grand Chapter, Jurisdiction of Delaware held at the Dover Sheraton, Dover, DE.

Seven Past Grand Matrons and two Past Grand Patrons traveled with them. GWM Sheila F. Marlowe and GWP Leonard R. Turner were pleased to recognize Myra Grand as being the second largest jurisdiction at the annual session. In her remarks, GWM Clarke thanked the Myra Grand Membership for traveling as this was the last visitation for this administration and stated we needed to depart immediately following lunch due to a commitment in our Jurisdiction.



FIRST HUSBAND AND WIFE TEAM ELECTED AT THE 115TH ANNUAL GRAND SESSION OF MYRA GRAND CHAPTER

The 115th Annual Grand Session of Myra Grand Chapter began with the Chapter of Sorrow and Divine Service on Thursday, November 17, 2011 at the BWI Marriott in Hanover, MD. The Inspirational Choir from Mt. Calvary United Methodist Church rendered many spiritual and uplifting songs for praise and worship. Rev. Reginald Tarpley delivered an inspiring message that evening.

Grand Worthy Matron Juanita L. Clarke and Grand Worthy Patron Robert E. Williams opened our meeting on Friday, November 18, 2011. The meeting was well-attended and our election was held that evening.

History was made as the first wife and husband team (Grand Worthy Matron and Grand Worthy Patron) were elected to lead Myra Grand Chapter. The slate of elected officers for 2011-2012 is:

- Faye H. Williams, Grand Worthy Matron
- Herman I. Williams, Grand Worthy Patron
- Carol D. Simon, Grand Associate Matron
- Kevin Cunningham, Grand Associate Patron
- Tracy I. Brown, Grand Conductress
- Lillie M. Jones, Grand Associate Conductress
- Cynthia Henderson, Grand Treasurer
- Robbie Chrishon, Grand Financial Secretary
- LaVerne P. Evans, Grand Secretary
- Juanita Brinkley-Hall, Grand Asst. Secretary
- Barbara J. Henderson, Grand Trustee – Chair
- Beverly Scroggins, Grand Trustee – South
- Janette Randall, Grand Trustee – North



GWM Faye H. Williams and GWP Herman I. Williams

On Sunday, November 20, 2011, at a public installation, Grand Worthy Matron Clarke and Grand Worthy Patron Williams were received into the Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons Council. Past Grand Matron honors were bestowed upon Gwendolyn Moore and Viola Milburn. In addition, Past Grand Patron honors were bestowed upon MW Melvin M. Thorpe, Grand Master. The newly elected officers were then installed. Many family and friends were in attendance to be a part of this historic event.



Inspirational Choir of Mt. Calvary
United Methodist Church



Installing Team: PGP Skinner, DDGP Murray, PGP Purnell, PGP Foreman, PGP Bennett, PGP Turner, PGP Taylor, DDGP Jones



Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons Council: PGPs Taylor, Williams, Thorpe, Bennett, Purnell, Turner, Jones; PGMs Venable, James, Bennett, Clarke, Bratcher, Milburn, Palmer, Moore, Fauntleroy Camper, Hutt-Scott, McLeod, Goode, Barkley, Askew, Naylor

Grand Worthy Matron Faye H. Williams and Grand Worthy Patron Herman I. Williams had over 90 Eastern Star members travel with them on their first official visitation to the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland's 164th Annual Communication on December 3, 2011, where the Most Worshipful Melvin M. Thorpe, Grand Master presided. This was a very impressive showing for the leadership of both organizations. Grand Worthy Matron Faye H. Williams and Grand Worthy Patron Herman I. Williams intend to keep the communication line open between the Grand Lodge and Myra Grand Chapter.

“Baltimore City Veteran's Day Parade - November 11, 2011”

By RW Charles J. Johnson 33°

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and its Jurisdiction demonstrated their patriotism and support for our Nation's Heroes by marching in the annual Veterans Day Parade in honor of all Military Service members and their family.



Most Worshipful Melvin M. Thorpe, Grand Master, proudly lead the members of MWPHGL from the George Washington Monument to Memorial Park, accompanied by RW Steven G. Collier, Deputy Grand Master; RW Odell W. Wilson, Jr., GMA; RW James Vaughan, Assistant Grand Secretary; RW Jack L. Jones, Assistant Grand Secretary; RW Charles J. Johnson, ADDGM, 11th Masonic District; WM Hiram McKinney, E.W.S. Peck #82; WM William Ramsey, Corinthian #62; WM Mark Hammond, Maceo Boston Jr. #145; JW Carroll Martin, Maceo Boston Jr. #145; PM Henry I. Williams, Associate Grand Worthy Patron, O.E.S, Fredericktonian #12; PM Richard Lane, King David #18; PM Marshall Smith, Maceo Boston Jr. #145; PM Ervin Kelly, Maceo Boston Jr. #145; and brothers Alvin Wilson, Devin Wright and Craig Schmate from Maceo Boston Jr. #145.

“Today is a New Day” - - Live in the Moment”

“Although time seems to fly, it never travels faster than one day at a time. Each day is a new opportunity to live your life to the fullest. In each waking day, you will find scores of blessings and opportunities for positive change. Do not let your TODAY be stolen by the unchangeable past or the indefinite future! Today is a new day!”

~ Steve Maraboli

“We have proved that the true strength of our nation comes not from the scale of our wealth but from the power of our ideals - opportunity, democracy, liberty and hope.”

~ Barack Obama

ROBERT JEROME POINDEXTER

Robert was born on September 12, 1949 – the only child to the late Roketta Poindexter and Leonard Poindexter of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Robert went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, October 12, 2011.

Also known to many as “Bobby Juke,” “Bobby,” “PD,” “Rob,” or “Poin,” he was raised in South Philadelphia where he attended St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School. During his time at St. Charles, he served as an altar boy under the guidance of Father John.

Robert enjoyed playing basketball and hanging out with his friends – Johnny Mack, Minus, Skip, Artie, Lionel and Billy. They also enjoyed singing “doo wop” on the street corner.

Robert finished his studies and enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1967. Shortly thereafter, he met and married Jacqueline Marie Potter of West Philadelphia. Together they raised three children; Ernest Daniel, Jacqueline Marie, and Tamara Ann Poindexter. Robert served in the U.S. Army for a total of 21 years. During his military career, he worked as a Medic, Coun-



Hundreds of Prince Hall Masonic Family Members, Family, Friends and Guests filled the Willard W. Allen Masonic Temple, Samuel T. Daniels Sanctuary during the Masonic Services for our Fallen Brother.

selor, Equal Opportunity Advisor and finally, as the Director of Plans, Operations and Training at DeWitt Army Hospital, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He retired honorably in 1988. He later went to work for the Federal Government at the Department of Veterans Affairs and most recently was the Di-

rector of the National Labor Relations Board, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity.

In 1981, while in Germany, Rob began his Masonic career in the Jurisdiction of Oklahoma. In 1985, Robert married Lori Deleese Gwynn of Joppa, Maryland, where they resided in Woodbridge, Virginia. Later that same year, he demitted to E. Jerry Williams Lodge #141 where he was a charter member and served as a Worshipful Master from 1987-1988. He was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star; Royal Arch Mason, P.H.A.; Grand Inspector General, James A. Mingo Consistory #334, Noble of the Mystic Shrine, MISR Temple #213 of Accokeek, Maryland. Robert was the Grand Lecturer of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F.&A.M., Jurisdiction of Maryland, Inc.

