



**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

April 2014

67th Edition



*The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe,
Most Worshipful Grand Master*



“I employ all bodies within the jurisdiction to embrace the family concept, circle your wagons and bring to fruition what our time honored fraternity teaches.”.

**A Message from The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe,
Most Worshipful Grand Master**

Brothers and Sister’s, during my tenure as Most Worshipful Grand Master, I have had the pleasure of visiting a number of jurisdictions and National Conferences of the various Masonic Bodies of this great fraternity. One such honor and pleasure was my February 14 -19, 2014, attendance at the Annual Conference of the North American Conference of Grand Masters of our A. F. & A. M. brothers. This august event was held at the Baltimore Inner Harbor Hotel and was attended by minimum 600 brothers and sisters and more than 90 Grand Masters from around the world in attendance.

I had the distinct privilege to accompany MWPGM John Bettis, Vice President and MWPGM Fred Way, Executive Secretary of the Prince Hall Conference of Grand Masters. Our delegation at the conference was received with true brotherly love and fellowship.

Two principle-learning points that I took from attending was that both of our organizations are attempting to move forward in the amity of our two groups. The other was that our brothers of the A. F. & A. M. fraternity are suffering with the same discord and indifference with their shrine. A minimum of two hours was exhausted in discussion relative to the fact that many of our brothers and sisters on both sides have forgotten or totally disregard the fact that their membership originated from Ancient Craft Masonry and / or the Order of the Eastern Star.

Immediately departing the conference, February 21 – 23, 2014, I traveled to Pine Bluff, Arkansas accompanied by GWM Carol Simon, GWP Kevin Cunningham and DDGWM Shari Offer to attend the Annual Joint Session of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter Arkansas. It was a pleasure to attend the joint session and observe the unity displayed by the brothers and sisters. As I travel through the Prince Hall Domain, attending

joint sessions of grand lodges and grand chapters enjoying their sessions, the more my vision looms of one day the Maryland Prince Hall Family will enjoy the opportunity of joint sessions. Not only will joint sessions afford us the opportunity to celebrate our annual sessions together, but will allow us the opportunity of economical negotiations with the several venues that we contract to house our delegates.

As Grand Master, I have attempted to unite this great jurisdiction as one, by continually expressing the family concept throughout the jurisdiction. We do great things in the community as individual bodies, but just think what we could do as a united body and family. I employ all bodies within the jurisdiction to embrace the family concept, circle your wagons and bring to fruition what our time honored fraternity teaches.

I would be remised if I did not speak to the several initiatives of the grand lodge. Our Annual Car Raffle is in full force and needs the support of all. The proceeds of this annual raffle are what keep this grand lodge financially solvent. Additionally several community efforts have been placed before the craft. Brothers and sisters, it is imperative that we all step to the plate and do what is necessary to support these initiatives and this great jurisdiction.

As I close, please allow me to express my sincerest condolences to the families and friends of the several brothers and sisters that have departed this earthly abode to receive their just reward. May we continue to lift the men and women in prayer who sacrifice daily or have paid that ultimate sacrifice to protect our way.

Fraternally,

MWGM Melvin M. Thorpe
Let’s Finish What God Started!



**One Team
One Mission**

**The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe
Most Worshipful Grand Master**

**The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe, Most Worshipful Grand Master
Vision Statement**

“That the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge be uniformed ritualistically and administratively throughout the entire Jurisdiction. To bring the Jurisdiction financially solvent by the year 2013.”

**Grand Lodge
Mission Statement**

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Maryland and its Jurisdiction, Incorporated, is a fraternal organization dedicated to the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. Our fraternal organization takes good men, builds and develops them, to be better men. We dispense charity, promote good and solid family values and endeavor significantly to aid in the uplifting of humanity.

**Grand Lodge
Vision Statement**

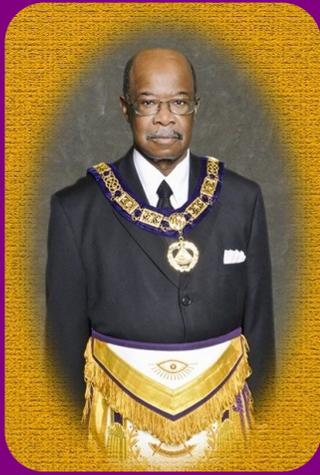
“Our vision is focused on community stewardship, activities to benefit society, and a commitment to building Brotherhood making Prince Hall Masonry in Maryland sustainable while inculcating and exercising the Principle Tenets (Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth) by our words and actions for the betterment of our brothers and all mankind.”



Deputy Grand Master's Corner

Luncheon with Homeless Veterans Appreciation Day

By *RW Lee A. Taylor, Jr. DGM*



RW Lee A. Taylor, Jr.

"...making Prince Hall Masonry in Maryland sustainable while inculcating and exercising the Principle Tenets (Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth) by our words and actions for the betterment of our Brothers, Sisters and all mankind."

During the tenure of the Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe the vision of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge has been focused on community stewardship, activities to benefit society, and a commitment to building Brotherhood; making Prince Hall Masonry in Maryland sustainable while inculcating and exercising the Principle Tenets (Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth) by our words and actions for the betterment of our Brothers, Sisters and all mankind.

On Sunday, March 9, 2014, Brother Martin Jones, President of the Stratford University Military Club, invited members of the MWPHGL of MD to lunch, in support of their first Homeless Veterans Appreciation Day. The Stratford University Military Club, together with the Baltimore Station and the Project Hope foundation hosted a luncheon for homeless vets from in and around Baltimore City, at the Stratford Café at 210 S. Central Ave. Baltimore, MD. 21202. The Brothers and Sisters were asked to join in the anniversary by letting these Heroes know that although the war may be over, they and their battles are not forgotten.

JW Martin Jones of Enterprise Lodge No. 3 put together an outstanding group of participants for the anniversary program. The homeless veterans were from the Baltimore Station Shelter, and the event was supported by the Project Hope Foundation, the Stratford Military Club, Brothers and Sisters of the MWPHGL of MD, a group of Chefs under the Secretary of the Navy, and other groups. The Sisters from the Grand Lodge were given the privilege of assisting the Chefs in preparing the food and the Sisters "showed off".

The Brothers and Sisters that represented the MWPHGL, Myra Grand Chapter and the Daughters of Isis enjoyed conversing and assisting the veterans, as most from the Grand Lodge were either veterans or active military members, such as Brother George Hudson, still on active duty and a member of Chesapeake Lodge No. 48. It was good to have RW Rick Lane, the Director of Veteran Affairs for the MWPHGL, and DT (PM) Michelle Dowleyne, the Veteran Representative from Myra Grand Chapter, OES.

Special thanks go out to Lt. Colonel Sharon Beach, Chief, Preventive Medicine Service at WRNMMC, Bethesda, and wife of RW

Willard Beach, Assistant DDGM of the 4th Masonic District.

The fellowship was great and we had one Veteran that asked about becoming a Mason and one that had been a Mason but was out of bounds. A lot of discussion was carried on that it has been too long for these Veterans to not receive assistance. JW Jones was asked by many about doing another such event. He did say the MWPHGL will be kept in the loop about possible future events.

Attendees from the MWPHGL, Myra Grand Chapter and the Daughters of Isis were:

- RW Lee A. Taylor – Deputy Grand Master
- RW Carroll Martin – Grand Treasurer
- RW Kevin Barney – DDGM District 1
- RW Harold Norris – ADDGM District 1
- RW Willard Beach – ADDGM District 4
- RW Odell Wilson – Assistant to the MWGM
- RW Stephen Bush – Deputy Grand Inspector
- RW Rick Lane – Dir. Veterans Affairs, MWPHGL, King David Lodge No. 18 –
- WM Tim Battle – Enterprise Lodge No. 3
- SW Omar Smith – Enterprise Lodge No. 3
- JW Martin Jones – Enterprise No. 3
- Bro. James Rashed – Enterprise Lodge No. 3
- WM Medford Campbell – King David Lodge No. 18
- PM Jason Miles – King David Lodge No. 18
- PM Linwood Jackson - E. W. S. Peck Lodge No. 82
- Bro. George Hudson, Chesapeake Lodge No. 48
- Sister Jeanette Randall, GCT Myra Grand Chapter
- Sister Chelly Jones – DDGAM 3rd District, Myra Grand Chapter
- WM Rebecca Gant - Queen Esther No. 2
- DOD. DT Joan Campbell, Tuwa Ct No. 210
- DOO. DT Racine Gooding – Anwar Ct No. 197
- PC Charlestta Curvey - Anwar Court No. 197
- PC Dorothea Dorsey - Anwar Court No. 197
- DT Anita Branison - Anwar Court No. 197
- DOO, DT Alberta Smith-Colden – Tuwa Court No. 210
- DT Michelle Dowleyne - Tuwa Court No. 210
- DT Nadine Smith - Tuwa Court No. 210
- DT Javelle Spann – Tuwa Court No. 210
- DT Cecilia Vandervall – Tuwa Court No. 210
- LTC Sharon Beach - Chief, Preventive Medicine Service, WRNMMC

**Very Respectfully,
RW Lee A. Taylor,
Deputy Grand Master**



RW Noel C. Osborne, Sr.
Senior Grand Warden

"I extend a sincere thanks publically to each of the members of the Strategic Planning Committee for their preparation and dedication to the forward progress and to our Strategic Efforts."



Senior Grand Warden's Corner

By RW Noel C. Osborne, Sr.



Brothers all; as we past the 1st quarter of this Masonic year and transition into spring I look forward to meeting with each of you and discussing our forward progress of our Jurisdiction during our Town Hall meetings. We have a full agenda (dates and times forthcoming) from the Strategic Planning Committee as follows:

1. New members Orientation and Senior Leadership Seminar: Chaired by R.W. Odell W. Wilson Jr., and R.W. Steven G. Collier, Past Deputy Grand Master.
3. Annual Masonic Meet and Greet: Chaired by R.W. C.A. Turner, District Deputy Grand Master at Large and Sister Juanita L. Clarke, Past Grand Worthy Matron.
4. Knights of Pythagoras Prayer Breakfast: Chaired by R.W. Julio A. Martinez, Director Knights of Pythagoras.
5. Jurisdictional Town Halls – Strategic Planning Committee Members

I extend a sincere thanks publically to each of the members of the Strategic Planning Committee for their preparation and dedication to the forward progress and to our Strategic Efforts. I fully acknowledge that there is a lot of work involved with each of the Sub Committees, and I truly appreciate the commitment of the members.

