

Vol. 52, Issue No.1, January 2020





Winter 2020

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The Prince Hall Sentinel is the official publication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the state of New York. However, all articles appearing in this publication express the view and opinion of the author or interviewee, and do not, unless specially stated, express the views and opinions or become official pronouncements of the Grand Master or Grand Lodge. All rights reserved.





From The Editor's Desk

I have noticed in recent years that there has been a proliferation of "Divine Nine" paraphernalia at Prince Hall Masonic events. Sometimes it is hard to tell if it's a Masonic event or a "Greek" fest. In pictures of Prince Hall Masonic events, vou see more "Greek" signs and emblems than Masonic. Don't get me wrong, I have tremendous respect for members of the "Divine Nine" and their fidelity and pride in their "Greek" affiliation is commendable.

I fully recognize and understand that black Greek fraternities and sororities have provided our community with strong economic and political leadership. The black Greeks were those Americans of African descent who had the opportunity to get a college education and use it to help uplift the community. However, Prince Hall Masonry is the oldest and largest group of Men of African descent in the world and has been a stalwart in the black community long before any of the "Greek" organizations were founded.

My question to our dual member Brothers and Sisters is do you have and display the same fidelity and respect for your Masonic & Eastern Star fraternity as you do for your "Greek" fraternities & Sororities? Do you bring the same energy and dedication? If not, why not? Does the Masonic obligation you took at the altar mean as much to you as your "Greek" Obligation?

Prince Hall Freemasonry (PHA) is the first historically Black fraternal organization. The first Greek Letter fraternal organization was Alpha Kappa Nu at Indiana University in 1903. Wilberforce University is where Gamma Phi was established in 1905. Sixty miles away at Columbus, Ohio in March 1905, Pi Gamma Omicron was founded at Ohio State University (formation originally reported in the Chicago Defender in 1905). These organizations folded quickly without successfully establishing more than one college chapter each. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, established at Cornell University in December 1906, is the first Black intercollegiate fraternity (the first to have more than one college chapter).

Alpha Phi Alpha's success inspired the founding of other Black Greek intercollegiate organizations. Today, these organizations (fraternities and sororities) are known collectively as the National Pan-Hellenic Council, founded on May 10, 1930 at Howard University, Washington, DC. Incorporated as a perpetual body in 1937. Collectively, these organizations are referred to as "The Divine Nine."

- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Founded 1906, Cornell University
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Founded 1908, Howard University
- Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Founded 1911, Indiana University
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Founded 1911, Howard University
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Founded 1913, Howard University
- Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Founded 1914, Howard University
- Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Founded 1920, Howard University
- Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Founded 1922, Butler University
- Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Founded 1963, Morgan State University

THE PRINCE HALL SENTINEL

Official Publication of The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM, State of New York

Elected Grand Lodge Officers

- M. . W. . Walter C. King Jr. (44) **Grand Master**
- R. . W. . Gregory R. Smith Jr. (1) **Deputy Grand Master**
- R. . W. . Darren M. Morton (64) **Grand Senior Warden**
- R.W. Jean E. Apollon Sr. (63) **Grand Junior Warden**
- R. . W. . Kevin P. Wardally (14) **Grand Treasurer**
- R. . W. . Sandino Sanchez (14) **Grand Secretary**

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- R. . W. . Keith B. Bryant Sr. (122)
- R. . W. . Patrick Rosene (124)
- R. . W. . Keith Smith McNeil (122)
- R. . W. . Percy I. Perdue Sr. (23)
- R. W. La 'Keith Rouse (14)
- R. . W. . Jimmie Chaple (120)
- R. . W. . Oswaldo Mestre Jr. (88)
- R. . W. . Thomas G. McKnight (60)

Editorial Staff

- M. . W. . Walter C. King Jr. (44) **Publisher**
- R. . W. . Robert B. Hansley (93) **Editor**
- R. . W. . John L. Robinson Jr. (97) **Associate Editor**
- R. . W. . Raymond N. Freeman Jr. (97) **Grand Photographer**

Contributors in this issue:

- W.B. Guillermo "Bill" J. M. Thorne Sr., (79)
- P.G.M. Ludwick S. Hall (47)
- P.G.M. Calvin Martin (55)
- R.W. John R. Hill, Jr. (36)
- R.W. Rev. Dr. Darren N. Morton (64)
- P.M. James M. Dickerson (47 PHGL, PA.)
- Bro. Miguel Ocasio (GL of NY)
- W.M. Nigel Cudioe (38)
- R.W. Gary Davis (55)
- R.W. Kevin P. Wardally (14)
- R.W. Thomas Booker (1)

These fraternities and sororities are rich in history, membership in one or more of these organizations may be found in many college-educated Black families in the United States. Each strongly emphasize public service and civil rights. These Black Fraternities, and Sororities in the case of female equivalent, follow what is known as the 'Greek system'. It is called this as the fraternities and sororities are identified with three Greek letters. These letters represent the initials of a motto that is written in the Greek language.

Some non-National Pan-Hellenic Council Black fraternal organizations, such as the Swing Phi Swing and Groove Phi Groove, also have rich histories and strong public service but do not solely use Greek letters in their names.

Even though these Black fraternal organizations profess to using the Greek system, it is an historical fact that the Greek system used is largely modelled after the structure of Freemasonry.

The following quote is highly revealing as to the Masonic origins of the Greek system. It comes from the Candidate Syllabus of one of the sororities

"The most direct line of descent from Greek societies to America is the Freemasons (called Masons). Historians of American fraternities and sororities trace most of our rituals, ceremonies and rites to the Masons. An examination of Masonic rituals open to the scholars suggest that our Founders were also influenced by Masonic ritual, symbolism and initiation experiences."

Just as with Freemasonry, members in the Greek system also swear an oath of fidelity and use secret handshakes the oath sworn involves a lifetime commitment to fellow members of the fraternity. A further possible Masonic influence is the use of heraldic coats of arms which are specifically medieval in origin and are not found in ancient Greece.





"What you do Makes a Difference, You Have to Decide What Kind of Difference you want to Make!"

Jane Goodall

Happy New Year!

By God's Grace, A New Year is upon us. We have been blessed with another opportunity. An opportunity to do better, to be better, to make a difference. A Positive Difference!



It is said that the New Year is a time to reflect. I believe that Every Day is a time to reflect. Prince Hall Family, each day we should reflect on our words and actions. What worked and what didn't work. Ask ourselves, What can I do better? How can I be better? Did I make a positive difference?

Prince Hall Masonry is one of the oldest African American Organizations in the State of New York. We have rich history. Therefore, it is not only expected of us as an elite organization, respectfully, it is our Duty and Responsibility to make a positive difference.

We are fortunate to have a fantastic group of individuals who make up this great Prince Hall Family! Each of us having an important role. Let it be our earnest care and commitment to Grow in Good Character and Shine in Positive Light, keeping our History, Prestige and Honor intact. Proving ourselves to be who we say we are. Difference Makers!

Each of us being Kind and Forgiving, Understanding and Respectful, Accepting and Non-Judgmental. Keepers of one another. Difference Makers!

May we each spend more time with our Family and Loved Ones. Tell them often of the love we have for them. Difference Maker!

Wishing for you and your loved ones Good Health, Peace, Prosperity and God's Richest Blessings.

Fraternally, Most Worshipful Walter C. King, Jr., **Grand Master**



The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free & Accepted Masons State of New York



2019-2020 GRAND LINE





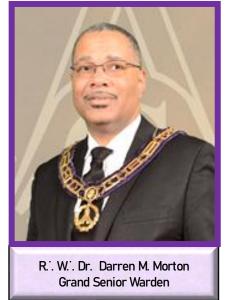
R.'. W.'. Gregory R. Smith Jr. Deputy Grand Master



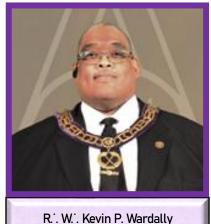


R.'. W.'. Walter C. King Jr. **Grand Master**



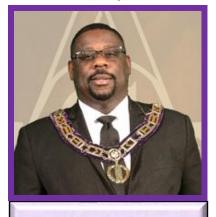






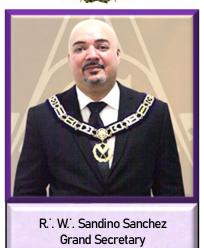
Grand Treasurer





R.'. W.'. Jean E. Apollon Sr. Grand Junior Warden







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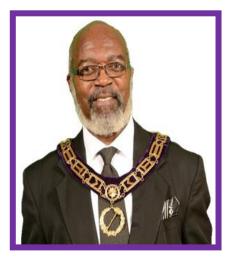




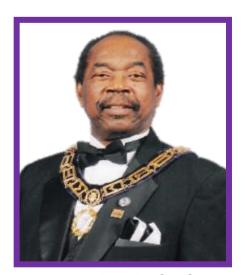
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R.'. W.'. Jimmie Chaple



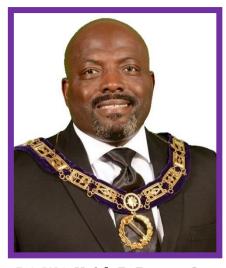
R.'. W.'. La 'Keith Rouse



R.'. W.'. Patrick Rosene



R.'. W.'. Oswaldo Mestre Jr.



R.'. W.'. Keith B. Bryant Sr.



R.'. W.'. Thomas G. McKnight January 2020 Prince Hall Sentinel Page | 6



Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge

FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS, STATE OF NEW YORK









Eureka Grand Chapter

PRINCE HALL ORDER EASTERN STAR, STATE OF NEW YORK

2019 WORTHY MATRONS





The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free & Accepted Masons, State of New York 174th ANNUAL GRAND SESSION





Turning Stone Resort Casino

5218 Patrick Rd, Verona, NY 13478

M. '. W. '. Walter C. King, Jr. Grand Master, with visiting Grand Masters attending The MWPHGL, New York 174th Annual Grand Lodge Session.

























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Charles Lewis Reason



Submitted By PGM Ludwick S. Hall #47

Charles Lewis Reason was a mathematician, linguist, and educator. When hired in 1850, to teach at New York Central College, in Cortland, N.Y., he became the first African American professor at a predominantly white college in the United States.

He was born on July 21, 1818 in New York City, one of three sons to Michel and Elizabeth (Melville) Reason, free people of color (Gens du Coleur) whose surname was originally Rison. His father was originally from St. Anne's island in Guadeloupe in the French West Indies, and his mother was from Saint-Domingue (Haiti). They immigrated to the United States as refugees in 1793 during the early years of the Haitian Revolution. His brothers Elwer W. and Patrick H. Reason became leaders in New York's African American community in the middle and late 19th Century. Their older sister Policarpe died in 1818 at the age of four.

