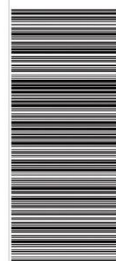


# Masonic HISTORY HAS BEEN MADE Digest



GRAND EDITOR - PM BETHEM THOMAS, JR. GRAND DIGITAL EDITOR - PM JAMES Q. LEACH GRAND COMMUNICATIONS EDITOR - PM MICHAEL JOHNSON



Jurisdiction of Georgia,

Brothers & Sisters,

The great I Am has blessed us to see this day. Let us rejoice and be glad in it! Welcome to your 2022 151st Grand Session and 145th Annual Communication of the MWPHGL of Georgia and its Jurisdiction. This is our time, our moment, and our now.

So, seize this opportunity to be not simply good but great. I pray that Peace and Harmony will prevail for all in attendance and that you enjoy this session, even if it is your first or first of many sessions. Be blessed in it!

As we are now on the heels of the latter part of 2022. Let us always remain focused on the true tenet of it all. Do unto others as you will have them do unto you—the invisible cross we are burdened with, some heavier than others. Strive to make someone's day with a simple "Hello" or "Hi" we never how a simple gesture that does not cost anything can change the course of a person's life at that very moment.

I will leave you with this, "Character is power."-Booker T. Washington, I am.



God bless each of you, continue to remain safe, and know that God is always with you.

Fraternally submitted,

*Corey D. Shackleford, Sr.*

Corey D. Shackleford, Sr., 33°  
18th Most Worshipful Grand Master  
The Conservator of Masons for the Jurisdiction  
of Georgia



## 18<sup>TH</sup> MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER'S CORNER



## The BUT GOD Initiative

As of 6/1/2022

Aaron L. Prater  
Albert James  
Albert L. Culler  
Alfred L. Cook  
Anthony Brown  
Anthony Brookings  
anthony howard  
Anthony Murray  
April Howell  
Arthur Willis, Jr.  
Atlanta Masonic District #3  
Atlanta Masonic District #3  
Beyene Dawit Negustsi  
Byron Jones Jr  
Carl McKinney  
Cecil James  
Cedric Rhodes  
Cesar A Rodriguez Guisao  
Chandra F. (Past Matron) Hall  
charles bennett  
Charles George  
Chiquita Williams  
Chris Jourdan  
Clifford Hanson  
Corey Shackleford, Jr  
Corey Shackleford, Sr  
Cornelius Spearman  
De'Andre S. Pickett  
Demetrius Hill  
Derwin Canty  
Diamonds Nine Support Network Inc  
Don Dukes  
DOREATHA DUKES  
Ella Rhodes  
Ella, M. Rhodes  
Eric Jackson  
Eric Scott  
Ethel Gilliam  
Evan Shackleford  
Exodus #593 Lodge  
Foundation #592 Lodge

Foundation Chapter  
FRANK TATE  
Georgia Advancing Communities Together  
Gerald Adams  
Gregory Jackson  
H. R. Butler #23 Lodge  
Henry Davis  
Ikisha Heard  
J B KING  
James Robertson  
James Summers  
James Swann  
Jennifer Ballance  
John Gilliam  
Jonathan White  
joseph wiltshire  
Kevin McKenzie  
L. M. Pierce  
Llewellyn Powell  
Louell (DDGM) Mc Collum  
Mable Ray  
Madison Price  
Marcus Cromartie  
Marcus Dickerson  
Matthew Bonham  
Maurice Butler  
Maurice Gilbert  
Michae Brannon  
MyStyleWorks  
Natalie N Brown  
Omar Baldwin  
Omni Sports Apparel, Inc.  
Pickett Fences Consulting  
Plymouth Rock #86 Lodge  
Primus James  
Rashad Lewis  
Regina Hill  
Reginald McLane  
Richard J Taylor  
Roderick Jones  
Roger L. Smith

Ronald Nealy  
Rosetta Parker Austin  
Sallie Mills  
Santonio Gleaton  
Saundra Parks  
Sean Radford  
Teregin Walker  
Theresa Hill  
Titus Swint  
Tommie King  
Torrence Mcnelson  
Torri Caldwell  
TRUTH AND UNION #594, INC.  
Turvon Casey  
Vernon Hall  
Vivian Pierce  
Warren Gregory  
Wendell L. Sims  
William Scurry



## THE HISTORICAL TREATY SIGNING

CONTRIBUTED BY

GRAND EDITOR PAST MASTER BERTRAM THOMAS JR. &  
GRAND ASSISTANT C.C.F.C. PAST MASTER ISAAC ROBINSON

Mutual recognition between the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia and the Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia has long been a topic of spirited debate in both Grand Lodges. Alabama and Tennessee have made this progressive step, and the leadership & vision in Georgia was destined to follow suit. Past Master Isaac Robinson of Exodus Lodge No. 593 and his team have been working on this process since 2009, beginning with the initial permission from Past Grand Master Ramsey Davis Jr. to move forward with exploring the process of having mutual recognition. This exploration of recognition emphasized spreading brotherly love with the Grand Lodge of Georgia, as the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge has always been legitimate. The friendship began between Past Master Robinson and the brothers of Gate City Lodge No. 2 of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, including brotherly conversation and tours of their lodge building. Over time more brothers traveled with Past Master Robinson to the lodge hall to tour the building and increase the bond of brotherhood, and they eventually formed a committee. This committee would attend public installations and other activities sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Georgia to increase the support and visibility of the Prince Hall brothers. Other activities included several Prince Hall brothers working with the Grand Lodge of State brothers to build a house with Habitat for Humanity, which created a solid foundation for the brothers to build upon.

This process of mutual recognition went dormant for years until the 18 th Most Worshipful Grand Master Corey D. Shackleford Sr. charged Past Master Robinson and Assistant District Deputy Grand Master Reggie Walker to lead the charge as a more extensive and formal committee to get both Grand Masters to the table to start the serious discussion of mutual recognition. The Grand Lodge of State also created a committee on mutual recognition to explore this opportunity.

The death of Congressman and our brother Honorable John Lewis provided the opportunity for an invitation from Grand Master Shackleford to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of State and his delegation to attend the Last Rites of Congressman Lewis, which was warmly accepted immediately. Past Master Robinson and his committee worked directly with the visiting Grand Lodge of State delegation to the Last Rites ceremony, including Grand Master Johnnie M. Garmon, Senior Grand Warden Donald C. Combs, and Grand Tyler William T. White. The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia delegation included the 18 th Most Worshipful Grand Master Corey D. Shackleford Sr, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master Primis T. James, Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden Jonathan S. White, Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden Derwin Canty, other Grand elected and appointed officers, and Grand Master L. Lamont Banks of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Tennessee.

Significance of the Process-The mutual recognition process points to progressive steps toward a goal. The recognition process is iterative and begins with the two legitimate bodies of freemasons in the jurisdiction of Georgia, Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia (Senior body) and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge (Junior body), with the Junior body sending correspondence to the Senior body to request recognition. This is a process of spreading brotherly love through the mutual recognition of the two organizations. The result is recognition by the United Grand Lodge of England of both the senior Grand Lodge of state and the junior Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of that state. This decision to send this correspondence was voted unanimously by the Executive Board of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia (elected officers and the board of trustees) on December 9, 2020, as was done with previous administrations. It was sent to the Grand Lodge of State committee with recommendations for time considerations for local visitation to the Grand Lodge of State on December 18, 2020, which the Grand Lodge of State received and subsequently proposed some modifications. The modified recommendation was sent to the floor for a vote in an open session of the Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia on October 26, 2021, and there were no questions from the body and was subsequently voted overwhelmingly in favor of mutual recognition between the two legitimate bodies of freemasons in the state of Georgia. The formal Treaty signing for the public was held at the Sandy Springs Performing Art Center in Sandy Springs, Georgia, at 1 pm on April 9, 2022. The admission price was \$10, which included admission and a commemorative coin that featured the seal of both lodges. A portion of the proceeds from this event went to the Grand Masters of both jurisdictions to donate to their respective charities of choice. The brothers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia mutual recognition committee pushed for many years to make this huge step for brotherhood in Georgia a reality. These brothers were:

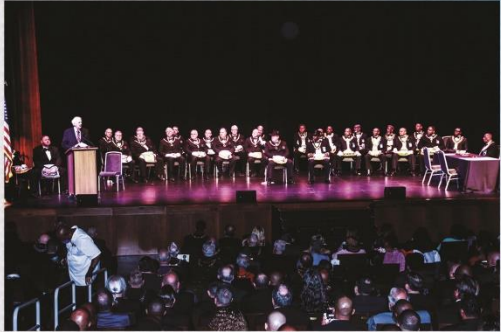
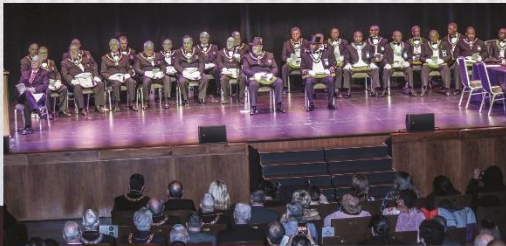
Past Master Isaac Robinson, Asst. Grand CCFC – Exodus Lodge No. 593  
Assistant District Deputy Grand Master Reggie Walker – James Earl Acey Lodge UD  
Past Master William Thomas – Derwin Brown Lodge No. 599  
Past Master Seth Gholston – Exodus Lodge No. 593  
Past Master Dave Gillarm, Grand Historian – Mt. Pisgah Lodge No. 53  
Past Master Doug Evans, Grand Director of Education – W.C. Thomas Lodge No. 112  
Right Worshipful John Jefferson, Grand Secretary – St. James Lodge No. 4

These brothers exemplified steadfast perseverance and fidelity to the tenets of freemasonry. They embodied the words of the great past President of Morehouse College and faithful friend of Prince Hall Freemasonry in Georgia, Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays: Not failure, but low aim is sin&quot;. Special thank you to the elected and appointed leadership of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia and the Grand Lodge of Georgia F. &A.M. for their vision for change and the courage to press forward with the trowel of brotherly love as their primary tool for success.



# GRAND LODGE TREATY SIGNING

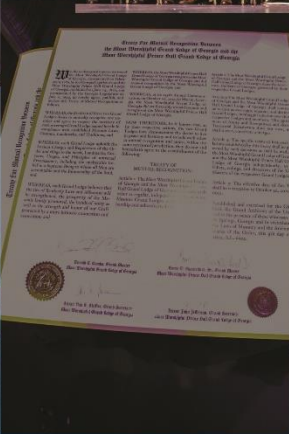
18<sup>TH</sup>  
MOST WORSHIPFUL  
GRAND  
MASTER'S  
CORNER



*Treaty for Mutual Recognition Between  
the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia and the  
Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia*

WHEREAS, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia and did agree to sign this Treaty, the State of Georgia, governed by their respective Grand Lodges;

WHEREAS, at its 25th Annual Convention, in October 2012, in Macon, Georgia, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia did agree to sign this Treaty;





# GRAND WORTHY MATRON'S CORNER



“

“SWEET”

SERVING  
WITH  
ENTHUSIASM,  
ENERGY, &  
TALENT



Greetings, Sisters and Brothers,

As we prepare for the 122 nd Annual Grand Chapter Session Prince Hall Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star in Augusta, Georgia, I pray for a safe and enjoyable session. Come prepared to enjoy and fellowship with Sisters and Brothers across the Jurisdiction and our unique visitors from other Jurisdictions, I will be concluding – “Five Fruitful Years and Moving into the Next Chapter.” In my first year, I shared “We are Overcomers by the Words of Our Testimony” with you. Sharing my story of surviving cancer and a stem cell transplant is nothing but a testimony. In my second year, I asked you to “Put Sister back into Sisterhood.” To show the spread of the fruits of the spirit instead of negativity. Unfortunately, the plans in 2020 were to “See Clearly with 2020 Vision,” but God decided differently and said you the next two years would see your Jurisdiction through a pandemic. The first pandemic since 1918.

In closing, moving into the next chapter, I pray for the continued success of the Prince Hall Grand Chapter. God gave me a five-year vision to be Fruitful. To spread the fruits of the spirit – nine attributes of a person living according to the Holy Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. That is all I wanted to achieve. I am so grateful for the opportunity to have served in this position.

I am thankful for each of you.

Sister Deaidra Wilson  
16th Grand Worthy Matron





On the now historical date of April 9, 2022, I was blessed to be in attendance for a monumental event.

A treaty signing emphasized Georgia's Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the state of Georgia recognized the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Georgia. It was an event that will remain near and dear to my heart for being the first step in more to come in uniting the two Grand Lodges in fraternal love. I shook hands and held enjoyable conversations with many of the brothers, but none more memorable than Brother Norman Burkett, Worthy Grand Patron of the Georgia Order of the Eastern Star. Brother Burkett and his wife, Evelyn, are a beautiful, engaging couple who immediately let me know how happy they were to be there for the occasion and the mutual pleasure we each held in our meeting.

I am looking forward to seeing them both again and having future conversations as we all look forward to the future of things to come.

Brother Cecil James  
Grand Worthy Patron





## MEDIA RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**CONTACT:** Kelli Sharpe  
 615-415-9444 or [sharpekelli0110@gmail.com](mailto:sharpekelli0110@gmail.com)

President Kevin James, Morris Brown College  
 803-605-7631

### Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® gifts Morris Brown \$100,000 for endowment

**CHICAGO, IL** (May 18, 2022) – Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® is continuing to make good on its commitment to our nation's historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). This evening the sorority's International President and CFO Dr. Glenda Glover presented Morris Brown College with a \$100,000 donation to establish an endowment for scholarships and other operational needs to help bolster the institution's sustainability. A check presentation took place on the historic campus at the Dr. Gloria Anderson Multi-purpose Complex.

"Alpha Kappa Alpha is pleased to make this donation to Morris Brown College, as we continue our support of the country's HBCUs," said AKA International President and CEO Dr. Glenda Glover.

"Our gift to this historic institution will be used to assist President Kevin James with scholarships, academic support, and programmatic activities that we believe will increase the sustainability of Morris Brown for years to come," added Dr. Glover.

"I want to thank Alpha Kappa Alpha for their dedication to HBCUs and especially for the sorority's commitment to strengthening our endowment, which could not have come at a better time with our full accreditation announcement," said Morris Brown President Kevin James. "I want to thank President Glenda Glover for her leadership and to all the AKAs for their continued support as we continue our quest to restoring Morris Brown to her former glory."

Alpha Kappa Alpha's gift to Morris Brown is part of a four-year \$10 million goal set by Dr. Glover under the sorority's HBCU for Life: A Call to Action initiative. Glover implemented the program when she took over leadership of the sorority in 2018. A major component of the initiative is the sorority's fundraising efforts to secure fiscal sustainability and success for accredited HBCUs around the country. For four consecutive years, members have surpassed their goal to raise \$1 million in one day for HBCUs on a designated day in September.

"We started this journey in 2018 with a goal of raising \$1 million in one day. Certainly, uncharted territory," explained Dr. Glover, who is also president of her alma mater Tennessee State University. "We had the audacity to believe we could raise \$1 million in one day. And, we did it then, as well as in 2019 and 2020, by exceeding our million-dollar goal. And, in 2021 to raise more than \$2.4 million in our final year was simply phenomenal."

Dr. Glover also shared that AKA has helped thousands of students get into the college of their choice through the sorority's #CAP initiative. It stands for College Admissions Process and is the signature program

she established to increase the number of students who want to attend any college, whether an HBCU or predominately white institution (PWI). Her focus has been on exposing students to HBCUs because she believes the needs of these institutions are so great, including the need to fill seats and to obtain funding.