Regarding the Lodges of Instructions, I would like to thank the Wardens of our Jurisdiction for embracing the new curriculum. We have started strong with record breaking attendance. My brothers please note that the Education Committee is only here to assist you in any way possible. The commitment from R.W. Jonathan Goode-Bey, Grand Lecturer; R.W. Jim Lundy, Grand Inspector and R.W. Michael B. Allen, Director Lodges of Instructions and their respective staffs are remarkable. All of the Worshipful Masters Lodges of Instructions and their Instructors are working diligently to support and assist you in any way possible. I ask that you all stay committed and we will make this year's LOI the best. We look forward to concluding the Administration portion of our curriculum in and Transitioning into the Ritualistic portion of our curriculum. I am certain that we will have a record number of graduates this Masonic year.

As I have always stated, I am here to serve each of you. If there is any-thing that I can do to assist you in our Masonic travels please do not hesitate to contact me and I will hasten to your support. God bless each of you.

**Respectfully,
RW Noel C. Osborne, Sr.
Senior Grand Warden**



RW Emanuel J. Stanley
Junior Grand Warden

“Remember the excitement and zeal you had as you progressed through the degrees. Hold on to those precious memories and let them be your motivation and rejuvenating waters that inspire your daily walk as a Prince Hall Mason.”



Junior Grand Warden's Corner

By RW Emanuel J. Stanley

Brothers & Sisters,
I greet you in the name of Most High & One True God!

I am humbled and I thank the Brothers for your support in electing me as your Junior Grand Warden. I shall endeavor to live up to the high expectations of the office as I support Grand Master Thorpe in his leadership of this grand body. Since being elected I have not taken my duties and responsibilities lightly.

The traditional duties of this station is on par with that of the Junior Warden of a constituent lodge. The chief duties of which are to support the Grand Master in the performance of his duties; to serve as the chairman of committees pertaining to entertainment and refreshment and by default the Junior Grand Warden is the primary fundraiser for the grand lodge. While this office incurs a great number of other responsibilities it is to these two that I wish to first draw your attention.

During his tenure as Grand Master, the Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe has established and advocated for financial solvency and the restoration of our magnificent edifice. In addition to our highly successful Annual Car Raffle our Grand Master has implemented a Brick Program that enables members, family, friends and businesses to donate towards the renovation of the Masonic Temple. Later in this edition you will find reference to the Grand Lodges efforts to obtain \$300,000.00 from the state of Maryland through a Capital Bond Bill Grant. The application and petitioning for funds in directly in line with Grand Master Thorpe's vision and he should be applauded for his leadership. Matching funds are necessary. So your financial support is most important and absolutely critical to achieving success. 100% on both the Annual Car Raffle & significant donations to the Brick Program will enable us as a grand body to upgrade our facility.

We cannot keeping doing what we have been doing with the expectation of a different outcome. All progress takes place outside the comfort zone. We are in a new paradigm and season of blessings; God's favor is with us, we need only to seize upon the great opportunities which he has placed before us and do our part to rise to higher heights and greater

achievements. From April to September I am requesting that each member purchase or sell \$20.00 per month of Grand Lodge Raffle tickets and turn in the funds monthly to your lodge or chapter. Of the \$120.00 raised \$48.00 will help your lodge/chapter as well as the grand lodge to reach its financial goals. Moreover I am requesting that everyone support the Brick Program in accordance with my subsequent article.

I end my article with a plea to the Elected & Appointed Officers of each constituent lodge. Please take a few moments to reflect upon the reasons why you wanted to become a Prince Hall Mason, reflect upon the character of the two Brothers who sponsored your membership and signed your petition. Remember the excitement and zeal you had as you progressed through the degrees. Hold on to those precious memories and let them be your motivation and rejuvenating waters that inspire your daily walk as a Prince Hall Mason. Ensure that your every action is consistent with the respect and gratitude that is due to your sponsors, your lodge, your grand lodge and the greater fraternity at large. If each officer shares the joy of his membership with family, a friend or a co-worker a lodge could potentially add 10 or more new Brothers every year. But it begins with having personal pride and carrying ourselves as someone to be emulated so...

REMEMBER ALWAYS THAT YOU ARE SOMEONE'S IMAGE OF A MARYLAND PRINCE HALL MASON - LET YOUR ACTIONS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE LODGE BRING HONOR & DIGNITY TO THE REPUTATION OF THIS MOST ANCIENT & HONORABLE SOCIETY.

Until we meet again on the Level, may the GAOTU Bless & Keep you and your families.

I remain,

Your Humble & Obedient Servant,

Bro. Emanuel J. Stanley, RWJGW

“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.

Congratulations to Myra Grand Chapter's GWM Carol D. Simon and GWP Kevin Cunningham



MISSION STATEMENT

Striving For Excellence: Caring more than others think is Wise, Risking more than others think is Safe, Dreaming more than others think is Practical, and Expecting more than others think is Possible.

GOALS

- ◆ Keep an open channel of communication between Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge and Myra Grand Chapter to achieve our common goal.
- ◆ Open the awareness of Love Respect and Accountability due to our Sisters and Brothers. Increase membership in the Jurisdiction.
- ◆ Enhance the knowledge of our leaders

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength: They shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40:31)

117th Annual Grand Session of Myra Grand Chapter



On Sunday, November 17, 2014, amid the membership of Myra Grand, family and friends, Sister Carol Diane Simon and Brother Kevin Cunningham ascended the Grand East as Myra Grand Chapters 76th Grand Worthy Matron and 76th Grand Worthy Patron.

Sister Simon officially began her Prince Hall affiliation in 1983 when she was initiated in Amulet Chapter No. 85 under the direction of WM Viola E. Milburn and WP Sonny Bratcher. Prince Hall Masonry was in her blood. Her parents are members of the Jurisdiction of Virginia.

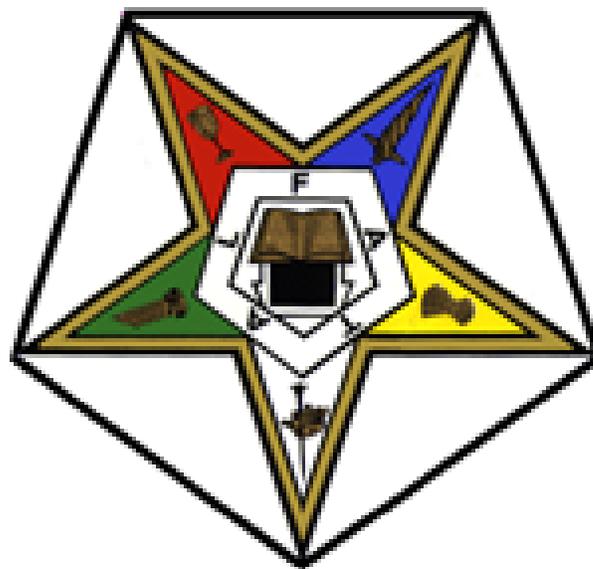
Sister Simon wasted no time in understanding her commitments to the Order. After serving numerous offices in Amulet Chapter she was elevated to the office of Worthy Matron in 1993. As all good Star do, she sought out a mentor and found PGWP Benjamin Brown who taught her to dream, dare, and think big.

Today as the 76th Grand Worthy Matron she is teaching the membership to “Move Pass the Ordinary and Press for the Extraordinary.

Brother Kevin Cunningham officially began his Masonic career in Oklahoma when he was raised as a Master Mason in 1983. His military career led him to Wyoming where he began obligated into the Order of the Eastern Star. Brother Cunningham returned to Maryland and joined his family in the Maryland Jurisdiction. Brother Cunningham demitted into Progressive Lodge #39 and later demitted to Enterprise Lodge #3 and Eureka Chapter No. 11.

Brother Cunningham and his family decided to take their talents and love for Order to help another and found a new home in Excelsior Chapter No. 41.

Brother Cunningham put into practice all he had learned about being a good Brother, a good Star and a leader and was appointed District Deputy Grand Patron under the leadership of GWM Joyce S. Venable and GWP Kenneth S. Turner and as they say the rest is history.





Myra Grand Chapter Supports Thanksgiving and the Bea Gaddy Foundation

GWM Simon and GWP Cunningham are committed to serving the community. One of GWM Simon's prayers of service says, "God, give me eyes that I might see the work that can be done by me. God, give me ears that I might hear the cry of those who need me near. God, give me lips that I might speak comfort and peace to all who seek." Thanksgiving 2013 was no exception. GWM Simon and GWP Cunningham hit the ground running. They along with members of Myra Grand Chapter and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland assisted PM Cynthia Brooks and the Bea Gaddy Foundation serve Thanksgiving meals to thousands of needy Baltimore City residents. Thanksgiving and Christmas are big holidays for the Foundation but the Foundation works year round to provide food, clothing and shelter to Baltimore City residents.



Myra Grand Chapter is committed to the Community

14th Annual Buffalo Soldiers Banquet Honoring M.W. GM Melvin M. Thorpe and R.W. Jessie J. Shanks Sr.



Presentation

R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Lee A. Taylor represented M.W. Grand Master Thorpe and received an Award on his behalf. A well attended affair with more than 600 attendees.

Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

**14th Annual Buffalo Soldiers Banquet
Honoring M.W. GM Melvin M. Thorpe and
R.W. Jessie J. Shanks Sr.continued**



R.W. Jessie J. Shanks Sr.



Presentation

R.W. Jessie J. Shanks Sr., Poses for picture after receiving his award. Accompanying R.W. Shanks were his daughters. A proud family moment.

Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

**14th Annual Buffalo Soldiers Banquet
Honoring M.W. GM Melvin M. Thorpe and
R.W. Jessie J. Shanks Sr.continued**



R.W. Jim Lundy & Ms. Betty



A Buffalo Soldier

Ms. Betty; friend of R.W. Jim Lundy, Grand Inspector was in attendance supporting the event dress in her Buffalo Soldier uniform.

Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

**14th Annual Buffalo Soldiers Banquet
Honoring M.W. GM Melvin M. Thorpe and
R.W. Jessie J. Shanks Sr.continued**

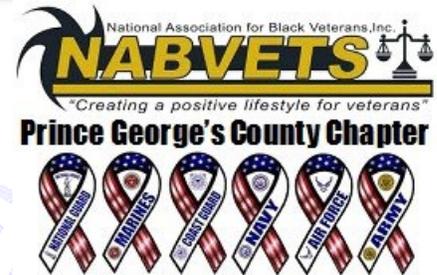


The award ceremony was hosted by the National Association for Black Veterans, Inc.



Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

The National Association for Black Veterans, Inc.



The Morgan State University Armory was the scene for an extraordinary event - veterans representing more than three (3) generations gathered for a momentous event on one of America's greatest Historical Black Colleges and Universities.

Combat veterans from WWII, Korea, and Vietnam joined with veterans of recent wars in the Middle East and Afghanistan to create a strong chapter of NABVETS.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, the Vet Club at Morgan State College, now University, was organized to maintain and provide support to combatants returning from Vietnam.

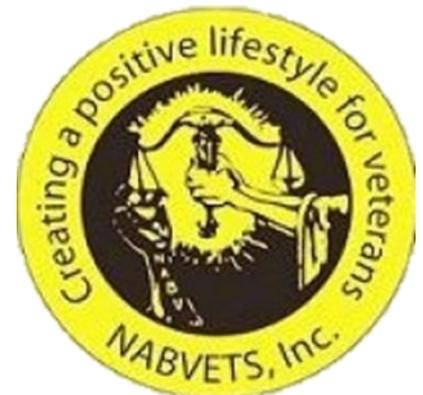
Later, these veterans became affiliated with the National Association of Concerned Veterans (NABV), which eventually evolved into several groups with a black orientation – Black Veterans of All Wars and the Fraternal Order of Veterans.

The National Association for Black Veterans, Inc. (NABVETS), initially the “Interested Veterans of the Central City (IVOCC),” was established by seven Vietnam combat veterans, and incorporated in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (1969). In 1973 it was reorganized and became NABVETS. NABVETS is a Membership Service Organization – with the charge to address issues concerning Black and other minority veterans.

On April 2, 1998 NABVETS was certified “for the purpose of preparation, presentation, and prosecution of claims under laws administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs,” as a national veterans service organization by the Department of Veterans Affairs.



Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.



Myra Grand Chapter Blankets for Vets



.....and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all. "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." Mark 10:44-45

Let us not forget the countless men and woman who have given their lives as a ransom for many. Grand Worthy Matron Simon and Grand Worthy Patron Cunningham are not strangers to the numerous sacrifices our American Troops have made. She is a veteran of the United States Army and he is a veteran of the United States Air Force.

On December 20th, Grand Worthy Matron Simon, Community Service Projects Chair PM Alberta Smith-Colden, Grand Conductress Lillie M. Jones, Grand Chairman of



Trustees Jeanette Randall and District Deputy Grand Associate Matron District No. 2 Sheri J. Offer traveled to the Baltimore VA Medical Center to deliver dozens of lap blankets to the veterans who call the facility home.

The Baltimore VA Medical Center was officially dedicated and opened in 1992, 16 years after its initial construction approval by Congress during the administration of President Jimmy Carter. Since its opening the Medical Center has become nationally known for its full range of inpatient, outpatient and primary care services.

.....THE LOVES CONTINUES.....

Valentine's Day 2014, Grand Worthy Matron Simon and her committee sojourned to the NMS Healthcare Nursing Home located on Van Buren Street in Annapolis, Maryland to deliver hygiene products to the residents. The NMS Healthcare Facility in Annapolis is a 96 bed nursing facility that provides skilled nursing and rehabilitation therapy, pulmonary management, transitional care, pain management, IV therapy, and complex wound care.



2nd Annual Prince Hall Masonic Basketball Classics



Myra Grand Chapter and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland fellowshiped with Georgiana Thomas Grand Chapter and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia at the 2nd the Annual Prince Hall Masonic Basketball Classic held at Howard University on February 1st. Howard University Bisons hosted the North Carolina Central University Eagles.



The Lady Bisons slipped past the Eagles with a 66-61 win. Howard's men put forth a strong effort but fell prey to the Eagles with a 65-79 lost. The Honorable Milton "Toby" F. Fitch, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Jurisdiction of North Carolina was on hand to cheer his beloved Eagles to victory.



During the halftime show Georgiana Thomas Grand Chapter represented by Grand Worthy Matron Barbara E. Murray and Grand Worthy Patron Thomas L. Coleman and The Honorable John T. Doles, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Jurisdiction of the District of Colum-

bia presented \$5,000 scholarships to two deserving students matriculating at Howard University.



The students weren't the only one's having a good time. The after party and reception was a huge hit. The DJ played the latest hits and the membership strutted their stuff.



Arthur Frank Brunch

23 February 2014



M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge delegation attended the Arthur Frank Brunch led by R.W. Lee A. Taylor, Deputy Grand Master.



Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

Office of The Grand Lecturer Travels to the Eastern Shore



Author, RW Randolph S. Smith, Sr., Deputy Grand Lecturer

How Good and How Pleasant it is For Brethren to Dwell Together in Unity!”

Brothers on January 25, 2014 in Crisfield, Maryland The 8th Masonic District held a Joint Third Degree/Raising. This was an excellent example of Brotherly love, as the 8th Masonic District with the assistance of members of the Grand Lecturer's Office Raised 16 Fellowcrafts to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. The 8th Masonic District under the leadership of District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM) Vance M. Elbert had 68 Brothers in attendance on that day as well as DDGM Melvin J. Shorter, Jr. (7th Masonic District) & RWJGW Emanuel J. Stanley. As Deputy Grand Lecturer I was very impressed by the quality of the degree work performed by the Brothers of the 8th District. The hard work they put into rehearsing was evident, and is in direct compliance with the Masonic Ritual and right on target with The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe's Vision for ritualistic uniformity throughout the jurisdiction.

The Eastern Shore has a very bright future, I must commend DDGM Elbert and DDGM Melvin Shorter for the hard work and effective leadership they provide on the Eastern Shore.



Office of The Grand Lecturer Travels to the Eastern Shore



Author, RW Randolph S. Smith, Sr., Deputy Grand Lecturer

I would like to congratulate all sixteen of the new Master Masons: Brothers Rickey Jarmon, Shawn Cuffee, Darrell Hall, Thomas Gray, Jr., Jeffery Gale, Tonto Corbin, Jr., Larry Wilson, Wesley Pack, Tyler Jones, Franklin Robinson, Norman Coulbourne, Shawn Douling, Bryan Jamsen, Derick Thompson, Nelson Collins and Lynell Green. As a Master Mason its your duty to make a difference in your communities, Lodges, Churches, and Families. I wish all new brothers of the Eastern Shore the very best and much success.





Cruising Extraordinary

Myra Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, PHA, MD



Southern Caribbean Cruise

April 18, 2015

8-Day Southern Caribbean Cruise From Ft. Lauderdale FL

DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
Saturday – 4/18	Ft. Lauderdale		4:00
Sunday – 4/19	Fun Day At Sea		
Monday – 4/20	Grand Turk	7:00	2:00
Tuesday – 4/21	La Romana, Dominican Republic	9:00	4:00
Wednesday – 4/22	Curacao	1:00	11:00
Thursday – 4/23	Aruba	8:00	4:00
Friday – 4/24	Fun Day At Sea		
Saturday – 4/25	Fun Day At Sea		
Sunday – 4/26	Ft. Lauderdale	8:00	

Prices are per person:

Includes Cruise, Gratuities, Port Charges, Transfers, Taxes and Fees
(Vacation protection not included)

	<i>Interior</i>	<i>Ocean View</i>	<i>Balcony</i>	<i>Suite</i>
Occupancy:				
Double	\$1105	\$1235	\$1585	\$2195

“Deposits are due January 31, 2014”

1st \$50 deposit per person for Interior, Ocean View, Balcony; \$300 deposit per person for Suites
Due January 31, 2014

2nd \$250 deposit per person due July 25, 2014

Balance Due January 23, 2015

\$50 per person non-refundable cancellation fee

ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE BY: Credit Card, Personal Check, Money Order and/OR Cashiers Check

Make all payments payable to: Myra Grand Chapter, O.E.S., P.H.A.

For additional information and to make payment arrangements please call

Chairperson, PM Jacqueline Veenev (410) 758-0974

Co-Chairperson, PM Joyce I. Dyson (301) 904-0298

The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe, Most Worshipful Grand Master

Sis. Carol D. Simon, Grand Worthy Matron

Bro. Kevin Cunningham, Grand Worthy Patron

Georgiana Thomas Grand Chapter Annual Inaugural Celebration January 4, 2014



“Moving Forward on the Path to Purpose – Believing in the Power of Change”



Amulet Chapter No. 85 Founder's Day Prayer Luncheon



The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe, Most Worshipful Grand Master; Grand Worthy Matron Carol D. Simon, Grand Worthy Patron Kevin Cunningham; Worthy Matron Venus Drummond; Worthy Patron Jack L. Jones; and 10th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master, Ronald E. Clarke.





Last and Long Farewell

On Monday January 20th 2014, The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe, Most Worshipful Grand Master; R.W. Wayne B. Smith, District Deputy Grand Master 6th Masonic District; Brother George Hudson, Worshipful Master (137); and a host of brothers and sisters of the Jurisdiction of Maryland Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Havre De Grace, Maryland with Reverend Williams, Pastor to bid farewell to Brother John Paul Bryant. The Masonic funeral was conducted by R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr., Senior Grand Warden. Please keep the Bryant family in your prayers.



John 14:1-4 *“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.”*

The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe M.W. Grand Master; R.W. Wayne B. Smith, D.D.G.M; Brother George Hudson, Worshipful Master
Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

MARYLAND ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF PYTHAGORAS VISIT TO MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



Sponsored by
The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Maryland, and Jurisdiction, Inc.
The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe, 33° Most Worshipful Grand Master
1307 Eutaw Place
Baltimore, Maryland 21207



Senator Nathaniel McFadden Invitation to
The Order of Knights of Pythagoras and Myra Grand Chapter OES Youth Fraternity
to the Morgan State University Basketball Game
March 1, 2014



Senator McFadden arranged a tour of Morgan State University which included lunch and free admission to the Woman's and Men's Basketball games for the youth groups.