The Reason family lived in what was known as the Five Points Section of downtown Manhattan, and Charles and his brothers Patrick and Elwer attended the African Free School No. 2, which at the time was located at 135 Mulberry St., also in downtown Manhattan. This was at a time when it was commonplace by the use of both de-Facto and de-Jure discrimination by State and local governments to refuse to provide public education for African American children. To fill this vacuum, the established churches and private citizens were in the forefront in the struggle to provide the facilities and personnel necessary for the education that was being denied black children. This refusal to provide public education was not peculiar to New York. In Boston during this same period, when the State of Massachusetts also refused to provide public education for African American children, Prince Hall opened a school to provide education for them in his home. Some other graduates of the African Free School No. 2: were: James McCune Smith (the first African American University trained medical doctor), George Downing (prominent Abolitions and member of the Underground Railroad), Alexander Crummell (the first African American to graduate from Oxford University in England), Henry Highland Garnet (Runaway slave who became a prominent teacher, minister and abolitionist), and John Peterson the first African American to become a Principal of a Public School in New York State).

The first African Free School was established by The New York Manumission Society, an organization composed of members of Trinity Episcopal Church in downtown Manhattan. By 1832 there were Six (6) African Free Schools operating in what at the time was the City of New York (Manhattan). Each of those schools were sponsored by the various religious denominations in the City. African Free School No. 2 was sponsored by the St. Phillips Episcopal Church (Manhattan). In addition to these schools there were other schools that were sponsored by churches in the African American community, among these was the Zion Church (today, Mother Zion, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Church)1 and Cornerstone Church in Brooklyn.

In 1843 he applied to the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church in New York, to study for the priesthood. Although his application to the Seminary was sponsored by the congregation of St. Phillips Church, it was rejected by Bishop Benjamin T. Onderdonk, the Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of New York at the time because of racism, 1, Because of his disappointment by the rejection of his application, and the obvious racism involved, he resigned from the Episcopal Church. To complete his education he subsequently enrolled at McGrawville College, a Baptist institution in Cortland, New York, majoring in education with the intent on pursuing a career in teaching. A child prodigy in mathematics, in 1832, at the age of fourteen, he became an instructor at African Free School No. 2, his alma mater. While teaching there, he used a part of his \$25 a year, salary for a tutor to increase his knowledge in those subjects he felt he needed assistance in.

Upon graduating from McGrawville College, he returned to African Free School No. 2 as a teacher, and ultimately headed the boy's department at the school (Dean of Boys).

He strongly believed that education was the best means for the advancement of African Americans, and he advocated the establishment of a Black industrial college, which he felt would prepare free Blacks, who were shut out of the skilled trades, to become productive members of the community, which in his opinion would prevent them from having to accept the lowest forms of employment that was available at the time. 1 But, unlike Booker T. Washington, he also saw the importance of both industrial and classical education. He also created a teachers' training college for them in New York's African American community. In 1847 Reason and Charles B. Ray, a brother of Dr. Peter Ray, a Past Grand Master (1868) of the United Grand Lodge (MWPH,GL-NY), founded the Society for the Promotion of Education among Colored Children. Black children, although at this time their education was financed by the City, the schools they attended were still segregated, and it was an organization authorized by the New York State Legislature to supervise the Black schools in New York City.

In 1849 when hired by New York Central College in Cortland, New York. as a professor of Greek, Latin, and French, and as an adjunct professor of mathematics, he became the first African American to hold a professorship at a predominantly white American college.

In 1852 he left the New York Central College and became the principal of the Institute for Colored Youth in Philadelphia (today Cheyney State University). While there he expanded the enrollment from six students in 1852 to 118 students in 1855, he also improved the School's library, and made the school a forum for distinguished visiting speakers.

In 1853 due to public and political pressure the African Free Schools in the City of New York were taken over by the New York City Board of Education. In 1855 he returned to New York City permanently to begin thirtyseven continuous years as a teacher and administrator (Principal) in the New York City Public School System. When he resigned in 1892, he was at the time the longest tenured person in the New York City School System. One of the high points of his career as an educator in New York City, was in leading the fight in 1873 to end racial segregation in the city's public schools.

Reason was an Abolitionist and he was committed to the antislavery cause. He worked continuously for the improvement of civil rights among African Americans. In 1837 he, Henry Highland Garnet, and George Downing started a petition, attempting to gain voting rights for African American men.¹ At the time the laws of the State of New York required all African American men to own \$250 (roughly \$6,180 today) in property before they could vote. He was also secretary of the 1840 New York State Convention for African American Suffrage. He founded and was executive secretary of the New York Association for the Political Elevation and Improvement of the People of Color, which won the right of a jury trial for fugitive Blacks (Runaway slaves) in the state.

In 1841 he lobbied successfully for the abolition of the Sojourner law, which permitted Slave owners to briefly bring their slaves into the State. He was a regular lecturer for the Fugitive Aid Society. He was also an active reporter on education to the Black National Convention Movement of the 1850s, serving as the secretary of its convention in Rochester, New York in July of 1853. He spoke out against the American Colonization Society (back to African movement) and Henry Highland Garnet's African Civilization Society. In 1849 he, along with J. W. C. Pennington and Frederick Douglass, sponsored a mass demonstration against the programs of the American Colonization Society at Shiloh Presbyterian Church in New York City. At the meeting, Reason quoted a former American Colonization Society agent in Africa, who claimed that the president and secretary of the society's colony of Liberia had business dealings with European slave traders on the African coast.

During the Civil War, Reason served on New York City's Citizen's Civil Rights Committee, which lobbied the New York State Legislature for expanded Civil Rights for African Americans. After the war, he became the Vice President of the New York State Labor Union. At a union meeting in 1870, he delivered a paper in which he gave statistical proof that education helped New York City Blacks gain prosperity.

He was also a prolific writer. He wrote political journalism as well as poetry. His most noted poems are "Freedom" "The Spirit Voice" and "Silent Thoughts."

Reason was married and widowed three times and had no children, his third wife was Clorice Esteve (Duplessis) Reason¹, a daughter of Finelon Duplessis, at the time, the Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Orient of Haiti1

Fraternally, Reason was what we today would call a Prince Hall Mason. Like his brother Patrick, he was a member of Boyer Lodge No. 1, 1, 1 of the United Grand Lodge of New York (now the MWPH,GL-N.Y.). But, unlike his brother who was a Past Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of New York (now the MWPH,GL-N.Y.), and who was also a charter member and Past Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the United States (the only Scottish Rite organization established in New York), and a Grand Master of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, Charles Reason was not very active in either of these fraternal organizations..

Later in his life he suffered two strokes one in 1885 and another in 1890. The effects of the strokes left him physically incapacitated. On August 16, 1893, three years after his last stroke, he passed away at the age of 75. He is buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, N.Y.

¹ Wall, William, "The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. Reality of the Black Church", Pg. 85

¹ Peterson, Carla, "Black Gotham, A Family History of African Americans in Nineteenth Century, New York City Pg. 168

¹ Peterson, Carla, "Black Gotham, A Family History of African Americans in Nineteenth Century, New York City, Pg.112

¹ Peterson, Carla, "Black Gotham, A Family History of African Americans in Nineteenth Century, New York City, Pg. 346

¹ Peterson, Carla, "Black Gotham, A Family History of African Americans in Nineteenth Century, New York City, Pg. 230

¹ Peterson, Carla, "Black Gotham, A Family History of African Americans in Nineteenth Century, New York City, Pg. 122

¹ Peterson, Carla, "Black Gotham, A Family History of African Americans in Nineteenth Century, New York City, Pg. 289

¹ Peterson, Carla, "Black Gotham, A Family History of African Americans in Nineteenth Century, New York City", Pg. 170

¹ New York Age, newspaper, August 15, 193

¹ Wilder, Craig Steven, "In the Company of Black Men," Pg. 74

¹ Peterson, Carla, "Black Gotham, A Family History of African Americans in Nineteenth Century, New York City". Pg. 133

TESTIMONIAL LUNCHEON MOST WORSHIPFUL WALTER C. KING, JR.



58TH GRAND MASTER The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge State of New York

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2019

TESTIMONIAL LUNCHEON









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Past Master Larry Scott-Blackmon Joppa Lodge # 55



New York Association of Parliamentarians A STATE ASSOCIATION OF

Mational association of Parliamentarians ®

I am pleased to share that I have been elected as the new President of the New York State Association of Parliamentarians for 2019-2021.

Congratulations to all of our newly elected officers and special well wishes to our outgoing team and immediate past president, the Honorable Bee S Tee. I am Honored to assume this role.

ABOUT NYAP

The object of NYAP is to promote the study of parliamentary procedure and the educational programs of NAP. Our goal is to encourage the understanding and use of the Rules of Order to enable groups of all types and sizes to meet effectively, making decisions in a fair and consistent process that makes good use of everyone's time.





Larry Scott Blackmon

My father and I was honored and recognized by the entire Georgia State Legislature. Thanks to the Governor, Georgia State Senate and Legislature for honoring Mr. Blackmon for his contributions to the city of Atlanta and the state of Georgia.



In addition to being honored in the Georgia State Senate, I am pleased to share that my father was honored as an "Outstanding Citizen" by Georgia's Secretary of State. (L to R) Georgia State Senator Lester Jackson (representing Savannah), yours truly, LB and Georgia Secretary of State, the Hon. Brad Raffensperger.





New York City Health & Hospitals launches Meatless Mondays



NYC Health & Hospitals says its patients will now see a greener menu, especially on Mondays. Chef Charlie Smith is in charge of preparing an entirely meatless meal on Mondays for all 11 hospitals. He says there are meatless options for breakfast, lunch and dinner, but the patient can also choose a meat option if they want one. Hospital officials say they will offer meat to patients who ask for a meat entrée, so they are not forcing it on anybody. Meatless Monday will include choices like black bean soup, spaghetti, fruit, vegetables, garden burgers, hummus and three-bean chili. Health officials say a plant-based diet can benefit those with Type 2 diabetes, inflammation and autoimmune disease, as well as helping with cancer prevention.

NYC Health & Hospitals says that as time goes on, Meatless Mondays may grow to every day of the week. In response to the new dietary pledge, Borough President Eric Adams said in a statement in part, "NYC Health & Hospitals, the largest municipal hospital and health care system in the country, is leading the charge to create a healthier and more sustainable future by adopting Meatless Monday."