Robert was “people person: with a spirit that drew young and old alike. He was passionate about many things to include Masonry, the Shrine, his motorcycle club, and his “beloved” lawn. Most of all, he had a passionate



WM Stephen Bush Presents Mrs. Lori Poindexter a shirt emblazoned with a picture of Poin superimposed over the Square & Compasses.

love for his wife, Lori, which lasted for 33 years. Rob also enjoyed spending Friday night out with his friends, Dimitri, Doug, Warren, Josh and McBayne (“Pops”). Anyone who knew Rob knew he enjoyed life and lived it to the fullest.

Robert leaves to cherish his memory, his loving wife, Lori, three children, Ernest Daniel Poindexter of Washington, DC, Master Sergeant (Retired), U.S. Marine Corps, Jacqueline M. Gray (Ben) of Stafford, Virginia, Master Sergeant, U.S. Air Force,



Tamara A. Dickey (Dante) of Okinawa, Japan: four grandchildren – Marquis, Keyana, Tiarah and Christian; his father, Leonard Poindexter (Pat) of West Philadelphia; in-laws Lewis and Alverta Gwynn of Maryland; three sisters-in-law, Roxanne Lloyd

(Donnell), Daphney Gwynn, and Carlease Gree. He is also survived by his God sister, Cleo Jacobson (Ernest) of New Jersey; two Goddaughters, Mona Lisa Hawk of the Bahamas and Anisse Settles of Edgewood, Maryland; two aunts, Gloria Poindexter of South Philadelphia and Aunt “2T” of New Jersey; brother, Ronald and sisters Dina and Stacy; close family friends, Harry Gumby and his daughters Regina Quince and Veronica Hodges; Dimitri and Ara Brown: a host of cousins (from Philadelphia, Eastern Shore, Delaware and New Jersey), and many,

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD REMEMBERS ROBERT J. POINDEXTER

*By Karen L. Crump-Wilson
OEEO Attorney-Advisor*

October 12, 2011, National Labor Relations Board’s Director of the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity (OEEO), **Robert Jerome Poindexter** passed away following complications during a medical procedure.

Mr. Poindexter began his career at the Agency on September 27, 1999. He was appointed to the OEEO Director position by former Chairman John C. Truesdale and former General Counsel Fred Feinstein. As the Director, Mr. Poindexter served as the principal advisor to the Chairman and the General Counsel on all matters pertaining to the Agency’s equal employment opportunity programs and policies. He also was responsible for ensuring the fair, efficient, and timely processing of complaints of discrimination, as well as the oversight of the Agency’s Diversity, Alternate Dispute Resolution, and Special Emphasis Programs.

At the time of his appointment, then Deputy General Counsel Mary Joyce Carlson stated, “Rob’s leadership and experience in the field of equal employment opportunity will be enormously valuable to the Agency and our EEO program.” As the Director, Mr. Poindexter fought passionately to uphold the tenets of OEEO:



“Neutrality, Integrity and Commitment.” He built a dedicated staff of collateral duty counselors, investigators, and attorneys who are passionate about their service in assisting Agency employees in resolving disputes in the work place and improving the quality of life at the NLRB. He personally devoted time to listen and assist Agency employees and managers as they navigated employment matters.

Prior to his appointment as the Agency’s OEEO Director, Mr. Poindexter was a 22-year retired Army veteran, who served honorably in such capacities as combat medic, substance abuse counselor, operations sergeant, and equal opportunity advisor. During his distinguished military service, Mr. Poindexter received numerous

awards and decorations including two Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, and the Army Achievement Medal. After his military service, Mr. Poindexter embarked on a second career as an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Specialist with the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), Office of Equal Opportunity. While there, he served in various equal employment opportunity positions including as a team leader for complaints processing and principal trainer for EEO counselors, investigators, and program managers. Preceding his tenure at the NLRB, Mr. Poindexter served as the Director of Field Operations with DVA’s Office of Resolution Management (ORM), where he was responsible for processing complaints of discrimination at 23 locations nationwide.

Mr. Poindexter touched the lives of countless individuals, both rank and file employees and managers alike based in Washington, DC and spread nationwide in each of the Agency’s field offices, from Los Angeles, to Boston, to Puerto Rico. He created a lasting and unique legacy for the Agency, and its employees are the beneficiaries of his dedication and service. It is with much sorrow that we say, “Thank you Mr. Poindexter.”

We will miss him for all his contributions to the Agency.

164th Annual Grand Lodge Session

By WM Wayne Wright, Fairmount Lodge No. 92

“We came, we [participated], we [accomplished]”: that seemed like the most appropriate sentiments from those who took part in the 164th Annual Grand Lodge Session at the Princess Royale in Ocean City, Maryland.

“**We came**” - oh boy did we ever; from the start of the Grand Session to the very end, Brothers were in attendance at every event they could be in to have their voices heard. As I walked into the Princess Royale Hotel and Resort I saw a sea of Maryland Prince Hall Masons lining up at the counter waiting to check-in to their rooms, everyone with a determined look on their faces and it seemed fellowship in their hearts as each greeted me, as though we were old friends. As Brothers parted ways to their rooms and I began to get dressed for the night’s events I wondered how many would make it to the session in time for the Lodge of Sorrow and to my amazement I walked into a crowded room filled with brothers and siStars wanting to show their respect to those who have preceded us in death.



Members of the Grand Lecturer’s Staff, RW Otis Wilson, RW Jonathan Goode-Bey, RW Al Smith, and RW Alfred G. Moore conduct the Lodge of Sorrow services.

The next morning I awoke ready to start the day and knew if the 163rd Annual Session was an indicator I needed to be early to the opening of the business portion of our Grand Session. As I walked in the door prior to 7:45 AM the brothers were already filling up the assembly room. More than 450 brothers registered for the 164th Annual Grand Session and it could be seen as the election portion of the session commenced. As the session began to wind down and the work week was upon us, I awoke on that Monday morning half expecting most of the brothers to be gone, but as I entered the assembly room, I was pleasantly shocked to discover more than 200 members decided to stay to finish the business of our Grand

Lodge. I am reminded of the remarks of a Grand Lodge officer as we closed the Grand Session, “we were not anticipating this many brothers still being here on a Monday morning, but we are glad you stayed...”



MWGM Melvin M. Thorpe is received at the opening of the 164th Grand Session.

“**We participated**”, every voice was heard, by the membership and by the elected and appointed Grand Lodge officers. This could be seen best when it came to the election of our Grand Lodge officers.



MWGM Thorpe addresses the assemblage with warmth and humor.

When Most Worshipful Melvin M. Thorpe opened the floor for nomination for the Senior Grand Warden’s position it was a given that RW Lee A. Taylor would be nominated but again we participated in this Grand Session and in came the nomination for RW Stanley.

This was the time for Brothers to really be heard in how they voted. When it was all said and done RW Lee A. Taylor was elected Senior Grand Warden of the MWPGL of Maryland. I think with the nomination of RW Stanley it opened a door, letting brothers know if you think a brother is willing and deserving nominate him for a position.

164th Annual Grand Lodge Session, continued

Next was the Junior Grand Warden's position and this truly was a sight to behold for me and I am sure most of the brothers in attendance, as every member of the Grand Lodge had an opportunity to nominate a worthy Brother to this important position. When nominations were completed RW Stanley, RW Lewis, RW Parks, RW Osborne, and RW Cloud were all in the running to becoming Junior Grand Warden. As the first round of elections ended two remained RW Lewis and RW Cloud and when the "smoke" finally cleared the membership spoke and elected RW Philip S. Lewis to the position of Junior Grand Warden.



GWM Faye H. Williams and GWP Herman I. Williams congratulate the newly elected Grand Lodge Officers and pledge their support to MWGM Thorpe.

The final opportunity for the Brothers to participate came on the Monday morning when it was time to nominate and elect the Grand Secretary. Again the membership

decided they wanted an election and nominated RW Davidson, RW Paxton, and RW Vaughn. As the last round of nominations and counting of votes ended the membership elected RW William Davidson III to serve as the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge.