Our coordinator, the brother we can always count on, RW James Vaughan, and our schedules was:

- 11:30 AM Arrival and meet at the Student Center ball room A.
- 12-1 PM Campus Tour of the University, some guest speakers to speak to the youth by age group
- 1-1:45 PM Free Light Lunch
- 2-4 PM Woman's Basketball Game vs. **Bethune-Cookman University at Hill Field House**
- 4-6 PM Men's Basketball Game vs. **Bethune-Cookman University**
- 6 PM Depart, going home.

MARYLAND ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF PYTHAGORAS VISIT TO MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY.....continued



The Knights of Pythagoras had RW Jessie J. Shanks Sr. of the Sixth Masonic District (Harford County) come out with twelve young men. Mrs. Deborah Johnson, Daniel Hicks, and RW Julio Martinez were chaperones. Myra Grand Chapter, Youth Group Fraternity PM Sherby Lawrence and five members also came out to enjoy the games. We had two young ladies as our tour guides and, interestingly, they both were from New York.



MARYLAND ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF PYTHAGORAS VISIT TO MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY...continued



After the walk around, the University treated us to lunch in a very nice dining area. The food was great, we had fried chicken, rolls, chips, cookies and variety of soft-drinks to choose from

Then it was off to the Basketball Games.



MARYLAND ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF PYTHAGORAS VISIT TO MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY...continued



My special thanks go out to **Senator McFadden** for putting this activity together for the youth, **RW James Vaughan** for being the coordinator, **RW Jessie J. Shanks Sr.** and **PM Sherby Lawrence** for bringing the youth, and to my good friend **Daniel Hicks** for bringing his sons and being a chaperone. We all had a great time.

RW Julio A. Martinez
Maryland State Director
Order of the Knights of Pythagoras





Annual Prayer Breakfast



**MYRA Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star
Annual Prayer Breakfast was a total success**

January 2014



This event was well planned and organized. Congratulations to Sister Carol D. Simon, Grand Worthy Matron for starting her year with God First.



MW Grand Master John Doles, Jurisdiction of the District of Columbia; MW Grand Master Thorpe, Jurisdiction of Maryland & DGM Taylor, Jurisdiction of Maryland posing for photo.

Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

Fellowship

Brother Thomas L. Coleman, Grand Worthy Patron, OES Jurisdiction of the District of Columbia, Sister Barbara E. Murray, Grand Worthy Matron, OES Jurisdiction of the District of Columbia, M.W. Grand Master Doles, Jurisdiction of the District of Columbia; M.W. Grand Master Thorpe, Jurisdiction of Maryland & R.W. DGM Taylor, Jurisdiction of Maryland enjoying the program.



Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

Fellowship

Reverend R.W. Joshua J. Slack , Assistant Grand Chaplain poses for picture and entertains members from the Jurisdiction of the District of Columbia.



Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

Columbine Chapter No. 46 Black History Prayer Brunch



Black History Month means a lot of things to a lot of people, but to Columbine Chapter No. 46, O.E.S., P.H.A., it is not a month that should pass without being recognized. This year in honor of Black History Month, Columbine Chapter hosted its annual Black History Month Prayer Brunch. On February 22, 2014, a spirit filled program was led around the theme “Sankofa.” Sankofa is a term of the Akan language of Ghana that translates in English to “reach back and get it.”

God’s plan, emphasizing that God’s plan supersedes any plan Man has made.

The dynamic program included a beautiful liturgical dance, delicious food, spirit-filled speakers, and fellowship amongst friends, family, sisters, and brothers. It was truly a great experience that reminded all participants that we have to remember where we came from to continue to move forward in God’s plans.



Sister Telisa Burt, a researcher and public speaker, spoke about the importance of looking back to our past, understanding our history, and knowing that our history is not always correctly depicted in the way we were taught. She shared some harrowing statistics of the way our culture is shifting and how, as a people, we must continue to strive for more, without forgetting from whence we came. Elder Jamarr Rayne of Carter Memorial in Baltimore, MD led the audience on a journey about understanding freedom and



State Assembly Testimony on \$300,000.00 Capital Bond Bill to Renovate the Grand East Temple



By RW Emanuel J. Stanley, Junior Grand Warden

On Saturday March 8, 2014, I, along with RW Randolph S. Smith, Sr., Deputy Grand Lecturer, had the honor of testifying before committees of the Maryland House of Delegates and State Senate on the funding of a Capital Bond to renovate our Grand Lodge facility. The preparation of the application for the funding was handled by RW William Davidson, III. RW Davidson worked over a period exceeding six months to complete the forms and respond to a variety of questions pertaining to the application. Thanks to his efforts State Delegate Melvin L. Stukes, representing District 44 in Baltimore City and State Senator Nathaniel McFadden, President Pro Tem of the Maryland State Senate, representing District 45, also in Baltimore, introduced House Bill 1477 and Senate Bill 0965.

The bills, which are included in this article, are in the amount of \$300,000 for capital improvements of our facility at 1301 – 1307 Eutaw Place. Preparation for the testimony actually began on March 7, 2014, with RW Davidson's creation of a concise briefing outlining our rich history and many charitable contributions to the citizens of the state of Maryland. The document was further refined by RW Smith and me, and hand-carried to the hearings on Saturday morning.

On our arrival at 11am on March 8, 2014, we signed in for the first hearing in the House building and began to rehearse for the testimony. Finally, at 1pm, the Chair called for the representatives from the Prince Hall Grand Lodge. Delegate Stukes accompanied us, gave introductions to the committee and an opening presentation on the good and charitable works of Prince Hall Masons. Afterwards, I was able to give a brief accounting of our history followed by RW Smith giving an assessment of the building and our need for renovation funds. RW Smith's testimony was briefly interrupted by an avowed atheist who insisted upon being able to speak against the bill. God's grace was with us as the Chair quickly silenced the gentleman and allowed RW Smith to continue. Our testimony ended with us stating our vision for the buildings use and answering a few questions from the committee.

All members were favorable in their opinion of Prince Hall Masons, and of note was the Delegate from the Eastern Shore who stated that he had received a call from MWPGM Marion S. Barkley asking him to fully support the bill. We are grateful to MWPGM Barkley and pray that other members will follow his example and contact their state representatives to encourage their support of these important bills. After having lunch and conferring with each other on our testimony, we headed to the Senate side to make our presentation. Immediately upon entering the room we noted Senator McFadden sitting at the table; he gave his nod and acknowledged our presence with his usu-

al smile. When called upon to testify, Senator McFadden gave an impressive and charming overview of Prince Hall Masons and our contribution to the United States and to Maryland. He articulated many of our accomplishments and when he was finished he had so impressed the committee that RW Smith and I had very little to contribute. However, feeling compelled to speak, we made our appeal, which was warmly received by the committee. Of note is the Chair, who indicated that Senator McFadden had taken him on a personal tour of our facility.

We thank MWGM Thorpe for allowing us the opportunity to represent him and the jurisdiction.

The membership should be aware that the Bond Bill has a requirement for matching funds.

I therefore am asking that the membership re-invigorate ourselves and fully support our primary fundraisers, the 2014 Grand Lodge Raffle and the Brick Program.

Platinum	minimum of 500 members x \$500	\$250,000
Gold	minimum of 350 members x \$350	\$122,500
Silver	minimum of 250 members x \$250	\$62,500
Bronze	minimum of 150 members x \$150	\$22,500

Personally, recognizing the importance of our edifice I previously donated \$1,000 in 2007 to the Pledge Program, I have now committed myself to contributing to the Brick Program by purchasing several bricks. This will enable me to memorialize my tenure as Worshipful Master of Roscoe C. Cartwright Lodge No. 129, my tenure as District Deputy Grand Master of the Sixteenth Masonic District, as Grand Lecturer and as President of the William A. Jones Commanders of the Rite, 33°. I implore the membership to take on a similar pledge for the high offices you have held and get on board with the Brick Program.

After much thought and careful consideration MWGM Thorpe has assigned me the task of Chairing the Brick Program along with Bro. James Rashed of Enterprise No. 3 & RW Randolph S. Smith, Sr., together with a core group of dedicated and committed Brothers to move forward with the Brick Program. While we are still planning and organizing, our goal with your financial support is to break ground and lay the bricks during the summer of 2014.

In order to be successful in achieving our goal to have a Summer 2014 Ground Breaking Ceremony we must have a minimum of 500 Brothers, Sisters, Lodges, Chapters, Consistories, Councils, Temples, Courts, Commanderies, Businesses/etc to purchase a \$500 brick no later than June 16, 2014. This will enable us to garner the funds necessary to match the funds from the State Bond.

Testimony on \$300,000.00 Capital Bond Bill to Renovate the MWPHGLMD Grand East Temple



By RW Emanuel J. Stanley, Junior Grand Warden

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A.M.

JURISDICTION OF MARYLAND
1301-07 EUTAW PLACE
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21217
410-669-4966
HON. MELVIN M. THORPE, 33°
MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER

Saturday March 8, 2014



Testimony on Capital Bond Bill (SB0965/HB1477) Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A.M.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am Emanuel J. Stanley, the Junior Grand Warden of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland by my side is Randolph S. Smith, Sr. the Deputy Grand Lecturer of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland.

We would first like to thank you for this opportunity to speak on behalf of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Maryland. The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland history dates back to early 1800's. The First African Independent Grand Lodge of North America No. 1 of the State of Pennsylvania warranted the first lodge of black Masons constituted in the state of Maryland on February 2, 1825 under the direct authority of Brother Prince Hall. This lodge was styled as African Friendship Lodge of Baltimore No. 6. Thereafter the same authority warranted Saint James Lodge and Enterprise Lodge. In 1845 with the assistance of Pennsylvania, these three (3) subordinate lodges formed the First Colored Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of the state of Maryland, with Rev. James A. Handy as Grand Master. The name was changed to The Most Worshipful United Grand Lodge of the State of Maryland in 1878. The name of the Grand Lodge was again changed in 1947 to The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and its Jurisdictions, Inc., which name it still bears today.