At Meatless Monday launch event are: Bruce Mendes, Patient Services Manager, NYC Health + Hospitals/Coney Island; William A. Brown, CEO of NYC Health + Hospitals/Coney Island; Mitchell Katz, MD, President and CEO, NYC Health + Hospitals; Maritza Owens, CEO, Harvest Home Farmer's Market; Brooklyn Borough President, Eric L. Adams; Whitney Ahneman, Clinical Nutrition Manager NYC Health + Hospitals/Coney Island; Charles Smith, General Manager, Cook Chill Plant, NYC Health + Hospitals/Coney Island.

Led by the hospital system's food and nutrition department, the Meatless Monday program features a chef's choice of meatless entrées for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Promoted with the slogan "Power Up with Plants," the menus offer tasty options such as black bean soup, spaghetti and garden bolognese sauce, three bean chili, vegan beefless strips, garden burger, rice and beans, cream of potato soup, assorted fruits and hummus.

Additionally, in-house dietitians offer nutrition education and counseling to help patients transition to a healthy lifestyle that includes a whole-foods, plant-based diet to improve and even reverse chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, obesity, high cholesterol and high blood pressure, hospital officials said. NYC Health + Hospital's new commitment builds on its Plant-Based Lifestyle Medicine pilot program that launched at Bellevue Hospital in 2018.

"We want to empower our patients to live their healthiest lives by introducing them to healthier foods that they may choose once they're discharged," said Mitchell Katz, MD, president and CEO of NYC Health + Hospitals. "The Meatless Mondays initiative is consistent with this mission and fits with our new Plant-Based Lifestyle Medicine Program at NYC Health + Hospitals Bellevue, developed to provide intensive support for outpatients who wish to adopt healthy lifestyle changes."

And NYC Health + Hospital's plant-powered vision doesn't end here: Next, the hospital system plans to enhance its vegan and vegetarian menus to offer additional healthy food options for patients throughout the week, officials announced.



Dr. Mitchell Katz and Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams taste the Spaghetti with Garden Bolognese Sauce, one of the new Meatless Monday options.



R. W. SANDINO SANCHEZ ADELPHIC UNION # 14



AMBASSADOR OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Sandino Sanchez



At 50 years of age, Sandino Sanchez is the younger of two siblings, a proud husband and father of 4 lovely children. Mr. Sanchez has spent his life creating opportunities for youth through youth development and employment. Mr. Sanchez has a long history of defending and helping those that can't help themselves and supporting community-based organizations (CBO) meet their goals. Throughout his professional career, Mr. Sanchez has helped hundreds of organizations and has touched and/or transformed the lives of over 20,000 people. This summer alone his employment program served almost 3,000 teens and 10 of them were the children of parents that attended his programs early in his career.





R. . . W. . . Gary Davis (55)

District Deputy Grand Master

On behalf of M. W. Walter C. King Jr., the 58th. Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Mason of the State of New York, I humbly want to thank all the brothers for coming out and contributing to a successful 2019 Welcome BACK-TO-SCHOOL initiative.

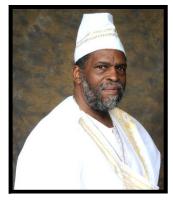
We had the Prince Hall Freemasons, Harlem Alphas, The Feathermen and Medina Temple No. 19 A.E.A.O.N.M.S.,Inc.,PHA in attendance. All upright and proud Men of Color!





THE AFRICAN IN IT

PM James M. Dickerson, MSW, MPS Bethel Lodge #47 of the MWPHGL of Pennsylvania



When I was first brought to Masonic light in 1991, my expectation was that there would be African implements adorning the Lodge meeting room - that there would be the spear and shield; the drum and shekere; the red, black and green flag. Yet, there were no African implements, and neither was there any evidence of an African influence, other than the lingering notion that ancient Kmt we know as Egypt had something to do with it.

Upon reading the teachings of Dr. Chancellor J. Williams in his seminal work, THE DESTRUCTION OF BLACK CIVILIZATION (1971), I was reminded of a fallacy in our ritual text, and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge soon acknowledged that the Africans taught the Greeks and the Romans the science of architecture and the other sciences that were needed to develop an advanced civilization. To further cement this idea into our consciousness, Dr. Jacob H. Carruthers teaches in his important to me, MDR NTR (1995), the essential truth that the mathematics and sciences are divine speech (of God) that helps us to understand and define the mystery of Creation. The term Mdr Ntr represents African deep thought and is taken from the language spoken in ancient Kmt.

The simple idea that the mathematics and sciences are intended to explain the mysteries of Creation is quite settling and could be helpful in opening the door to understanding for many African children in our public schools, today. Moreover, that God explains His or Her Creation in simple terms of arithmetic, geometry, algebra and the higher mathematics, and in terms of chemistry, physics, biology and other physical sciences is no longer fearful and threatening. Our Grand Architect has given us a language through which we communicate our understanding of life, space and time in a manner that transcends opinion and prejudice. This is the African in it.

Deep thought is essential. Consider the point within a circle. This ancient symbol means head and infers intelligence, understanding, comprehension and competence in the language syllabary of the Vai people of Liberia, West Africa. In the Vai language the symbol is called kun. This is the African in it.

In closing, let me say that the main lesson I learned during my study of the first 3 degrees in Masonry is that I must embrace change. African deep thought requires flexibility, strength and change in recognition that we are engaged in intellectual warfare.

The fundamentalist Christian must concur, in a sense, that Mr. Devil is constantly challenging our morality and intellect, which becomes clear to us when we witness what is happening in our environment and society today.

The Akan people of Ghana, West Africa long ago invented a system of funerary symbols that were intended to express the character and interests of the deceased family or tribal member. Those symbols are called Adinkra symbols and have emerged into popular worldwide usage. The symbol I want to share with you is called Nkyinkyin and is thus described:



Pronounced, n-chin-chin, this symbol literally means, twistings and refers to a person's ability to adapt and change, according to W. Bruce Willis in his book, THE ADINKRA DICTIONARY (1998). Willis informs us that change is central to our ability to succeed. More simply put, Willis reminds us that changing our attitudes, habits and behaviors may lead us to desired outcomes, where a failure to change only maintains the status quo. This is the African in it.

The exploration of African languages and writing syllabaries tends to brighten and adorn our minds. Befitting the lessons that are introduced during the Chamber Work of the 2nd degree, where the liberal arts and sciences are subtly recommended to our consideration, I recommend language arts and linguistics as a further means to engage in African deep thought. Dr. Mulana Karenga teaches us that Kawaida philosophy insists that the African engage in constant dialogue with himself and each other as a means to assure Unity – to which I add good health and prosperity. This is the African in it.

P.M. James M. Dickerson

Brief Biographical Statement

James M. Dickerson is a Master of Clinical Social Work, formerly licensed in the State of Pennsylvania, and former member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers. Over the course of his professional career he worked in line-staff and supervisory positions in multiple venues, including prisons, public schools, child welfare, youth development and parent education. In terms of continuing education, he has conducted professional development workshops at local and national conferences, as well as a history of teaching in college classrooms.

Dickerson has been married for nearly 52 years and is the father of 5 adult children and 8 grandchildren. He is a PM of Bethel Lodge #47 of the MWPHGL of Pennsylvania, PHP of King Hiram Chapter #2 HRAM, PTIM of Eureka Council #7 RSM, and member of St. George Commandery #2 KT. He is the co-founder and president of the Fatherhood Institute (1994), where he is also Chief Instructor in the Black Male Leadership Initiative Rites of Passage Program for boys between ages 8 – 18 and males of all ages.



Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge State of New York

Office of the Grand Lecturer

R. . W. . Thomas Booker (1)





GOLDEN GAVEL COMPETITION WINNERS

Based on the scoring of the judges:

BOYER LODGE #1

(with a total score of 1,036 points) is the winner of the competition.

The GGC was conducted with the goals of accentuating the ritualistic proficiency of the craft, identifying excellent work within each of the Districts and encouraging teamwork within the Lodges. In this respect, all of the competing Lodges were winners.

The judges at each performance were three (3) DDGLs, each from a different District.

Each lodge started the statewide competition with 1,000 points and incurred point deductions for infractions or omissions during their performance. The lodge could also earn (75) bonus points through the work of their principle officers during the Masonic Funeral.

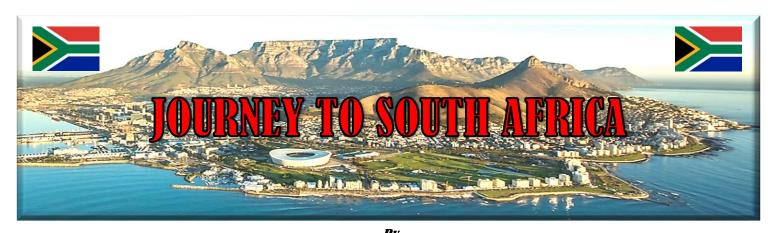
A perfect score in the competition is 1,075 points.

The statewide GGC award will be presented to Boyer Lodge #1 at their stated Communication on Monday, December 2, 2019.

Listed below are the scores for each District Winner:

LODGE	District	Points
1. BOYER LODGE #1	First District	1,036
2. BRIGHT HOPE LODGE #62	Third District	1,001
3. SONS OF KINGS LODGE #123	Second District	940
4. HOLLYWOOD LODGE #92	Fourth District	852
5. PARAMOUNT LODGE #73	Seventh District	687
6. CAPITAL CITY LODGE #78	Fifth District	DNC

CONGRATULATIONS to BOYER LODGE #1, to the DISTRICT WINNERS, and to ALL THE LODGES that entered the 2019 GOLDEN GAVEL COMPETITION!



R. . W. . Dr. Darren M. Morton

Grand Senior Warden, MWPHGL of New York



We spent the day in Soweto! Started off at W.W. Brown Mission, where the National Baptist Child Center is located. You will see the marvelous work being done with the children. The playground donated by United Missionary Baptist Association (UMBA) in New York provides great play for the children. We then toured the neighborhood followed by a visit to Nelson Mandela's home. Great and emotional day! All before evening service and preaching. On Wednesday I attended the Baptism of several souls at an African United Baptist Church!, in South Africa. To God be the Glory...saving souls!









AFRICAN UNITED BABTIST
CHURCH
Stone erected by:
Rev. E.N. Tsembese (Moderator)
Rev. S.S. Hlengwa (Supp. of Mission)
Rev. L.A. Mokgadi (Founder)
In Memory of the Cate
Rev. L.L. Tshata
St. Lazarus Babtist Church
Build: October 1999
Opening: 1 July 2001

IN THE GLORY OF GOD





South Africa Experience- Day 4: we returned to the National Baptist Child Centre at W. W. Brown Mission. Today, Nephew <u>Ian Mann</u> lead a music session with the children. They are awesome young people and appreciative of the love and attention. See the vibrancy of these children and love for music.