"Most people are unaware of the significant contributions these legacy institutions continue to make in our cities and throughout the country, including graduating 22% of all African Americans with bachelor's degrees, nearly 80% of all African-American judges, 50% of all Black lawyers, and at TSU alone we have produced more than 50% of educators that work in the Metro Nashville Public Schools District. We are also the number one HBCU for graduating teachers."

For more information on the sorority's commitment to HBCUs, visit [www.AKA1908.com](http://www.AKA1908.com).

### About Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (AKA) is an international service organization that was founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1908. It is the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African-American, college-educated women. Alpha Kappa Alpha is comprised of over 325,000 members in more than 1,045 graduate and undergraduate chapters in the United States, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Liberia, Bahamas, Bermuda, the Caribbean, Canada, Japan, Germany, South Korea, Africa, South Africa, and in the Middle East. Led by International President and CEO, Dr. Glenda Glover, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated is often hailed as "America's premier Greek-letter organization for African-American women." Visit [www.aka1908.com](http://www.aka1908.com) for more information.

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## PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOL WORKSHOP

Contributed by  
SISTER NATALIE HUDSON  
Thomasville District No. 10

On May 14, 2022, Thomasville District No. 10 held a Parliamentary Procedures and Protocol workshop. The facilitator for the seminar was Mr. Kelvin Owens, Mayor of the City of Camilla.

Afterward, members of the district visited Fountain of Life, a homeless shelter for those in need. The community also donated personal hygiene products to assist those going through challenging times.



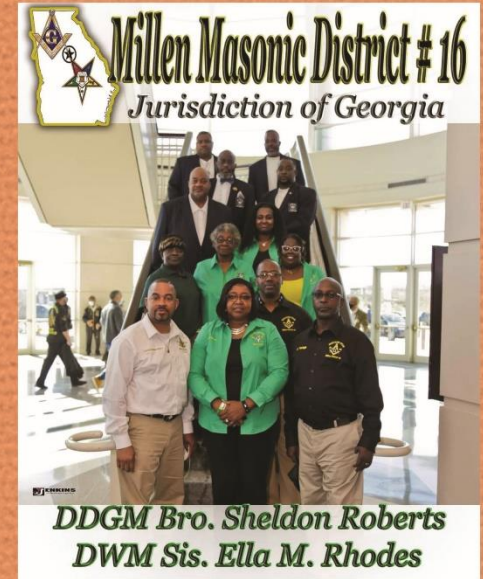


## LEADERSHIP IS ACTION

Contributed by  
PAST MATRON T. JOY ROBERTS  
Millen District No. 16

"Leadership is action, not a position." District Deputy Grand Master Sheldon Roberts of Millen District No. 16 has been putting in the footwork. Mid-winter meeting in February was his first stop as he attended with other leadership within the Jurisdiction. He joined Beulah Chapter No. 116 in their Family and Friends Day Celebration. The celebration was a success with a powerful message delivered by keynote speaker Dr. Charles Smith of Gough Lodge No. 419. Deputy Roberts' labor continued in March as District Elections took place, followed by April's historical events.

DDGM Roberts was one of the hundreds who witnessed the historical signing of a treaty of mutual recognition between The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia and The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia. The event was emotional and the first step in true recognition between the two Grand Lodges. This was a glorious sight and a privilege to witness the historic signing. DDGM Roberts continued his strides as one of the delegates from the Jurisdiction to attend the Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge of Florida, Belize, Central America, Inc. PHA in Jacksonville, FL. The Deputy intends to continue in his efforts to ensure that peace and harmony shall prevail in Millen District #16 and believes that people are leaders by what they do, not by the authority they are given or the title or position they hold.



**DDGM Bro. Sheldon Roberts**  
**DWM Sis. Ella M. Rhodes**



## LEADERSHIP IS ACTION

Contributed by  
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER VERNON C. HALL  
Dublin District No. 19

**District Deputy Grand Master Vernon C. Hall and the members of Dublin District No. 19 presented a plaque to District Deputy Emeritus Roger Smith at the Annual District Meeting on March 19, 2022. The presentation was in appreciation for his many years of dedicated service, commitment, and leadership to Dublin District No. 19.**





## RECEIVING RESOLUTIONS

Contributed by  
BROTHER KEVIN HOLDER  
St. James Lodge No. 4

The Georgia House of Representatives and Georgia Senate passed parallel privileged resolutions to recognize St. James Lodge No. 4 on its 151st anniversary. State Representative Park Cannon and State Senator Nan Orrock sponsored House Resolution 786 and Senate Resolution 458.

On February 24, 2022, Senator Orrock took to the well and recognized St. James Lodge # 4 on the Senate floor and presented St. James with a formal copy of the privileged Senate resolution. "St. James has distinguished itself for the work and investment that it has made in the city of Atlanta," said Orrock.

"The historical imprint that St. James has made is remarkable, and I certainly wish the Prince Hall Masons of this historic lodge 151 more years of service and brotherhood."





## THE STANDARD

Contributed by  
BROTHER JOROME DUNCAN  
Gate City Lodge No. 42

**G.R.I.T. – Having the Guts to take on the task, Having the Resilience to bounce back, Having the Initiative to get things moving, and doing it with Tenacity to achieve the goal.**

To evaluate the mettle of one's character and integrity, one is placed in conditions where pressure is applied. We have all experienced the crushing grip of life. Yet, with such trials and tribulations that hover around us, we have been provided tools to cultivate and develop ourselves into a formidable force. Within the fellowship of this Brotherhood, we continue to master the skills and techniques required to wield that which is in our possession.

The Brothers of Gate City Lodge No. 42 continue to live up to the moniker "The Standard." Under the guidance of the administration of the Lodge, we continue to show our presence at Grand Lodge events, supporting our sisters of Gate City Chapter No. 48 and being of service to the community through projects in collaboration with other social groups in efforts to maintain and strengthen our ties to the community. Even amongst the brothers, we continue to hold ourselves accountable through consistent communication. We contact the widows of the brothers that have transitioned in hopes of assisting them if the need comes. With our monthly Masonic Education Sessions, we look to engage in discourse to better ourselves Masonically. Currently, we are raising funds for our Annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet, which is scheduled for October. We are looking forward to our Annual Joint Fellowship and Cookout with the sisters of Gate City Chapter No. 48 this summer.

We have an understanding that we are only as strong as we believe we are, both on an individual level and as a part of this illustrious organization. We continue our efforts to visit other Lodges to spread the cement of fellowship and fortify the edifice of this glorious Fraternity. We move forward knowing that the past is there to teach us, the present is what we make of it, and the future is what we aspire to be.





## NEW YEAR AWARDS DINNER

Contributed by  
WORSHIPFUL MASTER XAVIER WIMBERLY  
Aurora Lodge No. 54

In December, the brothers of Aurora Lodge #54 held a remarkably successful awards dinner in preparation for the 2022 New Year. The purpose of the event was to recognize and honor members of the lodge, including Chapter Sisters. They made outstanding contributions to the community Bure County community and the lodge. The event was well-received by those in attendance, especially with the current pandemic crisis. Additionally, the lodge recognized

Brother George Payton as a Life Member. He has held memberships in Aurora Lodge since 1964. Moreover, recognition was given to Past Master Neil C. Leonard as a Gold Cardmember. Master Mason of the Year recognition was given to two Brothers for 2020. Past Master Clinton Bates, 33°, and Past Master Sean Kirkland, 33°. For 2021, professional trombonist and musician Brother Wycliffe Gordon, Brother Weylin Hodge, and Brother Fred Hughes were honored as Master Masons. Eight Sisters of New Aurora Chapter received awards for supporting the brothers of Aurora during the pandemic crisis.