"We accomplished" in celebrating the lives of our Brothers who were no longer with us, to handling the business of our Grand Lodge, to changing our Grand Lodge Constitution, and finally electing officers to serve our Grand Lodge. At this session we were able to remember the brothers who have gone on to that starry canopy in the sky through song and the spoken word by our Grand Chaplin. Brothers were presented with important information necessary to the administrative maintain and upkeep of their individual lodges.

Under the leadership of MWPGM Paul A. Smith, the Jurisprudence Committee was able to present new changes to the Grand Lodge Constitution that were voted and accepted by the membership. And finally the Brothers had an opportunity to nominate, cast their vote and watch the installation of the newly elected Grand Lodge officers of this Grand Lodge. At this 164th Annual Grand Session of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and Its Jurisdiction we accomplished a lot and I realized none of this could have been possible without the efforts and contributions of the membership who decided to devote their time and energy to an organization dedicated to the betterment of man and mankind. Congratulations on an outstanding 164th Annual Grand Session, looking forward to the 165th session when I can sit back as a Past Master and enjoy it even more so.

MWPHGLMD Makes Christmas Charity Donations

On December 15, 2011, MWGM Melvin M. Thorpe presented Christmas Charity Donations to eight families.

Grand Master Thorpe stated that, rather than donate toys to needy children as we had done in the past, he believed that the families would be better served if we made cash donations instead.

By the expressions of gratitude and appreciation shown by the recipients, it was clear that MWGM Thorpe was on point with his decision. The families were overwhelmed with joy and thankfulness for the benevolence of the Maryland Prince Hall Masonic Family.



MWGM Thorpe stands with GWM and GWP Williams, and the Christmas Charity Donation Recipients.

ONE HUNDRED FORTY-NINTH COMMEMORATION EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION CELEBRATION

By Bro. Steve C. Isom

On Sunday, January 8, 2012, The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland held its observance of the One Hundred Forty-Ninth Commemoration of the Emancipation Proclamation at the Willard W. Allen Masonic Temple, Samuel T. Daniels Sanctuary. The observance also included a Memoriam of our fallen Brother, R.W. Robert J. Poindexter.



Rev. Dr. S. Todd Yeary Congratulates Master Nicholas Padilla, III on his adept skills as Master of Ceremony.

AF&AM of Maryland; the Honorable Nathaniel J. McFadden, Majority Leader, Maryland State Senate; the Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin, U.S. Senator Maryland; Mr. Kevin Slayton, Faith-Based Liaison, Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods, City of Baltimore; and Keynote Speaker, Rev. Dr. S. Todd Yeary, Senior Pastor, Douglas Memorial Community Church.



Over 1,000 Prince Hall Masonic Family Members and Guests were in attendance.



RW Lee A. Taylor, MWPHGLMD SGW; RW Gerald E. Piepiora DGM Maryland AF&AM; Rev. Dr. S. Todd Yeary; MWGM Melvin M. Thorpe, MWPHGLMD; MWGM McKinnon W. Myers, MWPHGLDC.

With over one thousand Prince Hall Masonic Family and guests in attendance, the commemoration was adeptly presided by Master Nicholas Padilla, III, son of R.W. Nicholas Padilla, Jr., Grand Chaplain. Other members of the Myra Grand Chapter OES Youth Fraternities contributed to the program; including Youth Knight Rasheed Carter – “The Occasion”; Princess Matron Whitney Fowlkes – “Welcome”; The Knox Brooks Youth Fraternity “Response to Welcome”; Princess Matron, Cadet Carolyn Vandervall - “The Emancipation Proclamation”; and Past Prince Patron Devin Keller – “What It Means To Me”.



Princess Matron, Cadet Carolyn Vandervall reads the Proclamation.

Also in attendance were MWGM McKinnon W. Myers, MWPHGL of the District of Columbia; the Honorable Leonard A. Heard, MWGM, MWPHGL of Pennsylvania; RWDGM Gerald E. Piepiora,

The unprecedented number of Prince Hall Maryland Family Members and distinguished guests in attendance demonstrated the poignancy of the occasion, and were true testaments to the admiration, commitment and fraternal support for our Grand Master and his Leadership team.

Inspirational musical selections by the Sons of God, the Melvin M. Thorpe Choral Ensemble, and Mrs. Tammy R. Padilla exalted the spirit of the occasion. Past Grand Master Paul A. Smith provided a moment of comic relief with his joyful rendition of “America the Beautiful” (by Ray Charles) that would have made “Milli Vanilli” proud.

Brother Senator’s McFadden and Cardin talked about the importance

of the moment and encouraged all of us to become activists in our community affairs.

The keynote speaker, Reverend Dr. S. Todd Yeary provided a spirited oration on the importance of hope; citing passages from the Prophet Jeremiah's Lamentations [3:21]. He gave us pause when he asked us, rhetorically, to image what President Abraham Lincoln would think with regards to his proclamation that ...



Mrs. Tammy Padilla delivers an uplifting spiritual.

”And I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free, to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defense; and I recommend to them that, in all cases when allowed they labor faithfully for reasonable wages.” The implication is that President Lincoln would be shocked that after 149 years his recommendation has still not been accorded.



'The Sons of God' sing praises.



The Melvin M. Thorpe Choral Ensemble display their musical talent.



U.S. Senator Ben Cardin and State Senate Majority Leader Nathaniel McFadden.

Why We Celebrate Emancipation Proclamation Day

*By Bro. Michael Bertty, II,
Chaplain, William T. Wallace Lodge No. 134*

The Watch Night Services in Black communities that we celebrate today can be traced back 148 years to gatherings on December 31, 1862. On that night, Blacks came together in churches and private homes all across the nation, anxiously awaiting news that the Emancipation Proclamation actually had become law. Then, at the stroke

of midnight, it was January 1, 1863, and all slaves in the Confederate States were declared legally free.

When the news was received, there were prayers, shouts and songs of joy as people fell to their knees and thanked God. Black folks have gathered in churches annually on New Year's Eve ever since, praising God for bringing us safely through another year.

THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

January 1, 1863

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation.

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

“That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and



The Emancipation Proclamation, continued

forever free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.

“That the Executive will, on the first day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the States and parts of States, if any, in which the people thereof, respectively, shall then be in rebellion against the United States; and the fact that any State, or the people thereof, shall on that day be, in good faith, represented in the Congress of the United States by members chosen thereto at elections wherein a majority of the qualified voters of such State shall have participated, shall, in the absence of strong countervailing testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such State, and the people thereof, are not then in rebellion against the United States.”

Now, therefore I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested as Commander-in-Chief, of the Army and Navy of the United States in time of actual armed rebellion against the authority and government of the United States, and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said rebellion, do, on this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and in accordance with my purpose so to do publicly proclaimed for the full period of one hundred days, from the day first above mentioned, order and designate as the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to wit:

Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, (except the Parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James Ascension, Assumption, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the City of New Orleans) Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia,

South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia, (except the forty-eight counties designated as West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkley, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Ann, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth[]), and which excepted parts, are for the present, left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued.



President Barack Obama views the Emancipation Proclamation in the Oval Office 2010-01-18

And by virtue of the power, and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States, and parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free; and that the Executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.

And I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defense; and I recommend to them that, in all cases when allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages.

And I further declare and make known, that such persons of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution, upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind, and the gracious favor of Almighty God.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the City of Washington, this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty-seventh.