South Africa Experience- Day 5: We traveled from Johannesburg to Malawi by plane and then a 6 hours bus ride. Officially the Republic of Malawi, is a landlocked country in southeast Africa that was formerly known as Nyasaland. It is bordered by Zambia to the northwest, Tanzania to the northeast, and Mozambique on the east, south and west. Malawi spans over 118,484 km2 (45,747 sq. mi) and has an estimated population of 18,091,575 (as of July 2016). Lake Malawi takes up about a third of Malawi's area. Its capital is Lilongwe, which is also Malawi's largest city; the second largest is Blantyre, the third largest is Mzuzu and the fourth largest is its old capital Zomba. The name Malawi comes from the Maravi, an old name of the Nyanja people that inhabit the area. The country is also nicknamed "The Warm Heart of Africa" because of the friendliness of the people. No matter where we go there is always KFC.







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South Africa Experience - Day 6:

Today was an outstanding worship experience with the people of Malawi. We boarded the bus and travel to a village where we participated in the dedication to the church. The old edifice existed for over 30 years without a roof and the new edifice was sponsored by St. John's Baptist Church in Columbia, SC. After the dedication and church service, 28 people were Baptized in the river. The families, especially children are in great need here. This location a ripe for missionary work and Christian Education. We spent the today interacting with our brothers and sisters from Malawi



South Africa Experience -Day 10:

Today is our final full day in Cape Town. During this journey from a Johannesburg & Soweto to South Africa to Lilongwe & Nyasaland, Malawi to Cape Town, South Africa, we have experienced the spectrum of social class, from the extreme poor to very wealthy. During this journey we have learned from and empathized with our brothers & sisters who are living in deplorable conditions. They lack proper resources for shelter, food, health and education.

Cape Town, South Africa view from Table Mountain



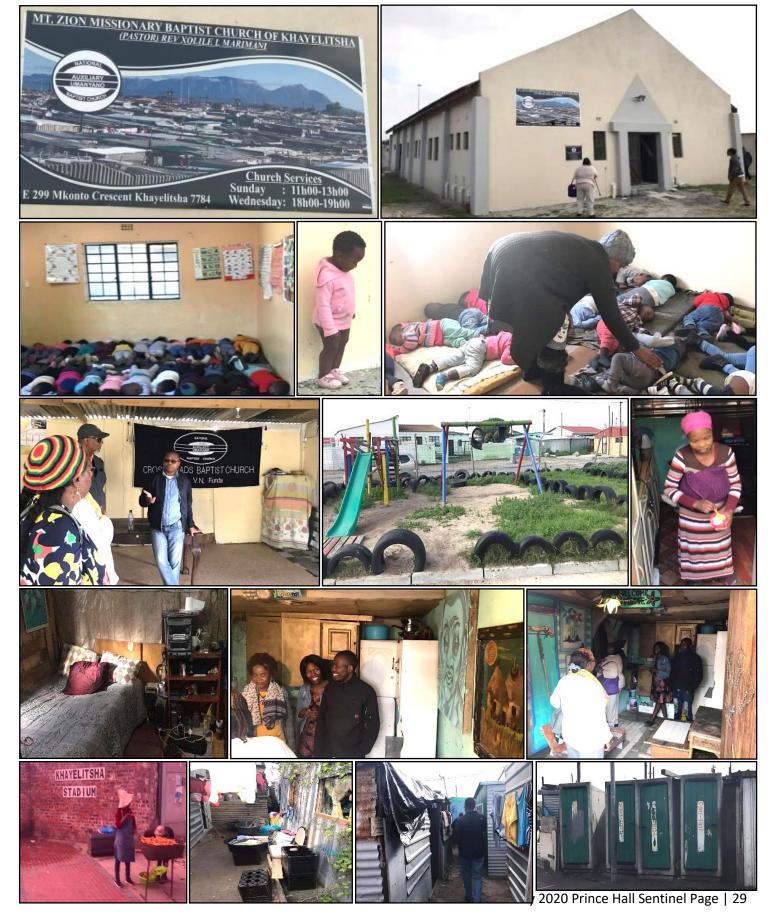






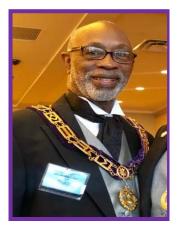
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Yesterday we saw the beauty of center-City Cape Town Today we experienced extremely poverty and inhumane living condition, of the very same worker who served us at the center-City hotel. Young man, graduates of HS, do not have opportunity for college or a career, so they are on the street corners all day, drink alcohol and finding trouble. Families live in tin shacks with shared portable toilets and children have subpar childcare centers. We must do better in our mission work!





My Prostate Cancer Story: PGM Calvin Martin



Throughout my 20s, 30s, and 40s, I was a healthy young man who did not feel the need to go for annual medical checkups. In fact, I thought it was a waste of my time. I listened to many stories told by my family and work colleagues about a medical diagnosis they had been given that had surprised them. Their stories gave me reasons to pause, but they did not energize me enough to go to the doctor. However, God stepped in; two organizations that I am a member of incorporated prostate cancer screening into their programs. Prince Hall Masons of the State of New York provided an annual prostate cancer screening in January, and Convent Avenue Baptist Church in Harlem, New York provided a screening in October. I went from someone who had never been screened to someone who was screened twice a year.

During one of those screenings, I was diagnosed as having prostate cancer. I was very fortunate to have been diagnosed at an early stage; I had plenty of time to do research relative to the type of treatment I preferred. Additionally, because I was otherwise healthy, all treatment options were available to me. I opted for a nervesparing radical prostatectomy. I was diagnosed and treated in 1995 at the age of 55; I was devastated, shocked and surprised.

From the time I was diagnosed through my treatment and recovery, only my wife and mother knew that I had prostate cancer. I felt that there was a stigma attached to having prostate cancer. No one knew why I had taken off from work, why I was not attending church, or why there were meetings that I did not attend. I basically faced the ordeal alone.

But my silence didn't last. Knowing that I played an active leadership role in the Convent Avenue Baptist Church's Men's Ministry and Prince Hall Masons, my urologist, Dr. Brian Stone, encouraged me to share my story and help motivate other men to get screened for prostate cancer. I was further encouraged by an article in Ebony featuring prominent black men who had the disease. If they could tell their story, so could I. Eventually, I went on a radio show to talk about my journey. People listened and reached out to me in the days, weeks, and months that followed, and I was shocked by the number of my friends and acquaintances who were suffering in silence. Their prostate cancer stories and encouragement from my urologist led me to organize Brother-to-Brother, a predominately African American prostate cancer support group in Harlem.

Here are some key lessons learned from my prostate cancer experience that I've shared in Brother-to-Brother meetings and now share with you:

- 1. Submit to an annual medical checkup;
- 2. African American men are at higher risk of developing prostate cancer and, beginning at age 45, should talk to their primary care doctor about getting screened for the disease with a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test, which is a simple blood test;
- 3. If you get an abnormal PSA result, do the necessary follow up; and
- 4. Don't be afraid to talk about your prostate cancer diagnosis.



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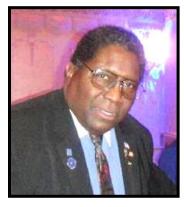
PRINCE HALL LODGE # 38 FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK **WARRANTED: JUNE 1, 1881**

At Prince Hall Lodge No. 38 fellowship night, I had the honor and pleasure of presenting Mrs. Edna Holley with a Widow's Certificate and Pin, we also unveiled the framed Apron and Jewel of MW Bernard L. Holley that was commissioned by Grand Lodge. I am grateful to Grand Secretary for allowing me to pick up the work so that Mrs. Holley could be the first to see it, her husband was one of my mentors, so this memory will be cherished. -WM Nigel J. Cudjoe @ Most Worshipful Prince Hall GL New York





W.B. Guillermo "Bill" J. M. Thorne, Sr., 33° Tappan Zee Lodge No. 79, F. & A. M. (PH)



Why Take the Road to the East? The Road to the East requires Masonic Education. When we joined this Craft, we were all introduced to the 24 Inch Gauge; it's meaning to us as Free and Accepted Masons and its usage.

Recently, I have observed, like others, Masons, we have become concerned about the lack of knowledge the new crop of Freemasons has shown and that many of our brethren are not practicing the principles inculcated on initiation. However, there is a unique expression of a desire to move to the East. How is that possible, when the very tenets and basic understanding is not observed and practiced by those individuals to a skillful level?

A further observation is that Newly Raised Brothers do not understand the true meaning of the lessons taught and therefore cannot practice the real intent of this Masonic Instrument. Yet, these very Brothers aspire to become Master of their lodges, but with the absence of the basic Masonic knowledge required for the job. Having developed a rote knowledge of the Ritual in and of itself is not enough to qualify a Brother to become Master of his Lodge.

The Master's position in the Lodge has four major requirements, for which he must be able to govern the Lodge. These areas are – Ritualistic Work, Leadership of the Lodge, Management of the business of the Lodge, and being the "face of the Lodge" – it's representative. Finally, the Burial of a Brother whose working tools are silence and his ability to pick them up and use them has been lost forever. Other areas of involvement may be presented, and the knowledge needed cannot be acquired through "On the Job Training – OJT." A Brother to be successful as Master of his Lodge, from the moment he is "Duly Elected and Installed," must be ready to work.

We have all taken three (03) separate steps to become a Master Mason, and we were all presented with instructions before achieving this goal. Then ask yourself the following – How much of what you were told in the three Degrees do I understand and can honestly explain and put into practice without hesitation? Have I followed the instructions given in the Second Degree? Am I truly qualified? Your answer to each must be an unequivocal and resounding Yes! If not, you are not even in the "Ballpark."

We as Masons are not supposed to recruit new members; we are not supposed to engage in the practice known as "Electioneering," making promises to prospective voters to get elected and the Creation of clicks in the Lodge among Brothers who agree to vote exclusively for you. Your demonstrated knowledge of the work and leadership abilities should speak volumes about you, allowing those brethren of your Lodge to nominate, and vote to elect you to lead and represent them for at least one year. Cronyisms destroys the harmony and good order of the Lodge. When a few clicks form, they tend to create divisions within the Lodge, a pattern that often results in destruction. The best-qualified Brother is not likely to be selected as the Lodge's leader, and many Brothers will stop attending meetings and support the efforts to do good works in the Lodge and the community.

If it is your desire and aspiration to be the Master of your Lodge, then in order to achieve the support of the few brethren that will allow you to ascend to the pinnacle of Lodge leadership. You should start by understanding and using the 24-Inch Gauge.