## SUPPORTING OUR SOLDIERS

Contributed by  
BROTHER JAMAHL CARMACK  
Plymouth Rock Lodge No. 86

On February 27, 2022, Plymouth Rock Lodge No. 86 and Arena Chapter No. 29, OES/PHA united to support our soldiers at the Atlanta Airport United Service Organization (USO). The United Service Organization, Inc. is an American nonprofit-charitable corporation that provides services to the United States Armed Forces and their families. President Franklin D. Roosevelt founded it on February 4, 1941. The USO strengthens our soldiers by keeping them connected to family, home, and country throughout their service to the nation. Volunteers are the heart of the USO, and the brothers from Plymouth Rock Lodge No. 86 Lodge and Arena Chapter No. 29 greeted and provided meals to soldiers and their families traveling through Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson Airport. Brothers also assisted in stocking the many donated items to the USO. Worthy Matron Rita Wynter-Williams and Worshipful Master Wendell Sims established a coordinated effort to provide meals to the soldiers and families through time shifts, ensuring that each soldier was well taken care of. Plymouth Rock Lodge #86 and Arena Chapter No. 29 – brother and sisterhood in UNITY.

On April 15 th , 2022, Plymouth Rock Lodge No. 86 and Arena Chapter No. 29, OES/PHA united at Grady Hospital, located at 80 Jesse Hill Drive Jr SE Atlanta, Georgia, to answer the call to donate to make a difference. Together they donated Onesies, socks, and clothes to the Grady Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. In attendance at the event were Worshipful Master Wendell Sims - Plymouth Rock #86, Worthy Matron Rita Wynter-Williams - Arena Chapter No. 29, OES, PHA Past Master John Hanson Plymouth Rock #86, Sister Loretta Pennington Arena Chapter No. 29, OES, PHA along with Grady Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Staff.





## DOING WHAT MASONS DO

Contributed by  
BROTHER RAPHAEL L. HOLLOWAY  
W.C. Thomas Lodge No. 112

The Brothers of WC Thomas (WCT) Lodge #112 have been continually active during the first four months of this calendar year. One of the slogans we operate by is: "Doing What Masons Do." Despite challenging times with COVID and our economy, WCT Lodge #112 has been holding up our commitment to being of service to our community. It is something that we model and not just speak about. WCT Lodge #112, in partnership with our sisters, Ruth Chapter #102, has continued our collaborations and community engagement efforts to create more good trouble in our communities. The Lodge and Chapter held community service projects at Fickett Elementary School in February and March. Working side by side with Principal Benita Edwards and her school staff, the brothers and sisters tended to the school's community garden needs. The community garden at the school is used as a learning space to instruct students about locally sourced food, nutrition, science, and math. In addition, the brothers and sisters continued their engagement with our second lodge-sponsored school: John Wesley Dobbs Elementary School, for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt. It was great to be back at the school for this annual event after being on hiatus for two years due to COVID-19. Principal Tiffany Ragin and her team have been excellent partners. This year, there have been several other service projects, but our school engagements are critical to our brothers and sisters. These partnerships are part of our strategic effort to disrupt the cradle to prison pipeline we often see in our underserved communities. Our Lodge and our Sister Chapter Ruth No.102 are committed to being curators of HOPE and INSPIRATION for our children in our schools and their families through our volunteerism and philanthropy.

It is just the No. 112 way!





## HONORING LIFE MEMBERS

Contributed by  
WORSHIPFUL MASTER TERRENCE RINEY  
Gibraltar Lodge No. 265

The 18 th Most Worshipful Grand Master, Honorable Corey D. Shackleford, Sr., 33°, while attending Augusta Masonic District No. 2 annual meeting on April 02, 2022, presented Past Master Ralph Jordan, 33° of Gibraltar Lodge No. 265, with his lifetime member for 50 plus years of dedicated financial commitment to the fraternal institution of masonry.

Assistant District Deputy Grand Master Frederick Jordan, son of Past Master Ralph Jordan 33°, assisted the Grand Master in bestowing the honors upon his father. Worshipful Master Terrence Riney 33° and Assistant District Deputy Grand Master Frederick Jordan 32° visited the home of Dr. Gardner Hobbs of Gibraltar Lodge No. 265 to present him with his lifetime member for 50 plus years of dedicated financial commitment to the fraternal institution of masonry. Dr. Hobbs, who is no longer able to visit the lodge or ascend its steep staircase to gain access to the meeting room, was excited and grateful for the visitation from his fraternal brothers.

Gibraltar Lodge No. 265 and Paramount Chapter No. 337 hosted their annual joint Easter egg hunt and cookout for families and children of the Wrens, Georgia community. The community showed up in full support of the event, and the kids had fun collecting plastic eggs stuffed with candy and \$1.00 bills. Senior Warden Tarquinius Smith even got into the event's spirit by donning the Easter bunny suit and engaging the kids to join him in learning how to do the bunny hop dance.





## REV. DR. JERRY J. SMITH HONORED WITH RENAMED ROAD

Contributed by  
BROTHER DR. CHARLES SMITH  
Gough Lodge No. 419

At the request of the widow Mrs. Vera D. Smith, after the passing and graveside burial service of her husband conducted by the brothers of Gough Lodge No. 419, the Gough Secretary Dr. Charles J. Smith, Sr. provided advice and support to seek assistance to honor her late husband, the Rev. Dr. Jerry J. Smith. Mrs. Smith was concerned that her late husband should have received more recognition for his 44 years of pastoral and community service. In addition, it includes Palmer Grove Baptist Church, located on Old Waynesboro Road. Moreover, she reflected over the years and learned that he was very active in the Burke County community as a supportive civic leader. It was perceived that Old Waynesboro Road was a state highway and needed the support of the Georgia General Assembly.

The Gough Lodge No. 419 Secretary Dr. Charles Smith reached out to State Representative Gloria Frazier, representing Richmond and Burke Counties. Per investigating the notion of trying to seek approval, it was learned that the Old Waynesboro Road had to be approved by the Burke County Commission, not by the Georgia General Assembly. Her first thought was that something is done at the church and the community to honor Rev. Smith.

A program was held at Burke County High School in Waynesboro, Georgia commemorating his lifetime legacy in the community. During the program at the high school, family members, church members, civic and community leaders, and Gough Lodge No. 419, Past Master Willis Walker spoke of the outstanding contributions Rev. Smith made while serving as the Past Master of Gough Lodge No. 419. After the Burke County High School program was held, it was learned that there was a strong possibility that the County Commission would consider renaming a portion of Old Waynesboro Highway to Dr. Jerry J. Smith Road. During a meeting of the Burke County Board of Commissioners on February 8, 2022, they voted unanimously to the names of Old Waynesboro Road in front of Palmer Grove Baptist Church after Rev. Dr. Jerry J. Smith. Rev. Smith died of Covid-19 in 2020, after having recently completed his 44 th year as Pastor.

He volunteered countless hours of community service dedicated to the cause of equal rights, civil rights, voting rights, voter education, and voter registration. Moreover, he fought for the cause to sustain the advocating the importance of voting and voter education by encouraging citizens to participate in the political process. The Burke County Board of Commissioners acknowledged and recognized his role in the landmark United States Supreme Court case of *Lodge v. Rogers*. This case resulted in a ruling that at-large voting violated the Equal Protection Clause. Upon the completion of the Supreme Court case, district lines were drawn. Then, the door was open for blacks to run for public office on a larger scale. Rev. Smith, at that juncture, became the first Black candidate to run for county commissioner in Burke County District number 3. In an honorable manner, the commissioners voted to rename a portion of the road honoring the late Reverend Dr. Jerry J. Smith, including from Four Points Road to the Burke County Line at McBean creek. It will be named Rev. Dr. Jerry J. Smith Road. The designation will be marked by a brown sign per highway and road guidelines like the DOT uses on state highways.

According to Mrs. Vera D. Smith, having this historic landmark done in honor of her beloved husband and pastor of his parishioners and his family is a blessing they can cherish and remember.