*By the President: ABRAHAM LINCOLN
WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.*

**Myra Grand Chapter OES Sponsored
Knox Brooks Carey No. 9 (Upper Marlboro, MD) Youth Fraternity
Volunteers Support The Homeless Outreach, Inc. Back to School Event**

Back-to-School 2011

Carol and the children



Kathy and the children



Knox Brooks Carey (KBC) Youth Fraternity industriously wrap plastic-ware. Special thanks to this well-disciplined group of young people who worked and served throughout the day.

Clothing Distribution

Before...



Well-stocked clothing table at outset of party

During...



After...



Savitri Praim of NCOG picks up the few remaining items.



Greta Newsome & Team worked hard distributing the backpacks and supplies.



08-14-2011 15:33



Time to call families for backpacks



Enthusiastic recipients (left) of the good quality children's clothing donated by Corkran United Methodist Church fill their bags.



Marianne, Pete, and Carol minister to children: action songs and prayer.



Joanna Lehtinen performs a praise dance unto the Lord (below left) as the children watch in appreciation.



Pete prays the grace before the feast is served.



People prayed to receive Christ.

Photos on this page are from Our Savior's Lutheran event and are courtesy of Lisa Younger.

Knox Brooks Carey No. 9 Youth Fraternity Supports The Homeless Outreach, Inc. Back to School Event, **continued**

The Event's Grand Chairperson was Sis. LaVerne Evans, Myra Grand Chapter Grand Assistant Secretary.

Thank you, Back-to-School Donors & Volunteers!

For School Supplies & Clothes!

- Corkran United Methodist Church & St. Paul's Methodist Church
- Nancy Thoman
- Ken Jones
- Richard Boone
- Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Pastor Summers
- Kathy Gabrielsen
- Ed Rom
- Alicia Heffentreggar
- National Church of God (anonymous donors)
- Moody Family
- Thomas Sothern and Family
- Evangel Assembly of God (anonymous donors)
- Phet Thomas and Family
- Phyllis Jerry

Facility Use

Our Saviors Lutheran Church, Temple Hills, MD, Pastor Summers, Kathy Gabrielsen

Meal Donation & Preparation

- Alicia Heffentreggar & Catering Co., Meal for families from four shelters at Our Savior's Lutheran
- Pastor George Henderson & National Church of God Men's Ministry- Meal for 200 at D.C. General, then at 2nd & D with overflow.
- Pastor Gloria Easter and Clinton Christian Covenant Church, Meal for 60 at Shepherd's Cove

Volunteers at the Three Events

- Kathy Gabrielsen
- Our Savior's Church, Pastor Summers & Members
- Diane Williams and her Team
- Barbara Lewis and Ruth Project Team
- Pastor & Mrs. Henderson and NCOG Men's Ministry
- Evelyn Wooden
- Moody Family
- James Haydon and the Gideons
- Pastor Gloria Easter & all members of Clinton Covenant Youth Ministry

- LaVerne Evans and Knox Brooks Carey (KBC) Youth Fraternity & Lisa & Donald Younger (right)
- Savitri Pream
- Alicia Adams
- Michelle Mitchell
- Patti Willis
- Alvin & Greta Newsome
- CJ Johnson
- Marianne Benson & Pete Hyde
- Joanna Lehtinen
- All Unnamed Volunteers!



All Financial Donors!

Hello Carol,

On behalf of the Crisis Intervention Center, I would like to thank you for your generosity in supplying us with elementary students school bags. For the second year in a row, we found ourselves in a jam where thoughtful organizations reached out to us to supply us with back to school supplies, but due to unforeseeable shortages, they were undeliverable. You were heaven sent as we were preparing to inform children in need that there weren't enough backpacks to go around.

Thank you and a great big THANK YOU to the Homeless Outreach!

Sincerely,

Tara Pavao
Tara Pavao, MPA; MS
Community Outreach Consultant
Crisis Intervention Center
Calvert County Health Dept.

This kind note was from one of the additional groups we were able to help this year.
Praise the Lord!

Hi Lenny & Chris,

We had a very successful distribution at the Homeless Outreach facility at DC General today. It was a wonderful service. As of the time I left at 6:00 today, we were able to distribute 33 of the Auxiliary Facilities Testaments, 20 PWT's, and 17 School Testaments, for a grand total of 70 Testaments. There were three other Gideons,

I spoke with Rev. Diane Williams, who was in charge of the program today. She advised me to contact Carol Leo to find out whether she offers this outreach program at other locations in the city besides this one.

IHS,

The Gideons were a most welcome addition to our ministry team!
Praise the Lord!



MASON'S HEALTH

Topic: OBESITY

By RW "Doc" Barnett, MD Grand Medical Advisor

Historically, obesity was a disease of the wealthy. Today this is no longer truth due to change in the American diet and eating habits.

27% of the American public is overweight, 27% is obese, and 10% morbid obesity (twice your ideal weight). A more accurate determination of your weight is your waist size. Any waist greater than 40 inches in men and 35 inches in women is obesity.

The following conditions are associated with obesity: 1) diabetes; 2) hypertension; 3) heart disease; 4) respiratory problems; 5) sleep apnea; 6) risk of cancer; 7) low sex drive.

These diseases are the main causes of Afro-American deaths.

The good news is that this disease is under your control.

Here are some suggestions that may help: 1) Eat from a bowl instead of a plate - with chop sticks. No seconds!! This will reduce your calories and monthly food bill. 2) Do 10 minutes of Tai Chi per day. 3) Eat slowly 4) Reduce stress which could cause you to eat more.

If you have not lost weight from my suggestions, see your doctor, who may recommend a plan consisting of behavior modification, medications, or surgery. **Stay healthy and God bless!!**

Thomas H. Kiah Lodge No. 101 Lodge Hall History

By PM Melvin J. Shorter

Thomas H. Kiah #101 located at 5725 Crosby Rd., Rock Hall, Maryland is a Fraternal Organization operating under the "The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and its Jurisdictions Incorporated."

Prince Hall Masonry is the oldest and largest black fraternity in the world. Dedicated to the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, our organization takes good men, builds and develops them to be better men. Our organization dispenses charity, promotes good and solid family values and significantly endeavors to aid in the uplifting of humanity.

Thomas H Kiah #101 is named for a prominent black minister and educator from the Eastern Shore and was founded in 1937 under the influence of Elmer T. Hawkins, former principal of Henry Highland Garnett High School and a Deputy Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maryland.

The Masonic Lodge Hall was a Rosenwald School, built for local black communities in the mid 1920s in Sharptown near Rock Hall, Maryland. The story begins in the early years of the 20th century when Julius Rosenwald, a Sears and Roebuck Executive helped fund the construction of some 5,000 schools, almost all for black students.



The Sharptown School, a two room two teacher model cost \$3,500.

The Sharptown School was bought by Thomas H. Kiah #101 in 1966. The Lodge has used the building as its headquarters since 1966. The Masons have renovated the Sharptown building to suit their needs, removing the partition between the two classrooms, adding vinyl siding, installing plumbing, and upgrading the kitchen.

Kent County Newspaper reported on August 18, 2011, "The Sharptown School built in the 1920's has undergone some significant change from its days as a two room schoolhouse; with regular use by a motivated group, the building itself remains in good condition."

“The Rekindling of Brotherly and Sisterly Love”

By Sister Ramonda R. Fabian, Worthy Matron, Amulet Chapter No. 85

Brother Eugene Bradford, Sr., Worshipful Master (WM) of William T. Wallace Lodge No. 134, and Sister Ramonda Fabian, Worthy Matron (WM) of Amulet Chapter No. 85, took office in 2011. The themes for the 2011-2012 year are “Building Bridges” and “Bridging the Gap”, respectively. Realizing they had similar goals, Bradford and Fabian set out to have their members re-evaluate the Brother-Sister relationship between them and make plans to come together in the name of fraternal love.