The Gauge is emblematic of the 24 hours of the day. We have learned that the Gauge is divided into three essential parts. 8 hours for one's vocation and means of providing for yourself and your family. 8 hours is for the care of your family and the development of children; should you be blessed with having them. And the remaining 8 hours is for the purpose and consideration of your care and worship of your Deity. Within each division, there is an opportunity to deal with many things:

The study and acquisition of excellent Masonic knowledge, the Ritual, and our universe. Keep in mind; Freemasonry teaches us through the use of allegories and symbols; therefore it is your responsibility to know the allegories and to recognize its symbols when in use.

Do you recall being told that every human has a claim on you? This allegorical statement does not mean that you are owned by someone. But you should be kind to others and, when possible, meet their needs in as much as you can – remember the widow and the orphan always. This teaching is not that far from what you may have heard in your community – church, synagogue, or temple – the widow and the orphan does not have to be related to a Brother of your Lodge.

The tenets of the Craft have provided to each of us is designed to serve as a guide if only we would follow it. Have you subdued your passion?

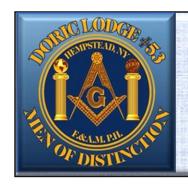
The Master of the Lodge is not responsible for teaching you once you have become a Master Mason, the initiative falls to you, and of course, if you need help, the Master may be able to assist you, or assign someone to assist you.

Should it be your desire and pure aspiration to become Master of your Lodge? You should lay out a plan of study by the 24-Inch Gauge and follow it to its conclusion. I encourage you to seek out knowledgeable Brothers, with whom you may have a working relationship and ask them to help you in achieving your goal of preparation.

Please examine the opening and closing Charges you hear recited at each meeting you attend. There are clear instructions given by the Master in each of them, but brethren often take it for granted because they hear them so often. You must genuinely listen to those words and determine their true meanings if you seek this position; you must know why those Charges are ascribed, in a particular manner, and specific times.

The road to the East is paved with knowledge, not gold.





DORIC LODGE # 53

Free & Accepted Masons, P.H.A. Hempstead, New York

On Thursday October 10, 2019, the "Men of Distinction" of Doric Lodge 53 F. & A.M. PH gathered for our 2nd annual "Pink Tie Night" in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Proceeds from the evening will be donated to a breast cancer foundation and directly to persons currently fighting the battle!

Team Doric 53 turned out in great numbers along with our brothers from the 4th Masonic District and we were pleased to also be joined by brothers from the 1st and 2nd Masonic Districts.

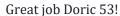




The "Men of Distinction" of Doric Lodge 53 F&AM PHA, participated in the Village Hempstead's National Night Out

We were a shining example of leadership to the Hempstead community as we stood together in our blazing "Stop Gun Violence" shirts while providing 10 brand new bikes and a scooter to young people from the community. One of the organizers publicly acknowledged us for being men who are leaders in the Hempstead community. The Bible says:

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."







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Dorian R. Glover Esq.

Past Grand Master Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge State of New York



Past Grand Master Dorian R. Glover, Esq. of Doric Lodge # 53 representing the Nassau County Bar Association at Touro Law Center's **37th Annual Bainbridge Moot Court Competition!**





PRESENTS THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL

JOHN S. BAINBRIDGE MOOT COURT COMPETITION

FINAL ROUND





PGM Dorian R. Glover #53, President & PGM Philip David DC, Vice President of the Conference of Grand Masters 2019 Session in the Jurisdictions of Bahamas.

















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THE NECESSITY TO HAVE AND MAINTAIN GOOD ORDER IN THE CRAFT



© Brother Guillermo "Bill" J. M. Thorne, Sr., 33° Tappan Zee Lodge No. 79, F. & A. M. (PH)



The principles of our Most Ancient and Noble Fraternal Order requires its members to be upright and upstanding in all their doings. However, on occasion, we find that members, for whatever reasons do things that bring embarrassment to themselves, or to the Fraternity. Whenever we have these occurrences, we are driven to bring those individuals to account for their actions. This will often, result in Charges being brought against the offenders. The trial of a Brother in a Masonic Lodge is often a troublesome situation; the Brother who has committed a minor or major offense against the interest of the Lodge and its Brethren, and in particular his accuser.

There is always an emotional consequence to engaging in a trial because some Brothers will be equally offended, as well as those who will feel betrayed.

It is, therefore, the responsibility of the Worshipful Master to ensure that he maintain calmness, fairness, and order over this procedure; the Secretary's Minutes must be complete, clear, and accurate in its representations of the facts of the proceedings, beginning to end.

Grand Lodge's Constitutions generally contain a section on "Masonic Trials"; and it is clearly understood that Subordinate Lodges have a right to bring Charges against any of its members for major or even minor infractions (A practice instituted in the early Seventeenth Century; prior to this period Grand Lodges held and maintained jurisdiction over this and all aspects of governance). The exemption to this rule is that no Subordinate Lodge may try its Worshipful Master (This is the reserved providence of the Grand Master). "The geographical jurisdiction of a Lodge is that penal jurisdiction which it exercises over the territory within which it is situated, and extends to all the Freemasons, affiliated and unaffiliated, who live within that territory."

In trying to understand why we would resolve to bringing a Brother up on Charges; I offer that in every aspect of our society there are CODES by which we all MUST operate, our Fraternity is no different; we have an established and clear hierarchy by which we operate. "The Masonic Landmarks help us preserve the legacy, the Code, and by-laws of the Lodge and Grand Lodge help preserve the Local [L]legacy and customs." "We cannot expect to be able to 'play the game' if we do not know the rules." "...these codes can inspire us quide us to new ideas and better programs." "They help us understand the pits to avoid and the dangers to be on the lookout for."

It is, therefore, the duty of each of us to read, all that is written on the subject of Masonic Protocol, our Grand Lodge's Constitution, Our Lodge's By-laws, and all other regulations and edicts pertaining to the subject of comportment. Simply violating the established Codes and then claiming ignorance is a violation in itself.

". . . life is indeed darkness save when there is urge, And all urge is blind save when there is knowledge. And all knowledge is vain save when there is work, And all work is empty save when there is love; And when you work with love you bind yourself to yourself, and to one another, and to God. ... Work is love made visible. And if you cannot work with love but only with distaste. it is better that you should leave your work and sit at the gate of the temple and take alms of those who work with joy."

~ Kahlil Gibran

The Masonic Code is clearly established during the administration of the Charge. The Charge is that portion of the Obligation in which the conduct of the initiate, as a member of the Fraternity, is assents to abide by; as every member before him have. It forms the basis for the future conduct of all the members of the Fraternity. As a personal matter, I can attest to the fact that this is a hard-wired fact in our Fraternity; regardless of language, country, socio-economic grouping, race or color, or religion. Regardless of where I travel, I am clear as to what is expected of me as a Mason and man. I know beyond a doubt what to expect from a fellow Mason as well. It is, therefore, a problem when you find a Brother who does not adhere to the Tenets of the Fraternity.

For those of us who have studied Organizational Management, Organizational Behavior, Administration, and any other Leadership Theory; we have all learned from five basic principles taught in all areas:

- 1. Be on time
- 2. Work hard
- 3. Be prepared
- 4. Know the goal
- 5. Love what you do

Through these principles, we are able to achieve all that we set out to do. As good men seeking to be made better; we must fully understand the Codes and be able to stick to them.

JURISPRUDENCE

"Jurisprudence - Masonically, the rules, and regulations that govern the Craft, and their [there] administration by duly constituted bodies."

One of the basic Tenets of Freemasonry is the seeking of truth.

When a Brother has committed an offense for which he is charged; a trial will result in an effort to determine the truth of the manner. It is said that "This is the great, the only object of a Masonic trial, and hence, in such a trial, no advantage is ever permitted to be taken of those legal and verbal technicalities, the use of which, in profane courts, so often enables the guilty to escape. . . The great principle of Masonic law must never be forgotten in the management of a trial."

Further, "Masonic trials are therefore to be conducted in the simplest and least technical method, that will preserve at once the rights of the Order and the accused, and which will enable the Lodge to obtain a thorough knowledge of all the facts in the case. . . The rules by which such trials are governed are few and easily understood."

With this in mind; then the following steps should be easy to follow:

- 1. **Accusation** The Charge: The Charge is made in writing, sign by the accuser(s) and delivered to the Lodge Secretary; who will read the Charge in "Open Lodge,"
- 2. The Secretary will ensure the accused receives a copy of the accusation (Charge) it should be accompanied by a Cover Letter, outlining the Charge, the Time and Place established for the Trail; the letter must be signed by the Master, Attested by the Secretary and the Lodge's Seal affixed. It is recommended that in mailing the documents, the use of the U. S. Postal Service's "Registered Mail Service" should be used to ensure verification of delivery.
- 3. The Actual trial MUST start at a Regularly Stated Communication; it may be continued at a subsequent
 - Stated or Special Communication. The Lodge MUST be open on the Third Degree of Masonry.
- 4. **NO VISITORS** should be permitted within the Lodge during the trial. The only exception is if testimony must be taken from a "profane" witness.
- 5. The decision on the Charge Verdict. The verdict must be rendered in the Lodge, open on the Third Degree. The Accused and the Accuser(s) along with Counsel shall leave the Lodge room during deliberations.

In Open Lodge, the Master will ascertain from the Lodge (the Brethren present): "Guilty or Not Guilty?"

The vote may be conducted by a show of hands or Ballot; a matter which should have been determined earlier; the Lodge having been polled, and the doors sealed, (Allowing none to enter or leave, during the proceedings). If found guilty; the Master MUST ask what punishment should be applied – Suspension (a specific period must be specified), Expulsion (a vote of 2/3 of the total number of Brethren present is required). Viva-Voce (Spoken-Word), Show of Hands, or Ballot.

It is important to understand that although a Brother may have committed a Faux pas, and he is Charged and punished, that doesn't mean that he is a bad person and should not be given a second chance. It is not necessary to negatively characterize him into eternity. As all of us grow, our psychological and emotional, as well as our social needs change. If each of us were to take inventory of who we are and where we are today, we would find the pivotal value of the Brothers we have met along the way; our family, friends, and professional colleagues, and the real and virtual acquaintances – New and Old. I would say, "Brotherly Love, Friendship, and Relief" has been a part of our development. Being given another chance can make a big difference.

I know, my present is miraculous as a result, and my unfolding future is being lived on a level not previously dreamed of. Therefore, I am evolving, and I believe others have the same capacity. The necessity to have and maintain good order is critical to our survival and does not occur in a vacuum.