## STARTING A REFORM PROGRAM

Contributed by  
WORSHIPFUL MASTER JOSEPH NUNNALLY  
St. Matthews Lodge No. 585

**After a Very Successful Meeting with State and Local officials, St. Matthews Lodge #585 in Reidsville, GA, has been added to probational officers' options for community service.**

**The lodge offers mentorship programs for the probationers to help guide and lead our fellow citizens to a positive path toward reformation!!!**

**Thank you to all the local Community stakeholders and supporters that have uplifted our efforts. The work has just begun as we continue to proceed in making change. Our Motto: "Power Company, We Leave the Lights On"**



Front row (l to r): Corey Colwell, Jante Nunnally, and David Brown. Middle row: Sheldrick Butler, Dave Ockletree, Thomas Moore, Randy Mashburn, and Worshipful Master Joseph Nunnally. Back row: Kurt Morgan, Tavares Fleming, Jeffery Elmore, and Keith Calhoun.



Front row (l to r): Phillip String, David Brown, Worshipful Master Joseph Nunnally, Corey Colwell, and Sherrod Johnson. Back row: Kevin King, Anson Anderson, Jante Nunnally, Dave Ockletree, Curtis Whitfield, and Raymond Bradley.

### St. Matthews Masonic Lodge #585 starts reform program

Members at St. Matthews Masonic Lodge #585 have adopted the term, "taking a bad man, making him a good man, and taking a good man, making him better."

"Following the investigation committee's findings and ensuring that a background check is in compliance with Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia (MWPHGLGA), we have individuals who may live different lifestyles than the normal, whether it be bad or good. We target these in challenged situations or troubled lifestyles and embrace them as individuals, not looking down

upon them, and point them in a more positive and poised lifestyle," Worshipful Master (WM) Joseph Nunnally of St. Matthews Lodge #585 said. "We invite these individuals in our community to come to events that we may host within the Lodge and mentor them, giving them new light within themselves, and boost their confidence about matriculating in life differently."

"Throughout this process, we are not recruiting them to be Masons, yet being the backbone in these individuals' lives, showing them that there is a better way than the choices that

they are making or what they've made. In return, we've had 100 percent of these individuals completely change their lives around and petition the Lodge and become fully reformed Master Masons. This process has no timeline, but we work eagerly to be the change in our community; so being that change, these individuals strive to do better, and we mentor along the way. Also, we want to let our surrounding communities know we are here to support our communities, do charity, and to improve the men in our community."



## NURSING HOME VISIT ON VALENTINE'S DAY

Contributed by  
BROTHER JANTE NUNNALLY  
St. Matthews Lodge No. 585

The Brothers of Saint Matthews No. 585 of Reidsville, Georgia District 24, has had a productive beginning of the year. Often in life, many forget about our Senior Citizens or fail to recognize their needs, which provided the lodge with an opportunity to stand in the gap and be a positive force in their lives.

During Valentine's Day weekend, the brothers visited the Reidsville Nursing Home and provided Valentine's Day Refreshments for everyone, including the staff and patients.

The looks and smiles on their faces were incredible and heart-felt. This was a Remarkable Community Service Event.





## LIFE MEMBER ALERT

Contributed by  
WORTHY MATRON DAWN ARCHIE  
King Solomon Chapter No. 42

**Congratulations to PM Mildred Fisher on joining the ranks of becoming a life member in King Solomon Chapter No. 42.**

PM Fisher joined the Order on April 29, 1987, under the leadership of Worthy Matron Vivian Wilson and Worthy Patron Charles Ferguson. PM Fisher has served King Solomon Chapter No.42 and the jurisdiction for over 35 years.

In addition to the role of Worthy Matron, and chapter secretary, in King Solomon, she also served as the treasurer for Atlanta Masonic District No. 3.

PM Fisher worked with Past Grand Matron Moore to help convert the paper proclamations into digital format. She always has an attitude of service and gratitude.





## LIFE MEMBERS RECEIVE RECOGNITION

Contributed by  
SISTER ANNETTE B. COBB  
New Starlight Chapter No. 44

**New Starlight Chapter No. 44 Order of Eastern Star of Pulaski, Georgia, and our Worthy Matron, Sister Jacqueline Pierce, met on Saturday, February 19, 2022, at Beverick's in Metter, Georgia, to honor our most recent life members. The new life members honored were Past Matrons, Sister Clara Frink, and Sister Barbara Davis.**

**To become a life member, you must be at least sixty-five years of age or older and a member of the Order of Eastern Star for at least thirty-five years. The honorees were presented with a life member certificate and a life member pin. Current life members of New Starlight are Sister Willie Pearl Tanner, Sister Lena Braziel, Sister LaBlanch DeLoach, Sister Marguerite Cooper, Sister Brenda N. Brown, and Sister Frances N. McCray.**

**All had a wonderful time. New Starlight is affiliated with Prince Hall Jurisdiction of Georgia and Statesboro District 18.**





## DONATING SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Contributed by  
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER VERNON C. HALL  
Dublin District No. 19

**Fidelity Chapter No. 45, Order of the Eastern Star, Jurisdiction of Georgia, donated school supplies to East Laurens Primary School on Thursday, March 24, 2022.**

**The School Supply Drive is an annual community service project to help support local schools within our community. Members joined to collect pencils, crayons, paper, folders, scissors, composition notebooks, construction paper, hand sanitizer, Kleenex tissue, Clorox wipes, and other essential items.**





## THE GATE KEEPERS

Contributed by  
WORTHY MATRON SHANELLE CLARKE  
Gate City Chapter No. 48

**"Riches without charity are nothing worth it. They are a blessing only to him who makes them a blessing to others." ~Henry Fielding**

The Gate Keepers of Gate City Chapter No. 48 truly understood the assignment of being a blessing to others. In February, we braved the cold and volunteered at the Allstate Hot Chocolate Run, benefiting the Make-A-Wish Foundation. We were up before daylight and had an exciting time encouraging the walkers while we handed out water to keep them hydrated. In April, we collected and donated clothing and non-perishable food items for Mays High School Students.

We continued our community outreach by serving lunch to MARTA Police officers, volunteering at the Lupus Walk, and walking in the Glow It Up Blue 5/1K for Autism Awareness. While uplifting each other and serving the community, we initiated four new sisters into our beautiful Order and Chapter. As we serve others, God blesses us with new members to continue the work that began 118 years ago. We take helping others seriously, and we do it willingly with pure hearts!





## CONTINUING THE GOOD WORK

Contributed by  
BROTHER DR. CHARLES SMITH  
Millen District No. 16

The Sisters of Beulah Chapter #116 continue to press forward during the pandemic to do our “good works.” The chapter started the year with its Annual Family & Friends Day Celebration on February 26 th at the K.C. Childers Masonic Temple. The program was a massive success as brothers, sisters, and youth throughout the district and the community participated. Minnie M. Ponder Youth Chapter #112 participated in the Annual Family & Friends Day by adding a celebration of Black history to the program. The keynote speaker for the event was none other than Dr. Charles J. Smith Jr., of Gough Lodge # 419. The theme was “HOPE,” Helping Oppressed People Evolve. Dr. Smith gave a powerful message of truth and inspiration for all ages.

Everyone was able to understand and relate to the facts that were spoken. The month of March was busy for Beulah Chapter. On March 19 th, the chapter gave back to the community by preparing and delivering meals at the Sylvania Soup Kitchen. The community residents are always happy to see the smiling faces of our chapter members. The following weekend Beulah had their Annual Dinner Sale to assist with scholarships. The dinner sale was a success.