After many discussions, WM Bradford and WM Fabian agreed that fellowship and community service would be the catalysts to rebuild the camaraderie between William T. Wallace and Amulet. So, the Community Service Committee of the Chapter proposed a Veterans’ Appreciation Day, the first joint community service effort between them in several years.

“The time has come for us to be about our Father’s business”, said Brother Dennis Graham, member of both William T. Wallace and Amulet. Members met on Sunday, November 13, 2011 to assemble goodie baskets filled with treats and patriotic items and to hand write thank you notes for the members who proudly served.

While listening to music and enjoying a light repast, the volunteers discussed ways to improve communication and went over upcoming events. Ten baskets were personally delivered and many thank you notes were



Veterans’ Appreciation Day Community Service

From Left to Right: Ramonda Fabian - Worthy Matron, Miss Zoë Fabian - 1st Myra Grand Chapter Baby, Brigitte Wilton - Ruth Star Point, Dennis Graham, Jerry Witcher - Associate Patron, Shennah Alleyne - Community Service Chairperson, Eugene Bradford, Sr., - Worshipful Master,.

(Not pictured: Barbara Henderson - Grand Chair of Trustees, Community Service Co-Chairperson.

mailed. The love gifts were very appreciated by the recipients.

Continuing with their themes Bradford and Fabian arranged a visitation to Amulet Chapter. The members discussed upcoming community service efforts, which resulted in each group pledging its support to the other. WM Bradford also formally invited the members of Amulet to attend a Masonic Meet and Greet, which was held on December 20, 2011, where they re-introduced its Sister Chapter to the lodges of the 10th Masonic District, visiting Lodges and Chapters as well as people interested in joining the Masonic family. It was a casual evening of fellowship and fun.

These and other efforts have left the members with a feeling of rejuvenation. “Thank you so much for helping me to be excited about the Order again”, said one of Amulet’s newer Sisters. The members of William T. Wallace Lodge No. 134 and Amulet Chapter No. 85 are well on the way to a stronger bond; not through parties and other fundraisers, but through charity. Both sides agree that charity is the glue that binds in the Masonic family, and are excited to come back together as a family knit together in fraternal love.

“To be a Negro in America is to hope against hope.”

~Martin Luther King Jr.

“Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul and sings the tune without the words and never stops at all.”

~Emily Dickenson

“No matter how difficult life becomes, there is always hope.”

~Dr. Drew Pinsky

“We should not let our fears hold us back from pursuing our hopes.”

~John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Pride of Cambridge Lodge #50 Hosts SEVENTH MASONIC DISTRICT ST. JOHN'S DAY CELEBRATION

On December 11, 2011 The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge District #7 held their Annual St. John's Day at Bethel A.M.E Church in Cambridge, MD. Rev. Dr. Colin M. Lambert, the host Pastor, will become a Prince Hall Mason in Pride of Cambridge #50 on December 16, 2011.



Members of Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge District #7



Members of Myra Grand Chapter, O.E.S. P.H.A.



District #4 D.D.G.M. Melvin J. Shorter

Processional	Masonic Family
Presiding	DDGM R.W. Melvin J. Shorter
Call to Worship	R.W. Melvin J. Shorter
Leader:	O God, We desire to be good stewards of all that you have made: The earth, the world and all that dwells therein. All that we have comes as a trust from you.
All:	God, We give thanks for all your gifts to us.
Leader:	We are called by God to use whatever gifts we have been given in Service to Others.
All:	As you have so freely given to us and lovingly made us what we are, we now freely give back to you the Substance of Our lives, Our Time, Talent and Money.
Hymn of Praise	(ALL) What a Fellowship
Invocation	P.M. Gilbert Hynson #101
Scripture	R.W. Charles Flamer Jr. #93 District Coordinator Knights of Pythagoras
Selection	Progressive Male Choir Bethel A.M.E. Church, Cambridge, Maryland
Welcome	Past Grandmaster Leotha N. Hull Pride of Cambridge # 50
Selection	Progressive Male Choir Bethel A.M.E. Church, Cambridge, Maryland

Response to Welcome	
The Occasion	R.W. Howard G. Williams #16 District Treasurer
Introduction of Preacher	JW William Jackson Jr.
Sermonic Hymn	Progressive Male Choir Bethel A.M.E. Church
Preached Word	Rev. Dr. Colin M. Lambert - Pastor Bethel A.M.E. Church
Invitation to Christian Discipleship	Rev. Dr. Colin M. Lambert
Offering / Offertory	WM Albert N. Blackwell, Easton Star #16 WM Roosevelt Bynum, Pride of Cambridge #50 WM Edward Bell, Olive Branch #93 WM James P. Johnson, Prospect #95 WM Houston H. Grinnell, Thomas H. Kiah #101
Recognition of Visitors/Lodges	
Presentations	R.W. Rufus Sampson #50, District #7 Secretary R.W. Howard G. Williams #16, District #7- Treasurer
Remarks	Rev. Dr. Colin M. Lambert, Pastor
Benediction	Rev. Dr. Colin M. Lambert, Pastor
Closing Song (ALL)	God Be With You Till We Meet Again
Recessional	Masonic Family

LaMech Lodge No. 30, Salisbury, MD

Through the vision of the Past Masters and the current Worshipful Master, James N. Taylor Sr., the members of LaMech Lodge #30 have come together to build stronger bonds of unity by visiting a Brother's church once a month. This has proven to be a productive way to build a stronger bond between the men of LaMech.

On October 9, 2011, LaMech had the privilege of visiting Wesley Temple United Methodist Church where Reverend William A. Ross Sr. is Pastor. Pastor Ross was very excited to see the Fraternity, and delivered a beautiful message on that morning. While talking to Pastor Ross after church, we discovered the reason for his excitement was that he is a current

member of Prospect Lodge #95 out of Hurlock, Maryland.

It was truly a blessing to fellowship with the brotherhood.

To GOD be the glory.

THE “BUSY BEES” OF BEE HIVE LODGE #66 Continue Their Impressive Community Service Tradition

By JW Ivory Traynham

The Brothers of Bee Hive Lodge #66 have remained “Busy Bees” in this Masonic Year as we have stayed actively involved in the community and made our presence known.

In October, we hosted the Grand Lecturers Office as we and E. Jerry Williams Lodge #141 conducted the Exemplification of the Third Degree. We raised 18 brothers that morning into the glorious bonds of our Fraternity.

In November we hosted our Annual Senior Citizens’ Dinner, which was very well attended and we also donated and delivered nearly a dozen Thanksgiving baskets to deserving citizens in our neighborhood through our partnership with Lifestyles of Southern Maryland.

We have also been assisting a local family who was burned out of their home back in August, and we have been supporting them through our charitable endeavors to provide them with money, food and other necessities throughout the year.

Lastly, in December we hosted our Toy and Clothing drive which allowed anyone in the community to come to the lodge and receive items to help them in these tough economic times. We also held our Spiritual Feast which allowed us to join with the community and to publicly give our thanks to the GAOTU for all his manifold blessings. We strive to keep doing all we can to help, aid and assist our neighbors throughout the year; it makes us better men and Masons.



Clothing and Toy Drive group Photo (Beehive #66, Truth Chapter #19)



Prepping a little food for the Clothing & Toy Drive Benefactors

UNION LODGE NO. 33, PHA F&AM 310 Cove Street, Crisfield, MD 21817

By WM Rodney A. Jackson

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is when...”;

Union Lodge No. Thirty Three
steps out into the community.

We gave away Turkeys for Thanksgiving,
and bicycles for Christmas. And even a 32” TV Raffle for
Christmas, As well.

And so we say to you, our Brothers;
May the Lord bless you and keep you

May the Lord make his face shine
Upon you and be gracious to you

May the Lord turn his face towards you
And give you peace.