Our Grand Lodge which is currently located at 1307 Eutaw Place Baltimore, Maryland was built in 1892. In 1960 under the leadership of Grand Master Willard W. Allen this building was purchased by The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and its Jurisdictions, Inc. and is one of the crown jewels of the Prince Hall Masonry throughout the world. Our building is in need of major repair, the mechanical and electrical infrastructure is very out dated. Since acquiring the building in 1960 we have tried to maintain the building without damaging its historic nature which isn't easy and very costly. The sanctuary is in need of major repair to include plaster ceilings, walls and dome is in need of patching and the whole sanctuary needs to be painted. The lighting in the sanctuary needs to be changed to more energy efficient lighting system to help save cost. The building needs to be made handicap friendly, by installing chairlifts to assist with the need of individuals with disabilities to have access to the sanctuary. The HVAC system is also very inefficient and is in need of repairs. Most offices and room are in need of ceiling and wall repairs. The main Banquet Hall is in need of ceiling and wall repairs along with lighting and electrical upgrades. The gym floor is in need of repair along with the bathrooms and lighting in that area.

The vision we have for this building, is to provide much needed community programs and support. Programs such as safe night for homeless veterans, mentoring for the local youth, tutoring, and opening our gym to be used as a community center. We have setup most of these types of programs and services in other areas of Maryland.

Testimony on \$300,000.00 Capital Bond Bill to Renovate the MWPHGLMD Grand East Temple



By RW Emanuel J. Stanley, Junior Grand Warden

Maryland Prince Hall Masons feed underprivileged families all year around in Anne Arundel, Prince George's County, Charles County, Eastern Shore, Montgomery County, Baltimore City, and Howard County and in other parts of the state. We donate time and effort to Maryland Schools in the form of tutoring, providing clothing and school supplies. We help Maryland students transition to institutions of higher learning through our scholarship programs. Our crown jewel is the Prince Hall Masonic Child Identification Program which we provide free to the parents of Maryland's most vulnerable citizens. This invaluable tool is approved by all of Maryland's Police organizations as well as the FBI and is utilized when a child is missing. Realizing that our seniors are also vulnerable we also provide this service to Maryland families who have elderly members who are suffering from the various stages of Alzheimer's disease.

The members of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Maryland are committed to Maryland's communities and to restoring this historic Masonic landmark, but we are requesting your help. On behalf of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Maryland, we thank you for giving us this opportunity to speak.

Respectfully,

Emanuel J. Stanley
Junior Grand Warden

Randolph S. Smith, Sr.
Deputy Grand Lecturer



Testimony on \$300,000.00 Capital Bond Bill to Renovate the MWPHGLMD Grand East Temple



By RW Emanuel J. Stanley, Junior Grand Warden

HOUSE BILL 1477

B2

4lr3297
CF SB 965

By: **Delegate Stukes**

Introduced and read first time: February 24, 2014

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt – Prince Hall Grand Lodge**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of
4 \$300,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Trustees of the
5 Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of
6 Maryland and Its Jurisdiction, Inc. for certain development or improvement
7 purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds; establishing a
8 deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing
9 generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That:

12 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on
13 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Prince Hall
14 Grand Lodge Loan of 2014 in the total principal amount of \$300,000. This loan shall
15 be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general obligation bonds
16 authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered
17 in accordance with §§ 8–117 through 8–124 and 8–131.2 of the State Finance and
18 Procurement Article.

19 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold
20 as a single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds
21 under § 8–122 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

22 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer
23 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and
24 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then
25 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the
26 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
27 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Trustees of the Most

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Testimony on \$300,000.00 Capital Bond Bill to Renovate the MWPHGLMD Grand East Temple



By RW Emanuel J. Stanley, Junior Grand Warden

2

HOUSE BILL 1477

1 Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland and Its
2 Jurisdiction, Inc. for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair,
3 renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall
4 Grand Lodge, located in Maryland.

5 (4) An annual State tax is imposed on all assessable property in the State in
6 rate and amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds, as and
7 when due and until paid in full. The principal shall be discharged within 15 years
8 after the date of issuance of the bonds.

9 (5) The proceeds of the loan must be expended or encumbered by the Board
10 of Public Works for the purposes provided in this Act no later than June 1, 2021. If any
11 funds authorized by this Act remain unexpended or unencumbered after June 1, 2021,
12 the amount of the unencumbered or unexpended authorization shall be canceled and
13 be of no further effect. If bonds have been issued for the loan, the amount of
14 unexpended or unencumbered bond proceeds shall be disposed of as provided in
15 § 8-129 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 June 1, 2014.



Testimony on \$300,000.00 Capital Bond Bill to Renovate the MWPHGLMD Grand East Temple



By RW Emanuel J. Stanley, Junior Grand Warden

SENATE BILL 965

B2

4lr3032

By: **Senator McFadden**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2014

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

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3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of
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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

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Testimony on \$300,000.00 Capital Bond Bill to Renovate the MWPHGLMD Grand East Temple



By RW Emanuel J. Stanley, Junior Grand Warden

2

SENATE BILL 965

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15 § 8–129 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 June 1, 2014.



PRINCE HALL HISTORY



Prince Hall is recognized as the Father of Black Masonry in the United States. He made it possible for us to also be recognized and enjoy all privileges of Free and Accepted Masonry. Many rumors of the birth of Prince Hall have arisen. Few records and papers have been found of him either in Barbados where it was rumored that he was born, but no record of birth, by church or state, has been found there, and none in Boston. All 11 countries of the day were searched and churches with baptismal records were examined without a find of the name of Prince Hall. 1



One widely circulated rumor states that "Prince Hall was free born in British West Indies. His father, Thomas Prince Hall, was an Englishman and his mother a free colored woman of French extraction. In 1765 he worked his passage on a ship to Boston, where he worked as a leather worker, a trade learned from his father. Eight years later he had acquired real estate and was qualified to vote. Religiously inclined, he later became a minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church with a charge in Cambridge." This account, paraphrased from the generally discredited Grimshaw book of 1903, is suspect in many areas.2

Black Freemasonry began when Prince Hall and fourteen other free black men were initiated into Lodge No. 441, Irish Constitution, attached to the 38th Regiment of Foot, British Army Garrisoned at Castle William (now Fort Independence) Boston Harbor on March 6, 1775. The Master of the Lodge was Sergeant John Batt. Along with Prince Hall, the other newly made masons were Cyrus Jonbus, Bensten Slinger, Prince Rees, John Canton, Peter Freeman, Benjamin Tiler, Duff Ruform, Thomas Santerson, Prince Rayden, Cato Speain, Boston Smith, Peter Best, Forten Howard and Richard Titley. When the British Army left Boston in 1776, this Lodge, No 441, granted Prince Hall and his brethren authority to meet as African Lodge #1 (Under Dispensation), to go in procession on St. John's Day, and as a Lodge to bury their dead; but they could not confer degrees nor perform any other Masonic "work". For nine years these brethren, together with others who had received their degrees elsewhere, assembled and enjoyed their limited privileges as Masons. Thirty-three masons were listed on the rolls of African Lodge #1 on January 14th, 1779. Finally on March 2, 1784, Prince Hall peti-

tioned the Grand Lodge of England, through a Worshipful Master of a subordinate Lodge in London (William Moody of Brotherly Love Lodge No. 55) for a warrant or charter. The Warrant to African Lodge No. 459 of Boston is the most significant and highly prized document known to the Prince Hall Mason Fraternity. Through it our legitimacy is traced, and on it more than any other factor, our case rests. It was granted on September 29, 1784, delivered in Boston on April 29, 1787 by Captain James Scott, brother-in-law of John Hancock and master of the Neptune, under its authority African Lodge No. 459 was organized one week later, May 6, 1787.

Prince Hall was appointed a Provincial Grand Master in 1791 by H.R.H., the Prince of Wales. The question of extending Masonry arose when Absalom Jones of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania appeared in Boston. He was an ordained Episcopal priest and a mason who was interested in establishing a Masonic lodge in Philadelphia. Under the authority of the charter of African Lodge #459, Prince Hall established African Lodge #459 of Philadelphia on March 22, 1797 and Hiram Lodge #3 in Providence, Rhode Island on June 25, 1797. African Lodge of Boston became the "Mother Lodge" of the Prince Hall Family. It was typical for new lodges to be established in this manner in those days. The African Grand Lodge was not organized until 1808 when representatives of African Lodge #459 of Boston, African Lodge #459 of Philadelphia and Hiram Lodge #3 of Providence met in New York City.

Upon Prince Hall's death on December 4, 1807, Nero Prince became Master. When Nero Prince sailed to Russia in 1808, George Middleton succeeded him. After Middleton, Petrert Lew, Samuel H. Moody and then, John T. Hilton became Grand Master. In 1827, Hilton recommended a Declaration of Independence from the English Grand Lodge.

In 1869 a fire destroyed Massachusetts' Grand Lodge headquarters and a number of its priceless records. The charter in its metal tube was in the Grand Lodge chest. The tube saved the charter from the flames, but the intense heat charred the paper. It was at this time that Grand Master S.T. Kendall crawled into the burning building and in peril of his life, saved the charter from complete destruction. Thus a Grand Master's devotion and heroism further consecrated this parchment to us, and added a further detail to its already interesting history. The original Charter No. 459 has long since been made secure between heavy plate glass and is kept in a fire-proof vault in a downtown Boston bank.

Today, the Prince Hall fraternity has over 4,500 lodges worldwide, forming 45 independent jurisdictions with a membership of over 300,000 masons.

Third Masonic District Lodge Snapshot: Saint John's Lodge #5



Submitted Bro Jeremiah Cross, Secretary

The past three months have been busy for St. John's Lodge No. 5! In December, all five of our elected officers, as well as Brother Shawn Jordan, registered and attended the Grand Lodge session in Ocean City. In the same month, we digitized our lodge files and uploaded them to a joint online account for ease and efficiency of access and distribution to all brothers of the lodge.

In January and February, we held several degree practices to prepare for the upcoming first degree that was to be given to our new class of candidates. The degree was conferred on February 27th by Brother SW Stephan Smith in a ceremony that was praised by our Past Masters, as well as our presiding Worshipful Master Kevin Dixon.

In February, we also began reassessing our current dues structure in order to determine where our lodge dues needed to be set in order to keep ourselves in line with the grand lodge.

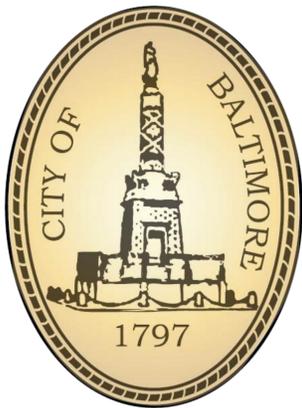
We are still in the process of determining our new dues structure. We have simultaneously begun working with the new class of brothers in preparing them for their first degree proficiency at weekly educational meetings on Tuesdays. Amidst all of this, we are still planning events for the remainder of the year, including charity fundraiser parties, community service events, and more!