*Matthew 5:4 states, “Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.” In April, the death angel cast upon the chapter, taking our dear sister Sylvia Ann Roberts from her earthly home. At the request of the family, the Chapter performed the burial service. The burial team consisted of Past Matrons Maggie Jones, T. Joy Roberts, Susie Reed, Ella Rhodes, Gail Young Morris, Debbie Simmons, and Brothers Cedric Rhodes, and Anthony Youngs.*



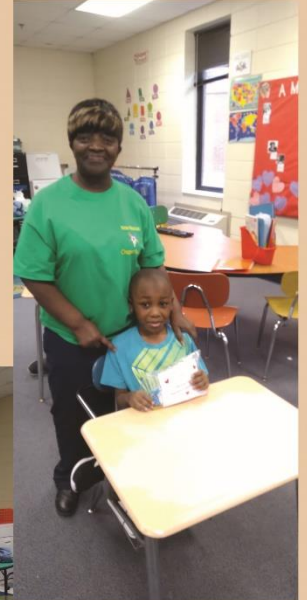
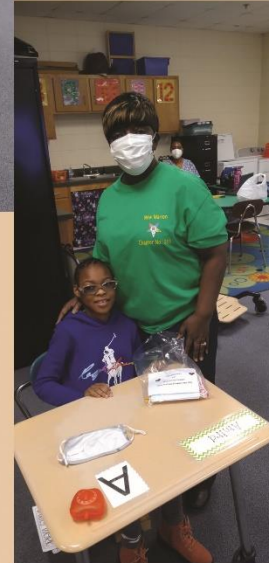


## SERVICE IN THE SCHOOLS

Contributed by  
WORTHY MATRON ANNIE FRAZIER  
New Marion Chapter No. 381

**Waynesboro, GA – On February 7, 2022, New Marion Chapter No. 381 Adopt-A-Class Initiative visited Blakney Elementary SPED Class.**

**The Chapter recognized the teacher, Mrs. Dianne McIntyre Wiliams, with school supplies. They presented her with pencils, paper, and erasers and provided sweet, bagged treats for the class. Mrs. Williams and her Para-Professional Aide both received a Subway card.**





## SERVING WITH LOVE & KINDNESS

Contributed by  
**WORTHY MATRON TIFFANY ABRAMS**  
 Truth & Union Chapter No. 590

"You, my brothers, and sisters were called to be free. ... But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love." Galatians 5:10

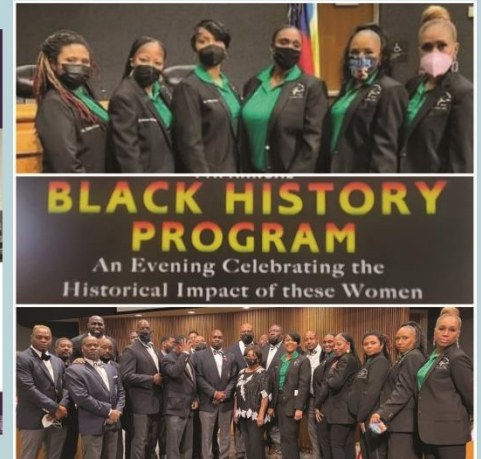
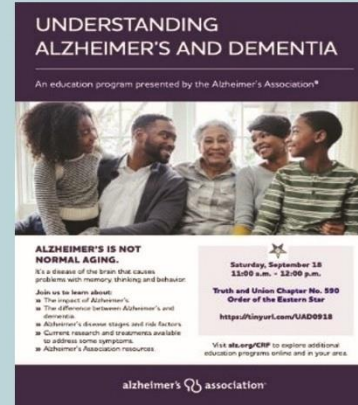
While still under the shadow of the pandemic Truth and Union, Chapter No. 590 remained steadfast in giving back to the community and ensuring that all chapter activities were in order. As we reflect on 2021 through today, several activities were a true reflection of the chapter

Serving With Energy, Enthusiasm, Talent, and an Open Heart. The health and safety of our members remained our top priority, so delivering baskets of donated items was the safest way to accomplish our commitment to helping others without compromise. Safely Serving with Love and Kindness

As the school doors prepared to reopen, we were determined to prepare our children for a great school year, so we Packed 50 Backpacks with helpful essentials and snacks! The parents of Home Stay Suites were incredibly grateful, and the kids walked away smiling. The holidays proved to be especially difficult during the pandemic. Therefore, we committed to ten Thanksgiving baskets in November for the families of Snellville Middle school and the Department of Family and Children Services. We closed 2021 with our Truth and Union lodge brothers and celebrated with them at Home Stay Suites, providing exciting toys, clothes, and home essentials for ALL families (children and parents)! Although it rained, our light continued to shine.

In February 2022, Truth and Union partnered with the Alzheimer's Association to present a free, virtual workshop to the community. Information about Alzheimer's and Dementia, their stages, risk factors, research, and FDA-approved treatments was presented. It was a highly informative event! It was an honor for the sisters of the Truth and Union chapter to join the brothers of T&U Lodge during an event to celebrate the accomplishments of distinguished Black women in Gwinnett County. From teachers to Judges, the prominent women of Gwinnett were honored! We were graced with the presence of Medger Evars's aunt and had the opportunity to hear her touching story. Sol C. Johnson Scholarship Recipients: Truth and Union Chapter No. 590 recognized two exceptional individuals for their scholastic achievements through our active fundraising activities. Ms. Cambrie Haynes and Mr. Dion Reid each received the Sol. C. Johnson Scholarship to support their college endeavors.

Victorious in Unity - the theme of our first anniversary held on 3/5/2022 summarizes our chapter's theme and the power of our 2022 scripture coming from Ecclesiastes 4:9-10: "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. If either of them falls, one can help the other up." What a testament to the chapter's drive to continue moving forward as one despite challenges! The above endeavors are just a glimpse into the service of Truth and Union Chapter No. 590, serving in love and kindness. Our theme is "Working together in Harmony to Strengthen our Sisterhood while Serving our Community."



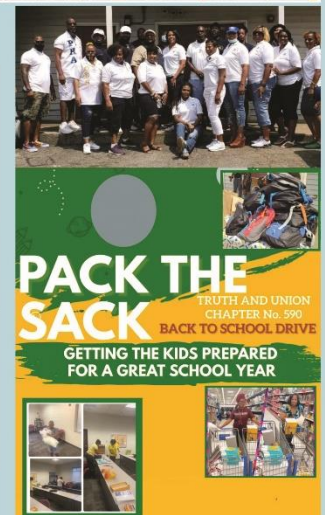
Sis. Deidra P. Wilson, Grand Worthy Matron  
 Sis. Tiffany Abrams, Worthy Matron



Bro. Cecil James, 33°, Grand Worthy Patron  
 Bro. Jason Dewberry, Worthy Patron

**Truth and Union Chapter No. 590**

*Virtual 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary*  
*'Victorious in Unity'*





## THE YOUTH GIVING BACK

Contributed by  
PAST MATRON JOY ROBERTS  
Minnie M. Ponder Youth Chapter No. 112

Minnie M. Ponder #112 of Millen District # 16 is still doing wonderful things! Under the guidance of Beulah Chapter #116, the youth participated in the Chapter's annual Family & Friends Day celebration. On February 26 th at the K.C. Childers Masonic Temple. In celebration of Black History Month, the youth portrayed different historic African Americans, including Joe Frazier, Muhammad Ali, and Kamala Harris.

The youth also performed very emotional scenes of the "Black Lives Matter" Movement. These scenes had the audience in silence and tears. March 26 th provided the opportunity for youth chapter members to give back to the community and assist the less fortunate. Youth assisted in preparing over 150 meals at the Sylvania Soup Kitchen. Not only did they help prepare meals but helped with delivering these meals to the residents within the community. The residents were pleased to receive their meals and see youth participating. On resident smiled and stated, "Train up a child in the way he should go...Amen."

By putting that scripture into action (Proverbs 22:6), past youth chapter members continue to prosper into their adult lives. Past Grand Youth President & Past President of Minnie M. Ponder #112, Ms. Daria Manior-Grosh, recently moved to Chicago after signing to be an executive with the six-time NBA Champions, Chicago Bulls. Daria is a graduate of the University of Georgia & Georgia State with a master's degree in Sports Administration. We are so proud to see one of our own doing extraordinary things.