May the blessings of heaven rest
Upon you and your neighbors.

May God’s love prevail and may all
That is good bind us together in unity.

WILLIAM T. WALLACE LODGE NO. 134 Makes \$500 Charitable Donation to the Anne Arundel County Food Bank



WM Eugene C. Bradford of William T. Wallace Lodge No. 134 presents a \$500 check to Bruce Michalec, Executive Director of the Anne Arundel County Food Bank.

The Anne Arundel County Food Bank is a free resource bank that gives away food and donated “gently used” appliances, furniture, medical equipment, baby items, cars and other items that will help a needy family make a home and a better way of life.

With generous food donations from the Anne Arundel County Food Bank and the Weis Markets in Odenton, Maryland, the Brothers of William T. Wallace Lodge No 134, along with Sisters from Amulet Chapter No. 85 OES, (Worthy Matron Ramonda Fabian) were able to present over 50 Thanksgiving and Christmas charity food baskets to needy families in the Fort Meade, Maryland area.



WM Bradford and WM Fabian oversee the charity food donations to Meade Village residents.

William T. Wallace Lodge No. 134 & Amulet Chapter No. 85



William T. Wallace
Lodge #134



Sis Fabian of
Amulet Chapter #85

Food Donation "Brothers Serving Others"



Monday, November 21, 2011



Rising Sun Lodge No. 46
P.H.A. - F. & A.M.
959 Baltimore & Annapolis Blvd.
Severna Park, MD 21146 (
410) 544-8446
W.M. ZEBBIE D. ATKINSON, IV



HELP!!!!!!!!!!!!

Pictured above is the plaque that adorns the Rising Sun Lodge No. 46 building and, as you can see, the Lodge will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in three short years WM Zebbie Atkinson IV has put together a special committee chaired by PM Ralph R. Thomas, Sr. to prepare for this monumental event. Under the direction of PM Thomas the committees' first task is to complete (to the best of their ability) the Past Masters wall of pictures that adorn the anteroom of the Lodge.

Attached is a list of every Past Master Rising Sun has had and years they served. Now this is where we need your help, take a look at the list maybe you or your father knew someone listed maybe they were fishing buddies or participated in an activity outside of the lodge, if so and if you have a picture of them we would love to have a copy of it.

Now we have not given up the search ourselves but the more eyes we can get on this the more likely we are to complete the Past Masters wall. Any help we can get with this endeavor will be helpful.

Any information you may have can be mailed to:
Rising Sun Lodge No. 46
959 Baltimore & Annapolis Blvd.
Severna Park, Maryland 21146,

Or you can e-mail information to Ralpthom@aol.com

If you have any question PM Thomas can be reached at 410-757-1762.

We thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide RSL46.

RISING SUN LODGE No. 46

The following brothers served as Worshipful Masters of Rising Sun Lodge No. 46 from 1914 – 1950. The tenure of their administration is not known at this time.

PM Oliver Green*
 PM John Hayes*
 PM John Henry Jennings*
 PM Oliver Johnson*

PM Theodore Kess*
 PM Charles Mann*
 PM Charles Pearman*
 PM Raymond Spencer

Past Master	Years Served
--------------------	---------------------

George White*	1936 – 37
James Watkins*	1946 – 47
Robert Wallace*	1950 – 51
Isaac Johnson	1951 – 52
Matthew Adams*	1952 – 53
Clarence I. Johnson*	1953 – 54
Joshua Hayes*	1954 – 55
Leslie Broadway*	1955 – 56
James A. Anderson*	1956 – 57
Guy Thomas*	1957 – 58
Horace Rowell*	1958 – 59
Charles Cromwell*	1960 – 61
Washington Hall, Jr.*	1962 – 63
Melvin R. Reynolds	1963 – 64
Thomas C. Johnson	1964 – 65
Kermit Johnson*	1965 – 66
Vernon Murray*	1966 – 68
Samuel Adams*	1968 – 69
Clayton Greene, Sr.	1969 – 72
Oriey W. Glenn, Sr.	1972 – 75
James Levi Pack, Sr.*	1975 – (Honorary)
Charles Giles*	1975 – 76
Morris Pack	1976 – 77

Thomas F. Watts*	1977 – 78
Roland B. Adams	1978 – 79
Hilton I. Johnson*	1979 – 81
Ernest R. Anderson*	1981 – 83
Ralph R. Thomas, Sr.	1983 – 84
Orlando L. Day, Jr.*	1984 – 85
Benjamin Bowles	1985 – 86
Nathaniel H. Cornish	1986 – 88
Thomas M. Day*	1988 – 89
Ronald E. Clarke	1989 – 91
Ronald Williams	1991 – 92
Wallace A. Kelly	1992 – 94
George H. Williams, Jr.	1994 – 96
Donald L. Smith	1996 – 97
Bobby L. Edmond	1997 – 99
Kenneth Brooks, Sr.	1999 – 01
Gregory C. Daniels, Sr.	2001 – 03
Zebbie D. Atkinson, IV	2003 – 05
Edward Morris	2005 – 07
Cleveland H. McDowney III	2007 – 09
Gregory C. Daniels, Sr.	2009 – 10
Michael Reid	2010 – 11
Zebbie D. Atkinson, IV	2011-
*DECEASED	

RISING SUN LODGE No. 46 FISHING TRIP

By Bantu Opiotennione, Senior Warden

It was a beautiful October morning. The winds were light, the sun was shining and the waters were calm. Rising Sun Lodge No. 46 was proud to be hosting their first Chesapeake Bay Fishing Trip.



The Crew On The Way Out To Sea

There were a total of ten participants that went out that morning on the "Jessie Girl" which is docked at the



Catching The Big One!

Queen Anne Marina on Kent Island. There was plenty of food and refreshments on board and everyone had a whale of a goodtime. The captain and first mate at Chesapeake Bay Sport

Fishing (the charter company) was very helpful and knowledgeable of the Bay and ensured that the 42 ft. boat was clean and comfortable.

Rising Sun Lodge No. 46 is planning to have a couple of trips next fishing season, so be on the lookout for the flyers. We look forward to seeing you on the next trip.



Beautiful Day!

“Preserving the Legacy”
By Honoring the Past and Celebrating the Future
Montford Point Marines
1942 – 2011 — 69th Anniversary

By RW Deputy Grand Master Steven G. Collier

The military legacy of Black Americans is as long as the history of Blacks in America. Ever since the first recorded visit of a black to this country in 1758, Blacks have participated in some form or another in military actions. Such participation has not received extensive coverage in history books, nor was it undertaken without great difficulty. Over the years, White Americans have, for the most part, been uncertain about Black participation in military organizations. In some instances, they approved of Blacks in the military only when forced to do so by circumstances.

The image of the military organization within a democratic society is, for the most part two-fold, positive in times of crisis and negative in time of peace. Whatever the image, it is important to remember those who have made contributions and set precedents. It is to such a group that this brief history is dedicated.

On June 25, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order #8802 which allowed Blacks to be recruited into the Marine Corps.

About one year later, Howard Perry of Charlotte, North Carolina enlisted in the Marine Corps and later that summer, reported for training at Montford Point, North Carolina. Montford Point was an encampment established to segregate the Black Marines. Nearly 20,000 Black Marines trained at Montford Point, currently known today as Camp Johnson, until 1948 when an Executive Order signed by President Truman made integration in the Marine Corps a reality.