DDGM RW Reggie L. Brown.



WM Kevin Dixon, Jr.



Bee Hive #66 Celebrates MLK DAY



By RW Ivory Traynham, Bee Hive Lodge No. 66

The Brothers of Bee Hive Lodge 66 opened their doors to the community as they commemorated the birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 20th. The celebration program has been held for the past several years to rave reviews and each year the anticipation grows as the event nears. This year may have been the best celebration yet!. The Gospel Pearls of Washington, D.C. created some serious foot stomping among the crowd with their rendition of several spiritual favorites.

Rev. RW Joshua J. Slack, our Assistant Grand Chaplain, brought us a powerful blessing with the Word and Bee Hive's own RW Oliver L. Willis, Deputy Grand Lecturer at Large once again recited Dr. King's inspiring "I Have A Dream" speech to a packed crowd. The 4th Masonic District ADDGM, RW Willard Beach told the crowd how much he enjoyed the program and reminded us all of how blessed we were to enjoy such a well put-together program honoring Dr. King.



Rev. RW Slack delivers his address to the audience

Bee Hive #66 Celebrates MLK DAY, *continued*



By RW Ivory Traynham, Bee Hive Lodge No. 66



Bee Hive #66 Celebrates MLK DAY, *continued*



By RW Ivory Traynham, Bee Hive Lodge No. 66



Bee Hive #66 - 4th Masonic District



By RW Ivory Traynham, Bee Hive Lodge No. 66

The brothers of Bee Hive 66 continued to support our brother lodges and the Southern Maryland Communities. Brother Aberre Broome delivered over 20 donated chess sets for the students of J.C. Parks Elementary School in Bryans Rd, MD. This is part of Bee Hive's newly launched mentoring effort with our neighboring schools. WM Carl Fields, RW Oliver Willis and RW Ivory Traynham also visited and participated in the recent Third Degree conducted at Victoria Lodge #71 in Prince Frederick, MD (5th Masonic District).



WM Josephus Harris (71), WM Fields & RW Willis (66)

Bee Hive 66's Rod Milstead Joins Delaware State Staff



One of the most decorated players in the history of the Delaware State University (DSU) Hornets football program is among two additions to the Hornets' coaching staff this spring. Delaware State University head coach Kermit Blount recently announced that Rod Milstead has joined his staff as offensive line coach.

Bro. Milstead was a standout offensive lineman for the Hornets from 1988 to '91 before an eight-year career in the National Football League. During his tenure with the Hornets, Milstead was a three-time All-MEAC First Team selection (1989, 90, 91); and a 1991 Associated Press, Walter Camp and Sheridan Black College All-America First Team pick. He was inducted into the Hornets' Athletic Hall-of-Fame in 2003.

Following his collegiate career, Milstead was selected by the Dallas Cowboys in the fifth round of the 1992 National Football League draft. After several weeks in the Cowboys' training camp, he was traded to the Cleveland Browns, where he played two seasons. He was also a member of the 1995 San Francisco 49ers Super Bowl champion squad. He completed his professional playing career after two seasons with the Washington Redskins (1998-99), during which he appeared in 20 games.

ties; always speaking to kids about living positively and setting and reaching goals for themselves through constant determination and hard work. These personal attributes have served him well and have made him an inspiration and a living testimonial to anyone who crosses his path. Congrats again Bro. Milstead!



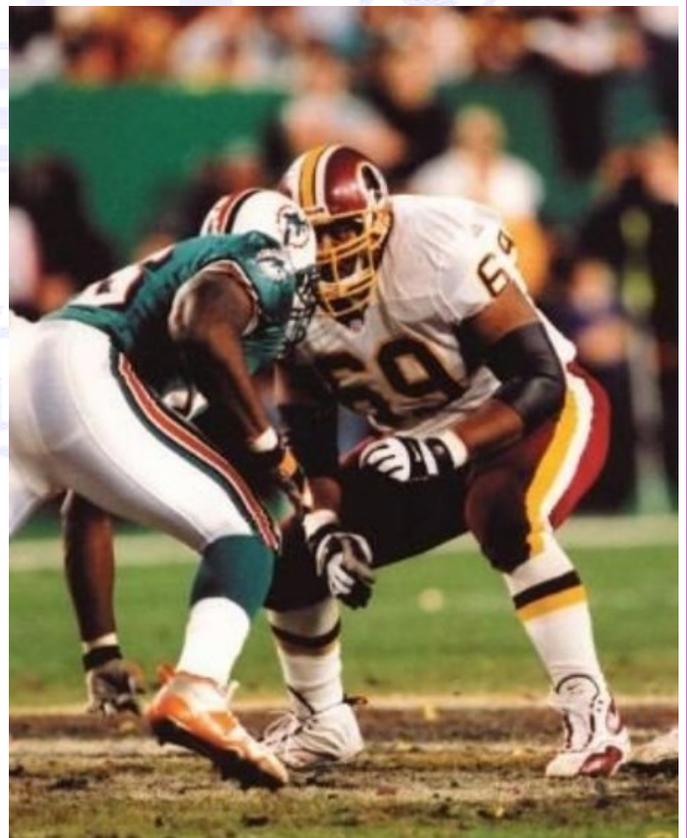
Bro. Milstead addressing youth during Charles County Police Dept.



Coach Milstead during spring practice (Courtesy Delaware State University)

From 2000 to '06, Milstead was the assistant head coach/offensive line coach at his high school alma mater, Lackey High in Indian Head, Md. In 2013, Milstead was the offensive line coach at North Carolina Central University.

Bro. Milstead was raised in 2006, and has served as Junior and Senior Warden at Bee Hive Lodge 66. He is very active in his local community. He has hosted football camps, and participates in school and community activi-



Playing days with the Washington Redskins

Roscoe C. Cartwright #129 Accokeek, MD (4th Masonic District)



Roscoe C. Cartwright Lodge No. 129 New Administration for Masonic Year 2013 - 2014

Roscoe C. Cartwright #129 Accokeek, MD (4th Masonic District)



Thanksgiving Baskets for needy families



Jr. Past Master Robert Williams receives his collar and apron

The William T. Wallace Lodge #134 Ft. Meade, MD (10th Masonic District)



By Bro. Stacy L. Merriwether, Senior Warden

The elected and appointed officers and members of William T. Wallace Lodge #134 (WTW134) continue to strive to accomplish their many duties as Prince Hall Masons. One of those duties involved attending the Emancipation Proclamation ceremony held at the MWPHGLMD on January 5, 2014. There were approximately 15 members of WTW134, including WM Graham, that showed up in support of this endeavor. It was a beautifully held event led by the youth fraternities of the Masonic Order.

On January 31, 2014, about 10 members of WTW134 joined the Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe, MWGM of the MWPHGLMD, other Grand Lodge Officers, and members of other Constituent Lodges at the Installation of the newly Elected and Appointed Officers of St. Albans Universal Lodge #233 (A.F. & A.M.). This was an auspicious occasion as we witnessed a solemn and endearing ceremony. There were many family members and friends of the elected/appointed officers in attendance.

It is important to note that SAUL #233 (A.F. & A.M.) was created as an “experiment” to ascertain whether or not White and Black Masons could work together under the A.F.&A.M. banner. The Lodge’s success to date has far exceeded expectations. So much so, that after this Masonic Year, there will be at least four Masons of African descent that will consecutively serve as Worshipful Master!

WTW134 held its 2nd Annual Super Bowl Party in the Melvin M. Thorpe Fellowship Hall on February 2, 2014. Apparently, the word of last year’s successful party spread throughout the jurisdiction. The number of participants (party-goers) increased considerably.

Overall, it was a fantastic event! The entertainment for the pre and post-party was provided by DJ Slim and DJ Mundo. If you missed it, you missed out.

There were a number of mini-raffles held throughout the evening. The main raffle was for a 40” LED TV, which was won by Sis Javelle Span (see photo below).

Another primary duty of Prince Hall Masons is to keep up the names of our deceased Brothers. We do that by ensuring their widows and orphans are taken care of in times of need.



From l to r: JW Roderic Mauldin, the TV, Sis Javelle Spann, and WM Dennis Graham. (Photo courtesy of JD Michael Bertty II)

The continual snow fall during February had taken its toll on our very own widow, Sis Shirley Price (PM George Price). She sent out a distress call to the Brothers of WTW134 to help dig out her vehicles from the snow and clear her driveway.

The distress call was answered within the hour by WM Graham, SW Merriwether, SD K. Smith, and JD Michael Bertty II. Within a couple of hours, Sis Price was cleared and able to move. She was extremely grateful, which made our hearts beam!

Mind you this was all accomplished on Valentine’s Day!! Sometimes sacrifices have to be made as Prince Hall Masons in the jurisdiction of Maryland! We would like to thank our significant others for being very supportive and understanding of what we do.

The Maryland School Assessment (MSA) can be stressful for some teachers. The Brothers of WTW134 wanted to alleviate some of that stress at one of its adopted schools, McArthur Middle School (Ft. Meade, MD).

Early in the morning on March 5, 2014 before their own work days got started, WM Graham, SW Merriwether, JW Mauldin, Rec Sec Brown, JD Bertty II, SS Jones, and JS Greene surprised the faculty and staff by providing an array of donuts, coffee, water and juices to ease the stressors of the MSA and to simply show a little appreciation for the hard work they do educating some of the country’s future leaders (see photo below).

The William T. Wallace Lodge #134 Ft. Meade, MD (10th Masonic District)



By Bro. Stacy L. Merriwether, Senior Warden



JW Mauldin assists two teachers with digging into the donuts. (Photo courtesy of JD Bertty II)

Needlessly to say, Principal Gray and Vice Principal Greene were grateful of the Brothers of WTW134 for coming through and providing little sources of relief for their faculty and staff.