## GIVING BACK THROUGH EDUCATION

Contributed by  
WORTHY MATRON DEBORAH TATUM  
Newnan Chapter No. 483

"My Sisters and Brothers, Happy Springtime to you! I hope you enjoyed a beautiful and blessed Easter with your loved ones. All my good thoughts and prayers for everyone's health and safety as the pandemic continues to be present in our lives. We want to acknowledge the passing of Past Matron Sara Clay Williams on August 10th, 2021. She was a true icon of our chapter.

Giving back through Education in early 2021, three 2020 Coweta County High School Graduates were awarded \$500.00 scholarships. Jaison Render of East Coweta High School, Kenyatta Ward of Newnan High School, and Maria Muhammad of Northgate High School. What a blessing we feel knowing that we are helping change students' lives one life at a time. This is who we are!

The Newnan Chapter No. 483 members participating in the Coweta County Special Olympics Field and Track for the first time since 2019 were held at the Newnan High School Drake Stadium on Wednesday, April 20th, 2022. The event had been called off since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Newnan Chapter reinstated one member, and two new applicants were favorably balloted upon on April 14th, 2022, and will be initiated on Thursday, May 12th at 7:00 p.m.

Happy 85th Birthday, Blessings! Grand Pearl Past Matron Margaret Thompson on June 1 st . May God bless each of you, and may our Order grow and prosper in the future!





## DOING GREAT WORKS

Contributed by  
BROTHER BERNARD SHORT  
Newnan Lodge No. 299

The brothers of "The Great" Newnan Lodge No. 299 elected new Principal officers in December 2021. Worshipful Master Brother Michael Rucker, Senior Warden Brother Jeffrey Anderson, Junior Warden Brother Bernard Short, Treasurer Past Master Brother William Reese, and Secretary Past Master Curtis Blanchard.

The brothers of Newnan Lodge No. 299 have been working diligently to improve and upgrade the lodge building to completion soon. The lodge has put together several events engaging the community. They are as follows: The Easter Egg Hunt, Grill & Grub Event, Neighborhood Cleanup (which will happen in May), Juneteenth cookout, and bike ride.

Our next Grill & Grub will be held on July 30 th in conjunction with celebrating our lodge anniversary. Lastly, we will participate in the Back-to-School Book Bag Giveaway Event in August.





## ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING

Contributed by  
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER RICK TAYLOR  
Augusta District No. 2

The Masonic District No. 2 annual district meeting was held on April 2, 2022, at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Augusta, GA. In attendance were the 18 th Most Worshipful Grand Master, The Honorable Corey D. Shackelford, Sr., Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Primis T. James, the 16 th Grand Worthy Matron Deaidra P. Wilson, and Past Grand Matron Belle S. Clark.



The fellowship was fantastic. A special thanks to Banneker Lodge No. 3 and Lucy C. Laney Chapter No. 20 for hosting a spectacular meeting. Past Master Ralph Jordan of Gibraltar Lodge No. 265 was presented his Life Membership by the 18 th Most Worshipful Grand Master, Honorable Corey D. Shackelford Sr.





## DISTRICT NO. 15 ON THE MOVE

Contributed by  
PAST MATRON JANICE WALTON  
Lagrange District No. 15

Greetings, Sisters and Brothers of the Jurisdiction of Georgia. Our lives may have changed, but our District and Chapters are strong, and we have survived this pandemic even stronger. It's been an honor to serve as District Worthy Matron for LaGrange District No. 15 since 2016 alongside District Worthy Patron, Brother Morris Tatum, having served for five years. We have worked hard for the future of LaGrange District No. 15. Now, in 2022 I will be passing the torch, and I know that our District will continue to impact the communities we serve. My favorite motto says, "If I can help somebody along the way, my living will not be in vain."

LaGrange District No.15 continued working hard despite the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure that we met our scholarship donations to provide funds for the Sol C. Johnson Scholarship Fund.

Listed below are the 2021 Sol C. Johnson Scholarship Fund Recipients:

Ms. Sydney Lawrence - Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley, GA  
Mr. Jacob Cousin - University of Montevallo, Montevallo, AL  
Ms. Starlis Thompson - Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA  
Mr. Desmond Sands - Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

The LaGrange District No. 15 Healthcare Workers were recognized during the Jurisdictional Anniversary.

Remember always; love is the thread that binds us together in Eastern Star.



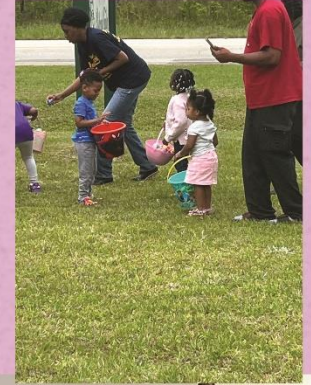


## EASTER EXCITEMENT

Contributed by  
SISTER JESSICA WOMBLE  
Shiloh Chapter No. 8

**On Saturday, April 16, 2022, Shiloh Chapter #8 Order of the Eastern Star and St. Andrew Lodge #32 held their annual Easter egg hunt at The Family Retreat Center. The eggs and candies were plentiful. Several kids had the chance to find eggs with cash hidden inside. The Easter Bunny happened to find his way to Tennille, Ga. Sunday, April 17, 2022, the Louisville Masonic District's youth chapter, Brenda J. Broxton Youth Chapter No. 394, and the Mt. Olive Baptist Church had an incredible Easter Explosion!**

**Recitations, skits, praise dancing, preaching, teaching, and churching. The Mt. Olive Baptist Church made a very generous donation to the Brenda J. Broxton Youth Chapter No. 394 to help finance their good works. The Reverend Corian Roberson is the Pastor.**





## FIRST TO ADOPT-A-ROAD

Contributed by  
BROTHER CARLOS WILLIAMS II  
Fort Gillem Lodge No. 601

Fort Gillem Lodge #601, F&AM, PHA, made history in Forest Park, GA, by being the first organization ever to adopt a road in the city. On April 23, 2022, @ 10 a.m., the brothers of Fort Gillem Lodge #601 held their first street clean-up activity under the leadership of Worshipful Master Brother Vance Trone. Officials from the City of Forest Park welcomed the brothers with a city of Forest Park Table complete with snacks and water for the brothers and supporters who attended. Senior Warden Brother William Harris coordinated the lodge's Forest Park, Georgia Adopt a Road Project. The Fort Gillem Lodge #601 road is located at Forest Parkway and Springdale Road, adjacent to the Family Dollar Store. During the event, Worshipful Master Brother Vance Trone stated, "I just wanted to thank everyone who attended our first Adopt a Road Community Service Project. We had a chance to be a part of history in the city of Forest Park and fellowship with one another." The City of Forest Park awarded a framed certificate of the marker sign to the lodge to commemorate the historic achievement and event. The adopted road gives Fort Gillem Lodge No. 601 a sense of pride and recognition.

Following the event, the brothers caravanned to the original meeting location for Fort Gillem Lodge No. 601, which was a short distance away. Past Master Brother Washington Lindsey and Worshipful Master Brother Vance Trone shared stories of how the lodge met when it began and taught its history to the newer brothers.