Montford Point Marines Association (MPMA) History: In 1965, one of those early Marines, Master Sergeant Brooks Gray, called for a reunion of “Montford Pointers.” The first gathering was held in Philadelphia, PA. There he saw 400 men from seventeen states celebrate their service to country and Corps... Thus was the beginning of the Montford Point Marines Association. Master Sergeant Gray was elected as the First National President and his Executive Council established an open membership policy which states:

“MEMBERSHIP IN THIS ASSOCIATION SHALL BE OPEN TO ALL MARINES AND VETERANS WHO HAVE HONORABLY SERVED OUR COUNTRY.”

We have several members of the Prince Hall Family in Maryland that are original Montford Point Marines; RW William I. Foreman #40 and RW Lee Douglas Jr. #102 (see pictures). Both are members of Maryland Montford Point Marine Association Chapter No. 17. Our Montford Pointers were also previously recognized in Hagerstown at our 160th Grand Lodge session and presented with distinguished service awards. PM Julius Green #129 also served with distinction as a Montford Pointer. Including myself (RWDGM Steven G. Collier, Master Sergeant, USMC, Retired, MPMA #17) there are several former Marines active in the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge jurisdiction. Just to name a “few”; MW Paul A. Smith #18, Past Grand Master, RW Antonio Sturgis #141 (Gunnery Sergeant, USMC Retired), RW Frederick Hall, Sr. #44, Bro. James Adams, #141, and RW Alfred G. Moore #92, USMC Retired Officer.

This year 2011 commemorates the 69th Anniversary of the Montford Point Marines. Through the diligent efforts in no small part of General James F. Amos, 35th Commandant of the Marine Corps and sponsoring members of Congress, the U.S. Senate unanimously awarded them the Congressional Gold Medal, Congress' highest civilian honor. The House passed the measure 422-0 on October 25, 2011. "The Montford Point Marines are finally receiving the recognition they deserve." Further anniversary celebration included travelling to Washington, DC in August 25-28. During that period Montford Point Marines toured Marine Barracks 8th & I (oldest post in the Corps), honored at an Evening Parade and toured the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Quantico, Virginia.

I was proud this past Veteran's Day, November 11, 2011, to march in the Baltimore City Parade with Most Worshipful Melvin M. Thorpe, Grand Master and representatives from the jurisdiction to honor all that have served our Nation in times of War and Peace. God bless all of our veterans. Semper Fidelis (Latin for “Always Faithful”).

A special thank you to RW William I. Foreman, Past Chapter President, MPMA #17 for photos and information to submit this article.

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATIONS WWII—Korea—Vietnam, MD 17, MPMA



Left: WWII, Peleliu Island,

Marine Lee Douglas, 7th Marine Ammunition Company, served at Peleliu with the 1st Marine Division [Reinforced]. The Division was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation “for extraordinary heroism in action against enemy Japanese Forces at Peleliu from September 15 to 29, 1944”.

Center: Korea,

Master Gunnery Sergeant, Charles “Chuck” Hollis, USMC RET., in Korea with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing [Reinforced]. The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation “for extraordinary heroism in action against enemy aggressor’s forces in Korea from 8 March to 30 April, 18 May to 30 June and 3 August to 29 September 1951”.

Right: Vietnam, [Khe Sanh].

Marine Samuel Boone at Khe Sahn with the 26th Marine [Reinforced] 3rd Marine Division. The 26th Marines were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for “extraordinary heroism in action against North Vietnamese Army Forces during the battle for Khe Sahn in the Republic of Vietnam from 20 January to 1 April 1968”. Marine Boone is also the recipient of the Silver Star in Vietnam.

Maryland Chapter #17



Pictured on the front row from left to right are the Original Montford Point Marines of Chapter #17
Past Chapter President – William Foreman; Leroy Pittman; Lee Douglas, Jr.; William Lane; Charles Wells; and Howard (Chappie) Williams

Second Row: Vice President Russell Williams; President Booker T. Livingston, Jr.; Charles Hollis; Sgt-At-Arms Howard Gillis, Financial Secretary William Johnson; Recording Secretary Orne Hones and Sameul Boone.

Third Row: Leon Lewis, Jr.; Treasurer Benjamin Manning, and David Hollingsworth

Not Pictured: James Berry; Henry Brown; Kea Carlton; Thomas France; Milton Hazzard; Paul Holtsclaw (Original); Clyde McLeon; Jerome Milburn – PNP; Leandrew Morant; Vernon White, and Morris Wright.

Wisdom:

Learn from yesterday, live for today, **hope** for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning.

~Albert Einstein

When you put faith, **hope** and love together, you can raise positive kids in a negative world.

~ Zig Ziglar

Consult not your fears but your **hopes** and dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what is still possible for you to do.

~ Pope John XXIII

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance

By Bro. Steve C. Isom

My Brothers, this coming August, 2012, will mark 49 years since Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. led the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom on D.C.'s National Mall. With more than a quarter of a million marchers from across America, the event has taken its place in U.S. history as one of the most important of the 20th Century. It's the place where Dr. King gave history his "I Have a Dream" speech, and it served as an inflection point in galvanizing broad support for civil rights and economic equality for Black Americans.

Monday, January 16, 2012, on the day we observe Dr. King's birthday, I urge each of you to honor his perseverance and the peaceful, collaborative and firm manner in which he approached inequality. And as you see photos of the march and clips of his renowned speech in media coverage, please be mindful of the service our American hero rendered to a nation ultimately enriched for his efforts. His leadership and sacrifice serves as a model for generations to come.

Last August, the National Park Service unveiled an impressive memorial to Dr. King on the National Mall. No doubt visitors will far exceed the 250,000 who took part in that historic march in 1963.

It is a little known fact that in 1964 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. visited the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland while supporting President Lynden B. Johnson's presidential campaign. I encourage each of you to learn more about and teach your children the significance of the various elements that together represent the journey Dr. King took in encouraging society to embrace equality and opportunity for everyone.

My Brothers, our remembrance of Dr. King helps keep him alive as a teacher of peace and a champion of justice. Please continue to honor and remember his legacy and the incredible difference he continues to make in our world today.

"I Have a Dream" Speech

On 28th August 1963, on the steps of Lincoln Memorial, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave a 17 minute speech in which he called for racial equality and an end to discrimination. This speech was not only a defining moment for the American Civil Rights Movement but for the world as a whole.

By Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am happy to join with you today in what will go down in history as the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation.

Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of **hope** to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity.

But one hundred years later, the Negro still is not free. One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later, the Negro is still languishing in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land. So we have come here today to dramatize a shameful condition.



In a sense we have come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation,

“I Have a Dream” Speech, continued



America has given the Negro people a bad check, a check which has come back marked “insufficient funds.” But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. So we have come to cash this check -- a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice. We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quick sands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God’s children.

It would be fatal for the nation to overlook the urgency of the moment. This sweltering summer of the Negro’s legitimate discontent will not pass until there is an invigorating autumn of freedom and equality. Nineteen sixty-three is not an end, but a beginning. Those who **hope** that the Negro needed to blow off steam and will now be content will have a rude awakening if the nation returns to business as usual. There will be neither rest nor tranquility in America until the Negro is granted his citizenship rights. The whirlwinds of revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our nation until the bright day of justice emerges.

But there is something that I must say to my people who stand on the warm threshold which leads into the palace of justice. In the process of gaining our rightful place we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred.

We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. Again and

again we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force. The marvelous new militancy which has engulfed the Negro community must not lead us to a distrust of all white people, for many of our white brothers, as evidenced by their presence here today, have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny. They have come to realize that their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom. We cannot walk alone.