From L to R: Rec Sec Brown, SS Jones, JD Bertty II, WM Graham, Principal Gray, SW Merriwether, Vice Principal Greene, JW Mauldin, and JS Greene (Photo courtesy of JD Bertty II)

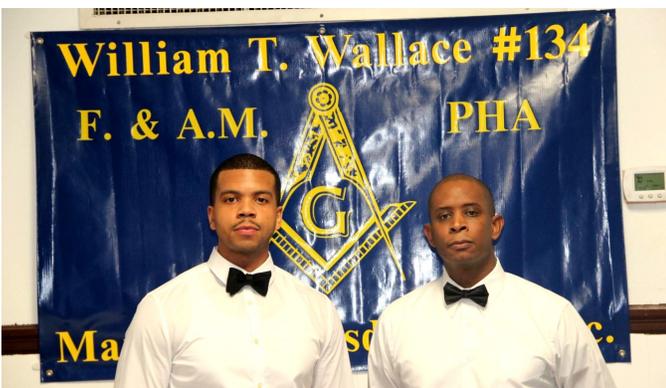
The Brothers of WTW134 will continue to raise the bar of what it means to be Maryland Prince Hall Masons with the work we will continue to perform. We are the epitome of a beehive and triple-dog dare you to be like us!! Let's all work together with rebuilding our fraternity's reputation throughout the Jurisdiction.



Sisters of Amulet Chapter No. 85 got their groove on at our 2nd annual Superbowl Party!



MWGM Melvin M. Thorpe, GWM Carol D. Simon, DGM Lee A. Taylor and Sis. Kim Johnson also enjoyed the Superbowl festivities.



“Men In Black 22”

Mount Lebanon Lodge #22 (16th Masonic District)



This year, as well as past years, the Brothers of Mount Lebanon Lodge No. 22, set out to get more public exposure for us, the 16th Masonic District, and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland. We teamed up with the Maryland State Police, and entered a team in the Polar Bear Plunge 2014, to help the athletes of the Special Olympics of Maryland. The original date was set for January 24, 2014, but due to weather and water conditions, the plunge was cancelled. I'm not sure who was more disappointed, us, or the people who sponsored us, because they sure wanted to see us all freeze! However, a new date was set, and our team “Men In Black 22,” was ready to plunge! On March 8, 2014, at 1pm, we entered the icy waters of the Chesapeake Bay, and team Captain, Worshipful Master Everett Smith Sr., actually went in twice!

Team, “Men In Black 22,” would like to thank all the Brothers of Mount Lebanon Lodge No. 22 for their support and pledges, the Brothers of the 16th Masonic District, for their support and pledges, and all the other Brothers of the MWP HGL of Maryland for theirs. We had set a goal of \$1000.00, and I'm proud to say that we almost reached our goal by raising \$785.00 to benefit the Special Olympics of Maryland. Team members consisted of, Worshipful Master Everett K. Smith Sr. (Captain); Senior Warden Stephon Boulware (Co-Captain); Junior

Warden Ron Sampson; Past Master George Webb (Senior Team Member); Asst-Sect Ottis (2T's) Johnson, Senior Deacon Juan Bates; Junior Stewart Sylvester Springs; Master of Ceremonies Gerald Beamon; Brother Lester Davis; and Brother Cortez Lewis. We would also like to thank, the wives that attended (Mrs. Penny Morgan-Smith; Mrs. Cheryl Sampson; and Mrs. Rica S. Bates). As all good minds think alike, Mount Lebanon Lodge No. 22 also bonded with our Brothers from Corinthian Lodge No. 93 AF&AM, Towson, MD (see image below), who have participated in The Plunge for 4 years straight.



Grand Lodge Fraternal Recognitions



The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland is in Fraternal Amity with all Grand Lodges in the Conference of Grand Masters Prince Hall Masons, Inc. (www.conferenceofgrandmasterspha.org) and the following:

Grand Lodge of California
<http://www.freemason.org/index.htm>

Grand Lodge of Connecticut
<http://ctfreemasons.net/>

Grand Lodge of District of Columbia
<http://www.dcgrandlodge.org/>

United Grand Lodge of England
<http://www.ugle.org.uk/>

Grand Lodge of Maryland
<http://www.mdmasons.org/>

Grand Lodge of Michigan
<http://www.grandlodgemi.org/>

Grand Lodge of Minnesota
<http://www.mn-masons.org/>

Grand Lodge of Missouri
<http://www.momason.org/>

Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia
<http://www.grandlodgens.org/>

Grand Lodge of Ohio
<http://www.freemason.com/>

Grand Lodge of Rhode Island
<http://www.rimasons.org/>

Grand Lodge of Virginia
<http://www.grandlodgeofvirginia.org/>

Grand Lodge of Wisconsin
<http://www.wisc-freemasonry.org/>

If your Grand Lodge has any questions about our Grand Lodge pertaining to mutual Masonic consideration, please feel free to contact us.

Our Grand Lodge office is located at 1307 Eutaw Place, Baltimore, Maryland 21217, telephone number: 410-669-4966 or 410-669-4967.

Official correspondence should be sent to the Chairman of the Committee on Fraternal Recognition to the above address ATTN: R.W. Emanuel J. Stanley, Junior Grand Warden or via email at Junior_Grand_Warden@mwphglmd.org.



AF&AM INSTALLATION



Public Installation of Sharon Lodge No. 182

15 January 2014



Public Installation Sets The Tone

The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe, Most Worshipful Grand Master joins Most Worshipful Gerald E. Piepiora and members of Sharon Lodge No. 182 for a public Installation in Reisterstown Maryland.

Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

Fellowship

The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe, Most Worshipful Grand Master joins Most Worshipful Gerald E. Piepiora and members of Sharon Lodge No. 182 for a photograph following the Installation of Lodge Officers.



Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

Supporting the Installation

The Honor Guard was dressed in Scottish garb and played the Bag Pipe... Totally awesome and impressive event open for public observation.



Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

Fellowship



Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

The Evolution of Maryland Masonry

Prince Hall Masonry in Maryland



Prince Hall Masons in Maryland trace their history to Massachusetts and to Prince Hall, who is believed to have been born in 1735, and died on December 4, 1807. On March 6, 1775, Prince Hall and fourteen others were initiated into a military Lodge at what is now Fort Independence, Massachusetts. On March 2, 1784, Prince Hall petitioned the Grand Lodge of England for a warrant or charter authorizing that a regular Lodge be constituted. It was issued on September 29, 1784, but not received until May 6, 1787, at which time African Lodge No. 459 was formed. On June 6, 1791, the lodge was erected into the African Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The First African Independent Grand Lodge of North America No. 1 of the State of Pennsylvania, whose own authority came directly from Prince Hall, warranted the first lodge of black Masons constituted in the state of Maryland on February 2, 1825. This lodge was styled as African Friendship Lodge of Baltimore No. 6. Thereafter the same authority warranted Saint James Lodge and Enterprise Lodge. In 1845, again with the able assistance of Pennsylvania, these three (3) subordinate lodges formed the First Colored Grand Lodge, A.F.&A.M. of the state of Maryland, with Rev. James A. Handy as Grand Master.

In 1847, following the establishment of the National Grand Lodge, another grand lodge was organized in Maryland pursuant to its authority and styled as Union Grand Lodge.

These two Grand Lodges remained in the field until 1876, when, being convinced that the object each Grand Master sought to accomplish would be better served by a union of the two, efforts to consolidate were made by the leading members of the two organizations.

On September 12, 1876, the two Grand Lodges merged. In 1878, the name was changed to The Most Worshipful United Grand Lodge of the State of Maryland. In 1947, the name of the Grand Lodge was again changed to The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and its Jurisdictions, Inc., which name it still bears.



**Prince
Hall**
1735 – 1807



In 1960, Grand Master Willard W. Allen stepped down and Grand Master Samuel T. Daniels assumed the mantle of leadership. Later in that same year, the Grand Lodge moved to its present location at 1307 Eutaw Place at Lanvale Street and the Temple was duly named after Grand Master Allen. In 1998 Grand Master Daniels stepped down, at which time the Honorable Shelton D. Redden was elected Grand Master, which he served in that capacity for twelve years.

On Saturday, December 4, 2010 the craft nominated and elected the Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe as Most Worshipful Grand Master. After being installed, Grand Master Thorpe made a motion to honor Past Grand Master Redden with the title Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Emeritus, which was unanimously approved by the craft. With the election of Grand Master Thorpe the jurisdiction of Maryland had elected its fourth Grand Master within the last eighty-eight years.

Currently there are one-hundred and two (102) constituent lodges that constitute Maryland and its jurisdiction. Seventy (70) are within the state of Maryland, twenty-two (22) are in Germany, six (6) are in England, three (3) are in Italy, and one (1) is in Belgium. Maryland Prince Hall Lodges look back with pride to their Mother Lodge and to Prince Hall's life and leadership. They each regard themselves as descendants from the Grand Lodge of England, from which Prince Hall received his own authority more than two centuries ago.



AF&AM INSTALLATION



Public Installation of St. Albans Universal Lodge No. 233

31 January 2014



Relationship

The relationship between the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and the Most Worshipful Ancient Free and Accepted Masons (A.F. & A.M.) continues to grow. The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe, Most Worshipful Grand Master joins Most Worshipful Grand Master Gerald E. Piepiora in dialogue prior to a meal...

Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

Fellowship

Members of the 10th Masonic District joined the Most Worshipful Grand Master at the Public Installation of an A.F. & A.M. Lodge. The visitation was a joyous Occasion for all in attendance.



Photo courtesy of Bro Michael Bertty II

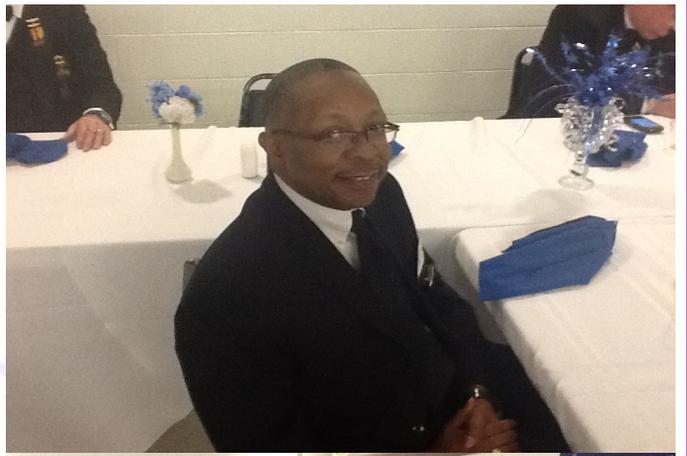
Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

Supporting the Grand

The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe, Most Worshipful Grand Master poses for photograph with Sir Knight, Most Eminent Grand Commander, Dr. George H. Williams, Sr. (KYCH)



Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.