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Constitution and By-Laws Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of South Carolina
Constitution and By-Laws Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of State of Washington
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30" Precinct Community Council

451 W 151st St, New York, NY 10031 212-690-8837 / 212-690-8826 30th.pcc2@gmail.com



Past Master Len McTier # 99 President

The 30th Precinct is primarily residential, containing a commercial area on Broadway and Amsterdam. The neighborhoods in the precinct are known as Hamilton Heights, Sugar Hill and West Harlem. The 30th PCC exists to connect community and police and work together to better the lives of West Harlem residents. We believe that community members are our partners and by strengthening the relations between community and police we will improve quality of life and reduce crime in our neighborhoods. We coordinate community events and conduct monthly meetings to give a voice to the community and give them a direct connection to the NYPD 30th Precinct.

Thank you for your continued support, we as a Phamily was there to support our very own. P.M. Len McTier President of the 30th Precinct Community Council. Great work from the Brothers of Masters Lodge No. 99 for their continued Community Service. We M.W. Walter C. King. Ir.. Grand Master. Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Of New York.



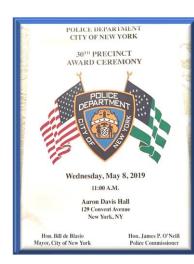


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The Brothers and Sisters of the Prince Hall Family supporting the 30th Precinct and community council president, P.M. Len McTier Masters # 99, at the 2019 National Night Out against crime. The 30th. Precinct Community Council was Presented a certificate of appreciation from NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer for all the work they did serving the community of West Harlem.



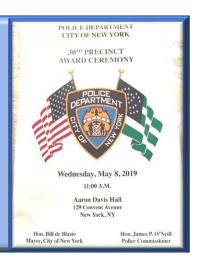


30th PCC Board

Len McTier, President Joyce Adewumi, Vice-President Carolyn Thompson, Secretary Signe Mortensen, Assistant Secretary Cora Gilmore- Treasurer **Rodney Chadwick- Sergeant at Arms**

30th Precinct contacts Capt. Lourdes Soto- C.O. of 30th Precinct

Officer Leomely Mendez- 30th Precinct Community Affairs Officer Jasmine Sosa- 30th Precinct Community Affairs



Congratulations P.M. Rodney Chadwick #99 for receiving citizen of the year award for 2019







Dear Brethren,

The Police Square Club of the City of New York is one of the oldest NYPD fraternal organizations. It was organized on March 15, 1920 and was incorporated by the State of New York, Office of the Secretary of State on November 20, 1923. The particular aims of the Square Club are to promote social camaraderie, strengthen friendship and further welfare among Master Masons who are or have been, employed by the New York City Police Department.

Members of the Club had established a Degree Team that traveled to different lodges to confer the Sublime Degree of Master Mason & perform the Hiramic drama in NYPD uniform. The Police Square Club is seeking members to rebuild our famous and legendary Police Square Club Degree Team. We look forward to continuing our masonic commitment to the glorious rituals of the craft.



The Police Square Club and The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge State of New York both share a common goal and interest: membership. We respectfully request all Lodges in the NYC area, to inform their current and newly Raised Brothers whom are uniformed or civilian, active or retired members of the New York City Police Department about the Police Square Club.

Membership is open to all active and retired uniformed or civilian members of the service who are Master Masons. We also have Associate membership for Brethren employed or retired from other Law enforcement agencies who reside within New York City.

We are also celebrating our 100th Year Anniversary Dinner Dance. Please Save the Date, Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 7pm. This event will be held at the Marina Del Rey located at 1 Marina Drive, Bronx, NY 10465. The Police Square Club, we would like to invite and welcome all brethren, friends and family to enjoy and be a part of masonic history. We look forward to seeing everyone join us in fellowship and help celebrate our centennial of masonic tradition.

The Police Square Club meets at 7p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month at Advance Masonic Temple; 21-14 30th Avenue, Long Island City, NY 11102. No meetings are held in July and August. For additional information please feel free to reach me at -347-512-7785 or mocasio13@aol.com or Brother Donald Stewart, President at 646-319-7384 or donalddjstew@aol.com.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Miguel Ocasio

Brother Miguel Ocasio 2nd Vice President

Officers and Executive Committee

President

Bro. Donald Stewart *Lieutenant.- Active*

1st Vice President

Bro. Michael Sikos Police Officer - Active



2nd Vice President

Bro. Miguel Ocasio *Police Officer - Active*

Secretary

R.W. Richard Providence Detective- Retired

Treasurer

W. Richard Araya
Sergeant - Active

Marshall

Bro. Arthur Hazel

Chaplain

W. Howard Haut

Executive Committee

R.W. Arthur Cheatham
W. Ronald Connolly
W. Howard Haut
W. Joshua Brotter
Bro. Arthur Hazel
Bro. William Fotey
Bro. Patrick O'Shea
Bro. Jean Joseph
Bro. Phillip Monck
Bro. Norman Adams

Surgeon

Bro. Dr. Douglas King

Welfare Committee

Bro. Michael Sikos

Children's Identification Program

Bro. Byran Pitts

Degree Team

TBD



MASTER LODGE # 99 F. & A. M.

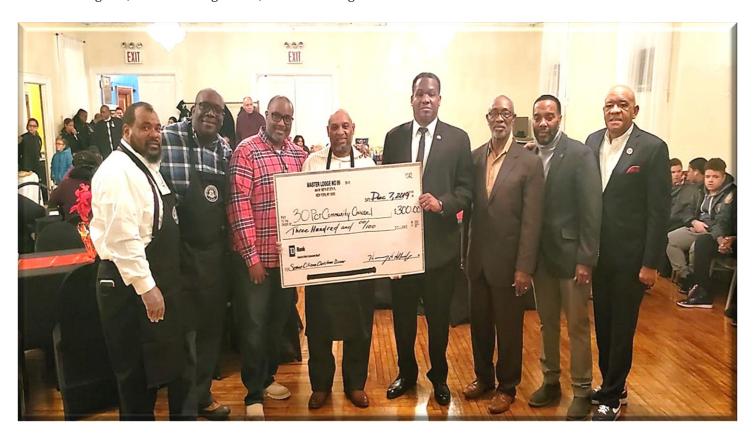
Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge State of New York

Contributed by R.W. Mitch Eleam # 99

My Lodge doing what we do. Not a mere photo op. We have supported the village of Harlem throughout the years. Not just with money and donations but with our time. We have coached in The Harlem PAL serving the 30th Precinct for over 20 years, we helped reestablish the NYPD Explorers program in the same Precinct 10 years ago and adopted them as an ongoing charity by donating funds every year for uniforms. We have volunteered at National Night Out Block parties for years.

Initially we would raffle off a bike or 2 to the community. The past 3 years we have donated 20+ bikes along with helmets. We partnered with the Precinct to register those bikes so they can be recovered in case of theft. We regularly feed over 700 people twice a month at City Harvest with the help of the MWPHGLOFNY who helps facilitate by allowing use of the Masonic temple on 155th and St. Nicholas Ave. We help feed the Seniors of the community during the holiday season by helping purchase and serving food at the Senior Holiday Dinner. We donate funds and volunteer our time at the annual children's Christmas party serving the immediate community that our Lodge resides in. We also donate time and or monies to the Bayside Raider football team and the MySon Basketball League both programs helping our youth in such a positive way.

Master Lodge 99, we are not big in size, but we are large in heart.

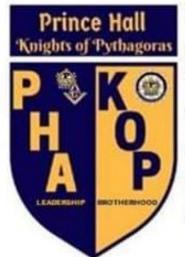




George Washington Carver Lodge #95 in the Wyandanch community for National Night Out, gave the kids backpacks and school supplies and feed everyone hamburgers and hot dogs!



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Prince Hall Knights of Pythagoras YTHAGOR

Prince Hall community-based mentoring program for youth.

Leadership & Community Service

The KOP has been a youth mentoring organization for Prince Hall Grand Lodges since 1951 (and earlier). Mentoring is a developmental strategy for a youth's unique journey into adulthood. High quality mentoring is significant in the positive development of a Youth Knight. Today the KOP has become more structured in its approach. Life skills such as leadership, communication, decision-making, community service, brotherhood, and others are valuable tools placed in his toolbox. The KOP program increases youth's self-confidence to help improve their attitudes about the future. We also provide employment skills for our young men so they can learn professionalism, problem-solving, and how to communicate effectively. As Prince Hall Masons we can no longer sit on the sidelines and wait for change to happen. It is our responsibility to create that change so we can build the next generation of leaders. We need good role models and mentors to continue to build up this powerful youth organization. JOIN THE KOP.....SUPPORT THE KOP.





KNIGHTS OF PYTHAGORAS YOUTH SESSION



Roscoe New York



On Friday Aug 9, 2019 Dep. Grand Master Gregory Robeson Smith Jr. of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of New York, represented our M.W. Grand Master Walter King Jr. at the Knights of Pythagoras weekend youth session held on our property in Roscoe New York. While Presence he Obligated himself to the Knights of Pythagoras Program & became a Sir knight of the Paul Robeson Venerable Grand Council of order knights of Pythagoras of New York





Special thanks to the board of directors of the Prince Hall Temple Associates Inc., for allowing us to use the property and facilities without cost. Thanks to everyone who supported and believed In the Knights of Pythagoras Vision of utilizing the former Camp Eureka in Roscoe New York for their Youth Session.

If we Check our ego's & images at the door, sooooo much can be Accomplished when we understand it's all about the youth.



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Saturday Morning Aug 10th Last Day K.O.P. Retreat, After Breakfast Prayer We Then Gathered At The Stream To Teach & Encourage Our Young People To Pay Homage To Our Ancestors, Those Who Shoulders We Stand On, Led By Pastor Omar Wilks

We Are Not Only About Fun and Games but We Remind Them How Important It Is Whatever the Faith of Their Acceptance Remain Humble and You Also Can Call Upon Our African Ancestors.

Afterward We Went Back To Having Fun With Visit From Lawrence Johnson Auld #14 & Ending With A Self Defense Class By Worshipful Master Isaiah McCoy Hiram Lodge #23 & Past Director Of Camp Eureka

Ending to awesome 2 days of camping out, thank you to grand master Walter king Jr. And the brothers of the MWPHGL of New York & the sisters of eureka grand chapter O.E.S., G.W.M Diane J. Smith & GWP Marvin Williams.



Thank you, Sister Valerie Ramsay for your Support, and bringing a Nurse to help in case of injuries. Brother Carlo Ramsay our session Chef, Bro. Omar Wilks Guest Speaker, Bro. Tracy L Williams Guest speaker, Bro Mujaheed Bey, Bro Mike Morris, Bro. Lawrence Johnson, Bro. Germaine Milligan, Bro. Isaiah McCoy, and Bro. George Pierce, Property Manager.

If any Brothers SERIOUSLY want help organize a Council in your Respective districts email us at KOPNYSPHA@GMAIL.COM & me at Jfhudsonkop@aol.com I will be glad help you get it started.