As we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall always march ahead. We cannot turn back. There are those who are asking the devotees of civil rights, “When will you be satisfied?” We can never be satisfied as long as the Negro is the victim of the unspeakable horrors of police brutality. We can never be satisfied, as long as our bodies, heavy with the fatigue of travel, cannot gain lodging in the motels of the highways and the hotels of the cities. We cannot be satisfied as long as the Negro’s basic mobility is from a smaller ghetto to a larger one. We can never be satisfied as long as our children are stripped of their selfhood and robbed of their dignity by signs stating “For Whites Only”. We cannot be satisfied as long as a Negro in Mississippi cannot vote and a Negro in New York believes he has nothing for which to vote. No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.



I am not unmindful that some of you have come here out of great trials and tribulations. Some of you have come fresh from narrow jail cells. Some of you have come from areas where your quest for freedom left you battered by the storms of persecution and staggered by the winds of police brutality. You have been the veterans of creative suffering. Continue to work with the faith that unearned suffering is redemptive.

“I Have a Dream” Speech, continued



Go back to Mississippi, go back to Alabama, go back to South Carolina, go back to Georgia, go back to Louisiana, go back to the slums and ghettos of our northern cities, knowing that somehow this situation can and will be changed. Let us not wallow in the valley of despair.

I say to you today, my friends, so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: “We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.”

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day, down in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification; one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

This is our **hope**. This is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of **hope**. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

This will be the day when all of God’s children will be able to sing with a new meaning, “My country, ‘tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim’s pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring.”

And if America is to be a great nation this must become true. So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania!

Let freedom ring from the snowcapped Rockies of Colorado!

Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California!

But not only that; let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia!

Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee!

Let freedom ring from every hill and mole hill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, “**Free at last! free at last! thank God Almighty, we are free at last!**”

MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF MARYLAND BUILDING RENOVATIONS BRICK PROGRAM



I _____ would like to purchase a brick to be installed in the area checked below
(Print Name)

Platinum Area \$500
Eutaw Street
 Clipart
6 Lines

Gold Area \$350
Eutaw Street
 Clipart
3 Lines

Silver Area \$250
Eutaw Street
 Clipart
3 Lines

Bronze Area \$150
W. Lanvale Street
 Clipart
3 Lines

All lines are 20 character per line maximum

I would like the following Clipart _____
(Describe or use number from Clipart sheet)

I would like the following wording (please print clearly)

Line 1 _____

Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

Line 4 _____

Line 5 _____

Line 6 _____

Please complete the following:

Signature _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

The MWPHGLMD reserves the right to accept or reject any wording it deems unacceptable. Once the brick is purchased there will be no refunds. There will be a \$35 fee imposed for any dishonored check.

Please complete this form along with your check or money order and mail it to:

MWPHGLMD
1307 Eutaw Place
Baltimore, Maryland 21217
Attn: RW Bill Davidson, Grand Secretary

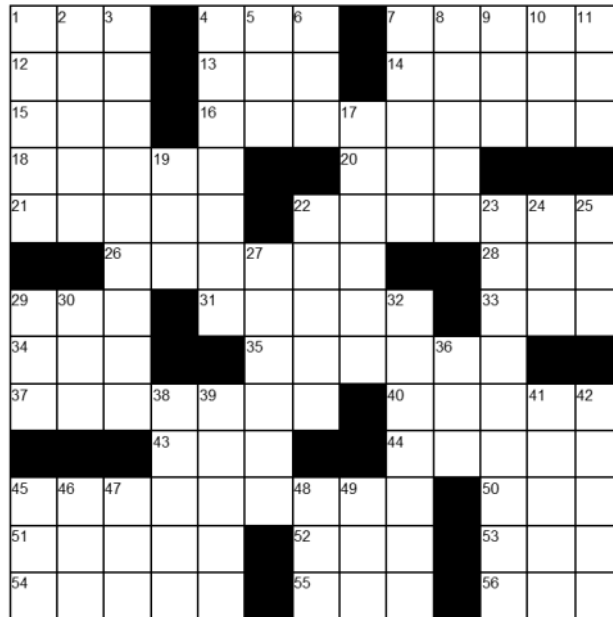


"THE LIGHT"

58th Edition Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Danish krone (abbr.)
- 4 Sorbet
- 7 Devil
- 12 Anger
- 13 Neither's partner
- 14 Unadorned
- 15 Tree gum
- 16 One of the four cardinal virtues
- 18 Hand lotion brand
- 20 Estimated time of arrival
- 21 Kitchen range
- 22 North and South _____
- 26 Depart suddenly
- 28 Floor covering
- 29 African antelope
- 31 One of the tenets of masonry
- 33 Hubbub
- 34 Most basic
- 35 Releases
- 37 Symbol of industry
- 40 Tackles the quarterback
- 43 Miner's goal
- 44 Save
- 45 Noodle box dinner (2 wds.)
- 50 Constrictor
- 51 Partly frozen rain
- 52 Stinger
- 53 Long-term memory
- 54 Legal document
- 55 Possessive pronoun
- 56 Extra-sensory perception



DOWN

- 1 Records
- 2 Sauerkraut, informally
- 3 Print
- 4 Turn or bend
- 5 Bird call
- 6 Goof
- 7 Venom
- 8 The place where the sacred offerings were presented to God
- 9 A Templar emblem
- 10 Relief
- 11 Compass point
- 17 Tries to seduce
- 19 Evening
- 22 Entertain
- 23 Ornerly
- 24 Cow's chow
- 25 Gone by
- 27 Movie "___ Runs Through It" (2 wds.)
- 29 Gossip
- 30 North by east
- 32 Saucy girls
- 36 Feed
- 38 Inn
- 39 Ireful
- 41 Loops the rope
- 42 Signet
- 45 Pacific Standard Time
- 46 Boxer Muhammad
- 47 Primed
- 48 Kimono sash
- 49 Fisherman's tool

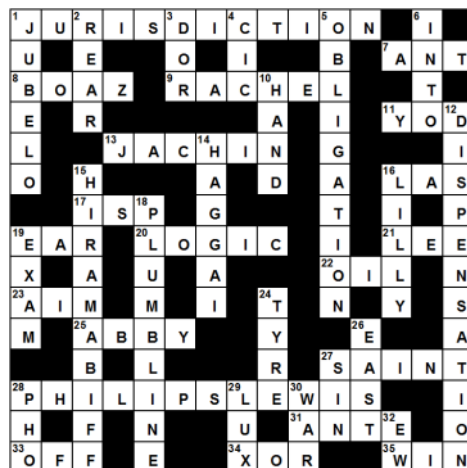
Answers will be posted in the 59th Edition

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Answers to the 57th Edition's Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1. The geographic area over which authority extends
7. A member of the hymenopterous family
8. The left hand pillar that stood at the porch of King Solomon's Temple
9. Jacob's second wife
11. The tenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet
13. "God will establish"
17. AOL is one
19. The part of a corn plant that contains the flowers
20. One of the seven liberal arts and sciences
21. First name of JGW
22. One of the wages of a Fellowcraft
23. Objective
25. Pauley Perrette's fictional character
27. A person of exceptional holiness
28. 10th Masonic District's leader
31. Cost or entry fee
33. In a FC challenge, you are either this or from
34. Digital logic gate: "one or the other but not both"
35. To overcome adversity



DOWN

1. A Ruffian
2. To raise to an upright position
3. One of the five classical orders of architecture
4. Commander in Chief
5. It makes you a Mason
6. Used to indicate a mathematical dividend
10. A round of applause
12. Permission to do that which would otherwise be unauthorized
14. The Scribe
15. The Widow's Son
16. In Song of Solomon, "I am the ___ of the Valley" (var.)
18. The perfect emblem of uprightness
19. An investigation or inspection
24. The residence of King Hiram
26. The WM's station
27. Pride, envy, lust, etc.
28. Noodle soup from SE Asia
29. A unit of illumination
30. Conflict
32. Electronic Warfare

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MASONRY: “You get out what you put in.”