Author: R.W. Noel C. Osborne Sr.

2nd Annual Prince Hall Masonic Basketball Classics



Myra Grand Chapter and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland fellowshiped with Georgiana Thomas Grand Chapter and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia at the 2nd the Annual Prince Hall Masonic Basketball Classic held at Howard University on February 1st. Howard University Bisons hosted the North Carolina Central University Eagles.



The Lady Bisons slipped past the Eagles with a 66-61 win. Howard's men put forth a strong effort but fell prey to the Eagles with a 65-79 lost. The Honorable Milton "Toby" F. Fitch, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Jurisdiction of North Carolina was on hand to cheer his beloved Eagles to victory.



During the halftime show Georgiana Thomas Grand Chapter represented by Grand Worthy Matron Barbara E. Murray and Grand Worthy Patron Thomas L. Coleman and The Honorable John T. Doles, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Jurisdiction of the District of Colum-

bia presented \$5,000 scholarships to two deserving students matriculating at Howard University.



The students weren't the only one's having a good time. The after party and reception was a huge hit. The DJ played the latest hits and the membership strutted their stuff.



Arkansas Royal Grand Chapter Grand Worthy Matron Flora J. Simon and Grand Worthy Patron Johnnie H. Carolina

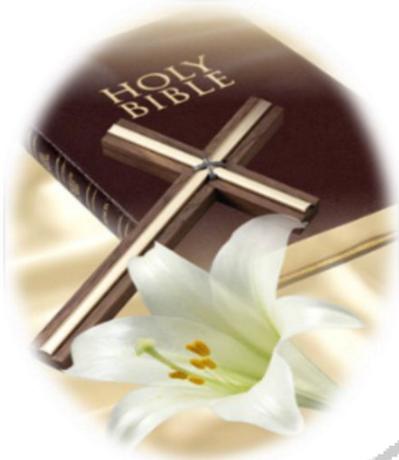


Grand Worthy Matron Carol D. Simon, Grand Worthy Patron Kevin Cunningham and District Deputy Grand Associate Matron Sheri J. Offer traveled with the Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe, Most Worshipful Grand Master to Pine Bluff, Arkansas to attend the Joint Annual Grand Session of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Arkansas and Arkansas Royal Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, February 20-23rd.



Arkansas Royal Grand Chapter
Order of the Eastern Star - PHA





The Annual Saint John's Day Worship Service

hosted by

*The Most Worshipful Prince
Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland*

*The Honorable Melvin M. Thorpe
Most Worshipful Grand Master*

Sunday, June 22, 2014 @ 3:00 pm

Willard W. Allen Masonic Temple

Samuel T. Daniels Sanctuary

Eutaw Place and Lanvale Street

Baltimore, Maryland

*Preacher – Reverend Brother S. Todd Yeary
Assistant Grand Chaplain*

Service is open to the public

Masonic Processional scheduled to begin at 2:45pm

“Psalm 1:1&2 - Blessed is the man, Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; ² But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.”



Health and Wellness

THE ENERGY OF SPRING



Spring Forward and Upward!

Like a seedling steadfastly pushing its way through the soil towards the warmth of the sun, such is the upward-moving energy of springtime. While winter is a time for conserving energy and resources, spring is a time of heightened energy and activity; a time to utilize those stored resources and nurture their inherent potential. The weather pattern associated with spring is wind - literally as spring allergens such as ragweed are carried through the air, and figuratively in the form of major life transitions. If you pay attention, you can feel a kind of 'buzz' in the air as things are stirred up by these winds of change. There's much to do, and we can easily get caught up in wanting to do it all at once. To avoid burnout, take care at this time of year to balance this 'buzzing' energy with calming and grounding practices such as meditation and contemplation. Most importantly, remember to breathe! Steady breath is the foundation of life and productive forward movement.

Time To Go Outside! Spring Fitness Tips

We are meant to move! While there are many things we can and should do to optimize wellness, moderate exercise has been shown to offer the greatest general benefits, both to our physical and mental health. You don't have to be a marathon runner or a professional athlete to optimize your strength, flexibility and endurance. Even a simple 30-minute walk each day followed by 5-10 minutes of light stretching can do wonders, especially for those of us who work at jobs that require sitting in a chair most of the day. The inertia we often feel from this lack of activity can be broken through in the simplest ways. So, get yourself off the couch and out of the house!

Optimizing Well-Being With Ergonomics

Ergonomics (or human factors) is the scientific discipline concerned with the understanding of interactions among humans and other elements of a system, and the profession that applies theory, principles, data, and methods to design in order to optimize human well-being and overall system performance. The aim of the discipline is to prevent the

development of occupational disorders and to reduce the potential for fatigue, error, or unsafe acts through the evaluation and design of facilities, environments, jobs, tasks, tools, equipment, processes, and training methods to match the capabilities of specific workers.

Lyme Disease Safety Tips

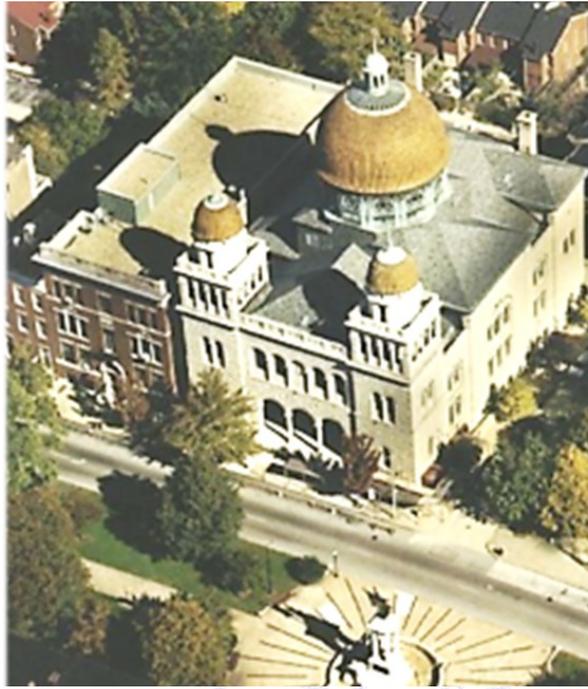
Maryland has one of the highest rates of Lyme disease in the country, and spring can be a particularly dangerous time for insect-borne illnesses such as Lyme, as ticks become active when the temperatures rise above 45 degrees Fahrenheit. During the spring and early summer, tick nymphs end their dormancy and begin to seek a host, and most cases of Lyme disease are reported from May through August. Find out how to protect yourself and your family from this dangerous disease.

Smoking Cessation

Did you know that smoking as few as one cigarette per day increases the risk of heart disease? Cessation of cigarette smoking constitutes the single most important intervention in preventative cardiology. Even if you've smoked for a very long time, you will still gain the health benefits of quitting. Don't wait any longer!

Get 'In The Know' About Diabetes

Did you know that Diabetes kills more people each year than Breast Cancer and AIDS combined? Even if you are not overweight or have a family history of Diabetes, you can still be at risk. Stress, poor eating, and a lack of physical activity are all factors that lead to the development of Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes. Stop Diabetes in its tracks. The American Diabetes Association has a wealth of information about the disease, including basic information about the disease and how to avoid it, tips for the newly diagnosed and different populations (women, men, children & parents, seniors), as well as recipes and exercise information to help you start exercising safely and how to stay fit.



**Join in to clean-up and renovate our Grand East.
Pledge your time and energy today to make a difference!**





THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE

of Maryland and Jurisdiction, Inc.

BECOME IMMORTAL!

JOIN THE MASONIC BUILDING RENOVATIONS

BRICK PROGRAM

Donate a personalized brick, with your Maker's Mark for the house built with hands eternal.









<p>Platinum Area \$500 Eutaw Street Fraternal Art 6 Lines</p>	<p>Gold Area \$350 Eutaw Street Fraternal Art 3 Lines</p>	<p>Silver Area \$250 Eutaw Street Fraternal Art 3 Lines</p>	<p>Bronze Area \$150 W. Lanvale Street Fraternal Art 3 Lines</p>
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MW Melvin M. Thorpe, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and Jurisdiction, Inc.
1307 Eutaw Place, Baltimore, Maryland 21217



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
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 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

Maryland's Prince Hall Family Newsletter

Article Submission Guidance



To All Maryland Prince Hall Masonic Family Members,

To facilitate the production of our newsletter, I respectfully offer the following guidance on submitting items for publication.

Purpose

The MWPHGL of MD and its Jurisdiction uses the Maryland PHA Family Newsletter to communicate historically meaningful topics of interest to its constituent bodies, including:

- MWPHGL Initiatives
- Upcoming GL-sponsored Events
- Our Success Stories
- Historically significant items of interest
- Human interest stories of a Masonic nature
- Constituent Lodge and other Masonic Family Member events (e.g. anniversaries, celebrations, community engagements, and galas).

Writing Style

- Whatever topic you choose for your article, there are some basic guidelines to follow:
- Try to include as much of the who, what, where, when, why, and how in your opening sentence.
- Keep sentences short and to the point – concise.
- Though it may be tempting to save the best for last, give the most interesting bits of information up front.
- Make the information interesting so your reader will want to read on.

Submission Constraints

- It is the responsibility of the submitter to follow any internal management requirements for submitting/approving articles prior to their publication (local approval authorities include: DDGM, Worshipful Master, Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Ill 1st Lieutenant Commander, High Priest, Potentate, etc.).
- Include the Point of contact (name, title, email address, phone number), organization and article approver.
- Copyrighted material must include written authorization or approval by the copyright holder.

Format

- Microsoft Word with 12 point font is preferred, however PDF files are acceptable.
- All photos must have captions and if practical, include the names of each person shown, as appropriate.
- Photo file formats: JPEG, PNG, BMP, TIFF, and PDF.

Note

The Editorial Staff will endeavor to preserve the essence of an author's original submission; however, we reserve the right to abbreviate, append, delete, or otherwise edit all articles to enhance readability, or to engender clarity, succinctness, or suitability.

Please email your inputs directly to the Editor at scisom357@yahoo.com.

Most Respectfully,

RW Steve C. Isom— Editor

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Email: web_master@mwphglmd.org or scisom357@yahoo.com**

**1307 Eutaw Place, Baltimore, MD 21217
Phone: 410-669-4966 Fax: 410-462-4622**

“Let’s Finish What God Started”