Prince Hall Masons mentoring the young men of the Knights of Pythagoras (KOP).

We had a superior day exposing these kings to Harlem's Schomburg Center, Langston Hughes home, and the Jazz Museum!





James H. Farrell Lodge # 34

Free & Accepted Masons, Prince Hall Affiliation Yonkers, New York

R.W. Gregory R. Smith, Jr. representing M.W. Walter C. King, Jr. attending the Luther V. Garrison Sr. Masonic Foundation, Inc (James@H. Farrell Lodge@#34) Scholarship Luncheon.

The foundation gave 15 \$1,000 Scholarships to 15 deserving students attending college in the fall of 2020.

Also congratulations to the Woman of the Year 2019 Rev, Author and Educator Margaret D. Fountain Coleman and the Man of the Year Entrepreneur and Political Activist PM Mark Hynes.

In attendance WM Laval Barrera and the Sisters of Terrace City Chapter #26 Congratulations to WM Wade Smith, Foundation President Ken Davis and Brothers of James H. Farrell Lodge #34





BLACK DEMOCRATS

OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY Integrity, Influence, Tradition

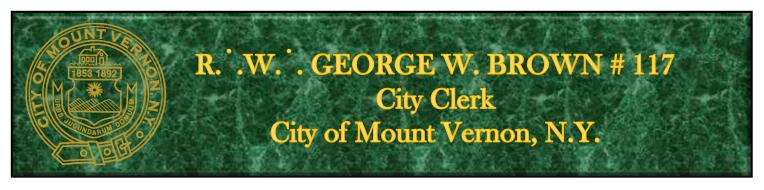
DAVID A. FORD AWARD

David A. Ford was one of the most influential Black Democrats in Westchester County, NY who has paved the way for other minorities in public service. When David A. Ford Sr. first moved to Mount Vernon from Manhattan it was a Republican bastion, but not for long. He quickly became a Mount Vernon Democratic Party leader. Under his leadership Democrats took over Mount Vernon City Hall, which was once dominated by Republicans. Ford was highly respected by all, since he was a man of principles, values and unmatched integrity. Ford ran the Water Department for many years and ran it like a drill instructor. Everything was always in order and complaints were rare. Ford was active in all aspects of community life in Mount Vernon all of his adult life. There are few aspects of life in Mount Vernon that he did not touch and make better.

While his life was community involvement, his passion was politics. From 1969 to 1996, he was Chairman of the Mount Vernon Democratic City Committee. He was also Chairman of the Black Democrats of Westchester County and a member of the Council of Black Elected Democrats of New York State. Furthermore, he also served as New York State Committeeperson for the 84th Assembly District. The Democratic Party blossomed under his leadership and eventually became the dominant party in Mount Vernon. In addition, he served as President of the Lions Club of Mount Vernon and President of the Mount Vernon YMCA. He was a Life Member of the 369 Veteran's Association, and a Life Member of the Mount Vernon NAACP. He was also a longtime Chairman of the Board of Mount Vernon Neighborhood Health Center and a member of the National Association of Health Care Providers. It is very important to note that Ford was a veteran of WWII.

Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Rev. Dr. Gregory R. Smith being honored by the Westchester County Black Democrats receiving the David A. Ford Award for his service.





Compiled by R. W. Robert B. Hansley #93

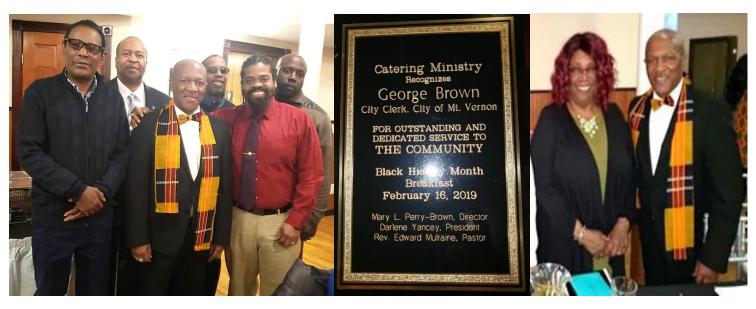


As the Office of Records Management, the City Clerk's Office is involved with many aspects of city government including the City Council, our legislative body, and The Board of Estimate and Contract, which approves city expenditures. The City Clerk's Office is also known as the Licensing Bureau. Over 91 different types of City and New York State licenses and permits are issued to individuals and businesses. In addition, Primary and General Elections for the City of Mount Vernon are coordinated by the City Clerk's Office. The City Clerk, as Registrar, is responsible for maintaining Mount Vernon's Birth and Death Records.

The City Clerk must attend all formal meetings of The City Council and Board of Estimate and Contract and be responsible for journalizing interdepartmental referrals and all general correspondence relating to such meetings. As the main "Information Center" of city government, the staff of the City Clerk Office handles thousands of inquiries from the public, both in person and over the telephone. The Deputy City Clerk, Legislative Aide and Secretary to the City Clerk are Commissioners of Deeds. The City Clerk is a notary public. Thousands of documents are notarized free of charge for the public each year. The City Clerk is also the Records Management Officer for the City of Mount Vernon and is responsible for the disposition and retention of all records.

R. W. George Brown of St. Joseph Lodge #117 has served this office with distinction, and on November 3, 2018 R. W. Brown received the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Mount Vernon Branch of the NAACP. And on February 16, 2019 he was honored for Outstanding Service to the Community by the Catering Ministry of the Unity Baptist Church at its Black History Month Breakfast. R. W. Brown has served his Lodge and Grand Lodge in several stations & places with equal distinction including the office of Grand Lecturer.





On May 24, 2019, R.'.W.'. Brown had the pleasure of marrying a Military couple to start off Memorial Day



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John R. Hill Jr. President, Prince Hall Temple Associates, Inc.



I again thank you for the level of sharing that took place at our annual meeting in September and for selecting me and a board that we can trust to move PHTA forward for another year. Also for those interested, I did make my engagement following the annual meeting so all is right with the world.

Everyone knows from my book, I recognize that most effort goes toward keeping the lights on: Paying bills, communicating to everyone, performing general maintenance on the property. The legacy of the year will be dependent on successfully performing those blocking and tackling items that keep the organization functional and then finding a strategic use for how we spend the balance of the time. This year I'm hoping to report on at least 3 additional strategic areas.

The most fundamental change is a modification in philosophy, attitude, and practice of the basic financial structure of the PHTA organization. We have behaved as a private foundation with an emphasis on our association with the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of New York for our financial underpinning. But we have matured beyond this structure and because of our property maintenance and improvement plans, things need to change. Our destiny is a mix of GL membership fees, property usage fees and a continuing capital campaign. We will formally engage the necessary processes to make the transition from a Private Foundation to a Public Charity, and in support of this transition we will begin to develop the multiple streams of funding that will enable the growth we need for our future.

For those that attended out annual meeting, you will recognize that I discussed the need to increase our FOP, which means Feet on Property. Our planning should generate more opportunities for people to visit and utilize the property. Our executed plans should produce more authorized property visitors and more utilization of the property.

As a final big effort, we really need to crack down on trespassing. We will attempt to work with law enforcement both inside Masonry and in the local community. We will beef up the security cameras on the property. We will put together a legal team ready to handle individuals caught trespassing on the property. We can't continue to invest in improving the property and have it destroyed by vandals. We will also continue to be open to scheduled visits.

This year will be another step in a long journey, toward making the property a location where positive overnight experiences happen on the camp ground, and where the castle can be brought to life and glory.

We are open to ideas, suggestions, donations of time and money, for the betterment of the property.

Fraternally,

John R. Hill Jr. President, Prince Hall Temple Associates, Inc. P.O. Box 321995 New York, N.Y. 10032 phta@hillcommsvc.com





Robert B. Hansley Vice President PHTA, Inc.



Fraternal Greetings,

We are respectfully requesting your assistance in the revitalization of our property located in Roscoe New York.

The subject property consists of approximately 725 acres in Delaware and Sullivan Counties. It has extraordinary scenic beauty and features significant frontage on the Beaverkill River, one of the nation's premier trout fishing rivers. Situated on the property is a 36-room castle. Planned as a summer retreat from City life, it was built by Ralph Wurts-Dundas, a reclusive millionaire who in 1910 designed it as a replicate of Charlotte Square Castle, a Scottish Castle built in the eighteenth century in Edinburgh Scotland.

All materials except for the stonework, which was taken from the Beaverkill river, were imported including the wrought iron gates from France, marble for floors and stairs from Italy and tons of nearly one to two-inch-thick roofing slate from England. The castle's estimated cost to build in 1910 was between \$500K and one million. The Wurts Dundas family never occupied the castle. In 1921 Ralph Dundas died, followed by his wife a year later. The property was purchased for \$49,000 in 1949 by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York. The Prince Hall Temple Associates (PHTA) was established to oversee and manage the property.

A major issue is that Dundas castle, listed on the National Register of Historic places in 2001, is now unoccupied and in a state of disrepair; while structurally sound, many improvements need to be made including electrical and plumbing, windows and landscaping. Restoration and re-use of Dundas Castle as a functional part of the overall property revitalization will provide overnight accommodations, add a conference center and attract tourism.

In the summer of 1955, a boys and girls sleepaway camp was established To provide a safe haven where inner-city youth can participate in a comprehensive program that promotes the physical, educational and life skills necessary to prepare and empower them for leadership in their communities and success in their personal lives. There is a tremendous need, especially for high-risk youth in low-income neighborhoods, for programs that provide activities and support for children throughout the summer. Now, instead of seeing throngs of kids hanging out on street corners with nothing to do but engage in illicit activity, we provided a place where they can engage in constructive activities that contribute to reducing crime and illicit activity, increasing academic performance, and providing life skills to ensure success in school, in the community and in life.

In 1960 A dining and recreation hall was built along with several lodging dormitories. The camp was renovated in 1990 with several new buildings and the addition of a swimming pool. Camp Eureka operated two summer sessions with a capacity of 200 campers per session. The remainder of the property, which contains eight other buildings including a former boarding house, has been used for meetings and retreats as well as recreational hunting and fishing.

Unfortunately we had to temporary close Camp Eureka. The major issue, due to lack of funding, the infrastructure has deteriorated. The camper's cabins, the dining hall and the administration building are structurally sound and with some minor plumbing issues, can be used. However, the access roads leading to and throughout the property is in dire need of repair. The basketball court needs resurfacing, the swimming pool and outdoor pavilion needs upgrading. The recreation playground needs resurfacing along with new swings and sliding board.

The pump house needs a new roof and the dining hall has a leak around the chimney. The old boarding house on the hill has deteriorated to the point it needs to be torn down, however since it's an old structure which contains asbestos, the cost to remove it is beyond our means at the present time.

We need your help; all donations are tax deductible. Please make checks and/or money orders payable to Prince Hall Temple Associates Inc. send donations to P.O. Box 321995 New York, N.Y. 10032. PayPal donations can be made via our website: PHTANY.ORG. We also need donations of goods and service such as building material, plumbing, electrical, windows & doors, landscaping, etc. Contact our property manager: George Pierce @ 845-439-4429, email: Georgepierce231@gmail.com

Our revitalization efforts will be socially and environmentally responsible, be consistent with the overall planning, economic development, and community development goals of the local communities and maintain the natural beauty and open space of the property.

For more information please check out our website: **PHTANY.ORG**

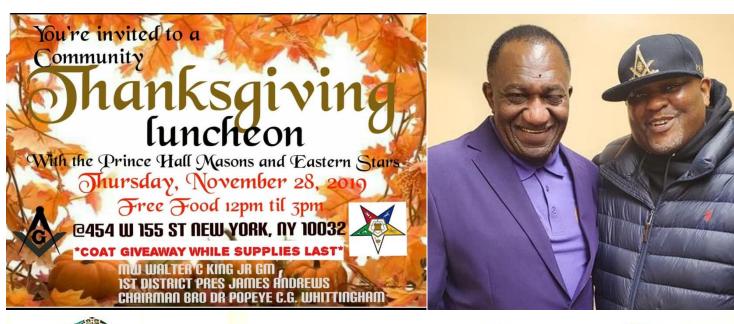
The Prince Hall Temple Associates is a 501c3 membership corporation composed of all Prince Hall Master Masons in good standing under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free & Accepted Masons of the State of New York.

Fraternally,

Robert B. Hansley Vice President, PHTA, Inc. P.O. Box 321995 New York, N.Y. 10032 Safeside4918@gmail.com







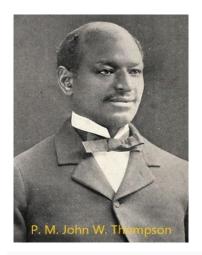


On behalf of MW Walter C King Jr. Grand Master of the MWPHGL of the State of NY and all the Brothers and Sisters who volunteered to feed and service our community,



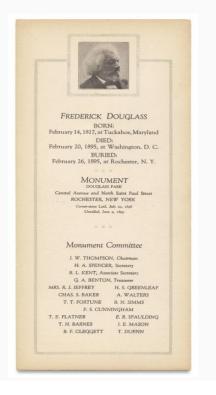
Eureka Lodge #36 and the Frederick Douglass Monument

By R. . W. . John R. Hill, Jr. 33°



At the turn of the century, a campaign was led by John W. Thompson, a Past Master of Eureka Lodge #36. The campaign began at a regular lodge meeting held November 20, 1894, where Bro. Thompson made a motion that proposed the creation of a war memorial to honor Afro-American soldiers and sailors who had fallen in the wars of this country. This proposal was later modified to honor Frederick Douglass and culminated in the dedication of a monument in Rochester, with an estimated crowd of 10,000. The cornerstone of the monument was laid by Most Worshipful E. R. Spaulding, in June 1898. The bronze statue was the first such tribute to an African American in the United States.





RPF02306.JPG Rochester Public Library, Division of Local History

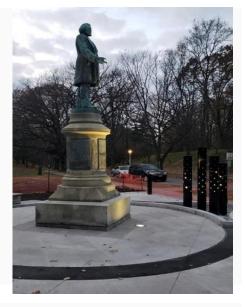
Douglass, who had moved from Rochester, NY to Washington, D.C. in 1872, endorsed the effort in a letter to Thompson, writing that his time in Rochester constituted "the best years" of his life.

When Douglass died in 1895, Thompson and others working on the project switched their focus from a war memorial and decided to erect a monument in honor of Frederick Douglass. Raising the money, approximately \$10,000 or the equivalent of about \$306,000 in today's dollars — was not easy. The fundraising committee received funding from governments including Haiti and from private sources, including the personal resources of Eureka members.

This was most impressive given the small number of members in the Lodge. But they were persistent and consistent in their effort to fund the monument, and that effort resulted in the successful creation of a significant representation of the Rochester community's history.







Current work, culminating in 2019, Past Master Julius D. Jackson Jr. had envisioned more than a decade ago, illuminating the Frederick Douglass statue which was not prominently displayed in a local park and could not be easily seen at night. Bro. Jackson's efforts, eventually led to the construction of Frederick Douglass Memorial Plaza which is now complete (Highland Park: Corner of Robinson Dr. and South Ave, Rochester NY). Not only is the statue properly lit, but it now has a more visible location and an artistic rendition of the North Star. A ribbon cutting and ceremonial first lighting, took place: Wednesday, December 4, 2019.











Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master at the 238th Grand Session of the Grand Lodge of New York F.& A.M.



The Grand Lodge Session of MWPHGL of PA.

Representing the Grand Master MW. Walter C. King, Jr. is D.G.M. RW. Gregory R. Smith, Jr., R.W. Darren Morton, S.G.W., R.W. Jean Appollon, J.G.W., M.W. Calvin Martin, P.G.M., M.W. Larry Mitchell, P.G.M., M.W. John Fields, P.G.M., R.W. John Phillips, C.C.F.C., R.W. Thomas Booker, G.L., R.W. Darren Price, D.D.G.L., Bro. Christopher Wright, Sr.



The jurisdiction of Maryland's Black History Program, Voices of Triumph.



The jurisdiction of the state of New Jersey, Officers Ball MWGM Walter King Jr., Grand Senior Warden Darren M. Morton, Junior Grand Warden Jean Apollon Sr. Assistant Grand Secretary Alberto bey with MWGM Tisan Rasool Dawud



The 2019 M.W.P.H. Grand Session of the Jurisdiction of New Jersey



Delaware's Grand Lodge Annual Session

RW Derek Pritchett-DDGM, leading the delegation representing MW Walter C. King, Jr. Grand Master. The Brothers traveling were RW Anthony McEachin-DDGM, RW Troy Jackson-DDGM, RW Timothy McKnight-Grand Chaplain and Brother Al Hewie.





WELCOME OME TRACY **ILLIAMS**

Brothers, Sisters and Friends, Bro Tracy Williams from Eureka Lodge #36 on Tuesday April 30, 2019 arrived at the Grand East at 5:00pm after completing a long bike tour across America promoting Prince Hall Masonry and visiting many of the Grand Lodges in different Jurisdictions.

Most Worshipful Walter C. King, Jr., Grand Master, RW Gregory R. Smith, Jr., Deputy Grand Master along with the Brothers, Family and Friends welcoming back home.





Brotherhood....not just a word



We become brothers thru what we experience together and thru the mystic and symbolic way that the ritual not only teaches us, not only instructs us, but leaves a real imprint upon our minds, our spirits and our bodies in many cases.

But we stay brothers by living the ritual in a very real way, and this must be impressed upon every new brother as he comes into the Craft and must be renewed in every brother who calls the Craft his own.

We need only to look at our ritual in its earliest teachings to see that we have sworn an obligation to God and to each other, to be brothers, to be family and to be there for one another. And if we lose this most basic tenet then we have not only failed each other, but we have failed the ancient and honorable institution that we promised we would never fail.

In the Symbolism of the First Degree it states:

"Those around you are your brethren, ready to discharge all the offices of that intimate relation. They now bid you welcome to their number and fellowship, to their affections and assistance, to their privileges and to their joys; and through me they promise to protect you by their influence and authority, to advise you by their abilities and skill, to assist your exigence by their liberality and bounty and to cheer you at all times with their kindness and love."

In the address to the brother of the First Degree the new brother is told:

"...we shall feel a special claim upon your friendship and a special interest in your welfare; and we hope that you will cultivate a warm attachment to that family of love into which you are now adopted,"

In the Installation of Officers of a Lodge it is laid plain:

"If, in the frailty of mortality, a brother falls under the influence of unholy feelings and wanders into forbidden paths, seek the wanderer out, bring him back to the fold, and show him the superior loveliness of virtue."

There is a reason that so few men are or should be masons, Freemasonry is not for everyone. It is a lifelong commitment to be different than most men, to be more active in our society than most men, to be more true to our families and religions than most men, to be more learned than most men, to be more restrained than most men, simply put we are (or ought to be) good men made a bit better every day thru our way of life which is the daily application of Freemasonry and its tenets.

But being different has its costs; we must be there for each other no matter what. I have often told my brothers that you do not have to like each and every brother in the Lodge, but you must love each and every brother in the lodge.

Brother Jim Tresner said it best when he said "No matter how stupid a situation may be, no matter how childish we may think some reaction may be, no matter how angry we may become, no matter how tired of trying to help we may become, no matter how frustrated, or involved in our own affairs, or just simply weary we may be, we have promised to God and our Brethren that we will be there. If we lose sight of the reality that our job is to help each other, then all the promises of Brotherhood are simply a sham. If we are Brothers only when it is convenient, we are not Brothers."

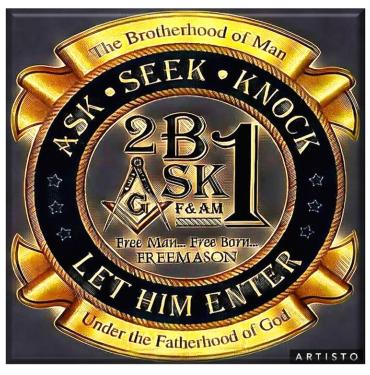
Anyone can be there when times are easy; it takes a real Mason to be there when times are hard. Brotherhood is more than a word, Charity and Relief are more than just words they are the tenets by which we must live as men and Masons. The Brotherhood that we share when lived in our everyday lives has the power to lift men from their darkest places. I have seen men in my lodge be there at difficult times for other men that they barely know, I have seen them collect pennies to help another pay his rent, or donate money for Autism because it had affected the life of a brother and his family in our Lodge. I have seen brothers rush in from all over the State to be at the bedside of an elder member as he spent his last hours on this earth in a hospice unaware that we were even there for him and his family, but a part of me believes he knew, for as a true man and Mason he knew we would be there for him and his family because to us and hopefully to you, it is at those times when we as a body truly live and act as Masons.

Kevin P. Wardally

R. W. Kevin P. Wardally 33° **Grand Treasurer - MWPHGL of NY** Past Master - Adelphic Union Lodge #14 Freemasonry doesn't depend on a certain number of members to exist...



...just a number of Masons we can be certain Robert Herd



KNIGHTS OF PYTHAGORAS

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS. JOIN THE KOP

A community-based mentoring program for young men. Training our youth in leadership & community service.

A partnership between youth, parents, and Prince Hall Masons.

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