## THE YEAR OF GROWTH

Contributed by  
**WORTHY MATRON TAMIKA BRYANT**  
 Foundation Chapter No. 587

Foundation Chapter No. 587 kicked off 2022, continuing our chapter theme: **Bonding Together to Reach our DESTINY!** and new sub-theme: **Year of Growth!** WM Tamika Bryant shared ways the Chapter can grow this year: **Personal Growth, Professional Growth, Committee Growth, Chapter Growth, Leadership Growth, OES Education, etc.** On January 17, 2022, our chapter members joined the “Cobb County Virtual Dr. King Day Celebration,” which honors the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. On January 22, 2022, we had a full day. We attended our District’s “Virtual School of Instruction,” and members participated in our Joint Quarterly Adopt-A-Mile clean-up. We take immense pride in our partnership with “Keep Smyrna Beautiful,” which keeps the community of Smyrna clean and free of litter on Atlanta Road. We ended the month of January with a “Vision Board Party” on January 30, 2022. We were excited to have one of our very own members, Sister Kenyatta Jones (Certified Master Life Purpose Coach) helped teach the class with Worthy Matron Tamika Bryant. Participating members completed goal setting, and mind-mapping, shared their 2022 goals, and received accountability partners.

During February, Foundation Chapter No. 587 stayed remarkably busy. On February 4, 2022, our chapter supported “National Wear Red Day,” which brings greater attention to heart disease as a leading cause of death for Americans. On February 5, 2022, we had twelve sisters travel to Macon, GA, for the Mid-Winter Meeting. The following week, we kicked off our first monthly Prayer Call on February 8, 2022. The theme for our prayer call is “Growing Together Through Prayer,” and it takes place every 2nd Tuesday of the month (Dial-in Number: 412-679-5125 and Access Code: 5875870). In addition, Foundation Chapter No. 587 submitted 150 “Cards of Love” to seniors at the A.G. Rhodes Home in Cobb County. The cards were tailored to Valentine’s Day to spread love to the senior residents. On February 25, 2022, our chapter hosted a “Heart to Health Talk,” which featured our very own Sister Eboni Lowery, RN, was the guest speaker as she brought awareness to the impacts of a healthy heart. She provided an interactive heart discussion with knowledge, fun, and games. On February 26, 2022, WM Tamika Bryant and WP Micheal Gaither proudly received their Administrative Degrees at Grand East. Later that day, our Chapter supported the Grand Chapter’s “Healthy Heart, Healthy Brain, Health You” virtual education program.

We started the second year of our “Secret sister” quarterly activity in April. This program is a fantastic way to stay connected with our sisters and bring a smile to their faces each quarter. On April 9, 2022, our chapter joined the brothers of Foundation Lodge No. 592 for a historical moment between the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia and the Grand Lodge of Georgia – Free & Accepted Masons during the Treaty of Amity Signing. On April 16, 2022, we partnered with the brothers of Foundation Lodge No. 592 on our Annual Blood Drive, where we collected seventeen pints of blood. In addition, we supported Grand Matron’s Testimonial Weekend Celebration, which was full of fun, laughter, and dancing. Foundation Chapter No. 587 ended the month of April by volunteering at the “Walk to End Lupus Now” and distributing water to the walk participants. We look forward to a fantastic year of growth in 2022!





## UNITY FOR MLK PARADE

Contributed by  
WORTHY MATRON TRACEY MCKENZIE  
Virgin Chapter No. 58

**The brothers and sisters of Cornerstone Lodge No. 8 and Virgin Chapter No. 58 were proud to unite with the Brunswick community through participation in the 2022 Martin Luther King Jr. parade on January 17<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the life and legacy of his dream.**

**Some of the participants were Worshipful Master Alvin Stevens, Past Master Oscar Brown, Jr, Worthy Patron; Sister Tracey McKenzie, Worthy Matron; Sister Rhondia Grant, Associate Matron; and sister Jenell Williams.**





## GOOD WORKS IN THE COMMUNITY

Contributed by  
PAST MATRON T. JOY ROBERTS  
Beulah Chapter No. 116

The Sisters of Beulah Chapter No. 116 continue to press forward during the pandemic to do our “good works.” The chapter started the year with its Annual Family & Friends Day Celebration on February 26th at the K.C. Childers Masonic Temple. The program was a massive success as brothers, sisters, and youth throughout the district and the community participated. Minnie M. Ponder Youth Chapter No. 112 participated in the Annual Family & Friends Day by adding a celebration of Black history to the program. The keynote speaker for the event was none other than Dr. Charles J. Smith Jr., of Gough Lodge No. 419. The theme was “HOPE,” Helping Oppressed People Evolve. Dr. Smith gave a powerful message of truth and inspiration for all ages. Everyone was able to understand and relate to the facts that were spoken.

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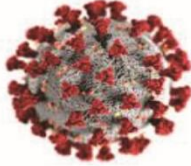
Matthew 5:4 states, “Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.” In April, the death angel cast upon the chapter, taking our dear sister Sylvia Ann Roberts from her earthly home. At the request of the family, the Chapter performed the burial service. The burial team consisted of Past Matrons Maggie Jones, T. Joy Roberts, Susie Reed, Ella Rhodes, Gail Young Morris, Debbie Simmons, and Brothers Cedric Rhodes, and Anthony Youngs.





## COVID-19 / Mask Mandate Update

*Submitted by  
RW Dr. Kenneth Walton #44  
Medical Department  
Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge State of New Jersey  
Special thanks to  
MW Michael A. Wiggins, Grand Master*



With mask mandates disappearing, governments declaring it is time to “learn to live with COVID,” and an increasing number of people being fully vaccinated against the coronavirus, it almost feels like the pandemic is over in most of the world. After two years of pandemic restrictions, most states have announced they will end indoor mask mandates. The reasoning for this new mandate varies from politics to national income survival within the United States (US), but for whatever the reason being, we must be conscious of the fact that COVID is not gone. The virus nor its variants have been eradicated. The truth is stated, COVID will be here as long as we live. The challenge is to learn from the enormous amount of data we did not have two years ago and utilize it prudently to guide us as we live our daily lives. The challenges that we must face are contingent upon the behavior of the people we are around and associate with as we go through our daily vocations. If we do not be mindful of our behavior, we will be destined for the reversal of the mandates. There is a large population of people that are always at risk of being infected with COVID (e.g., unvaccinated people, immunocompromised patients, disabled, chronically ill people, elderly), and we must be respectful of their needs and their health. There are still doctors, patients, and the American population still being infected, on oxygen therapy, and restricted orders at home due to the virus. The country has reached a point where the transmission rate has consistently declined. The weather is changing to allow a significant amount of the population to be performing outdoor activities, which has assisted with the decline. There will always be peaks and falls with the transmission of the virus, but at present, the

country is at a point where restrictions can be minimized. With this new mindset, we still must remember that COVID, for the past (2) years, has been the third leading cause of death in the United States (following behind heart disease and cancer). There has also been an increase in Road Rage (1 in every 17 hours), Mental Health issues, alcohol and drug use, and crime as the pandemic has brought many changes in how we live our lives. So, as we enter the Spring and Summer, please keep in mind the extra challenges currently existing in our surroundings and be considerate to others around us. Also, remember, if you have any symptoms (e.g., runny nose, fatigue, coughing, sore throat), please get tested. Let us continue to keep the transmission rate down so that we can all continue to begin living our lives in the “New Normal.”

Several points of interest to keep in mind:

- Always have a mask in your possession in case you happen to find yourself in an environment with a large population of people, especially indoors
- Always keep Hand Sanitizer in your possession
- Wash your Hands periodically during the day, if possible
- Keep social distance if you are in an environment with people with uncertain vaccination status.

***Remember, if you have any symptoms, please get tested. Let us continue to keep the transmission rate down so that we can all continue to begin living our lives in the “New Normal.”***





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE ANNOUNCES FULL ACCREDITATION

**ATLANTA (April 27, 2022)** -- Morris Brown College (MBC) is proud to announce it has received full accreditation from the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), a Virginia-based accreditation agency. TRACS Board of Trustees voted to grant accreditation to MBC on April 26, 2022, at its annual meeting. This monumental achievement came after nearly 20 years of effort, marking a historical achievement for the 141-year-old college.

TRACS is recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDOE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) as an institutional accrediting agency for Christian post-secondary institutions, colleges, universities, and seminaries. TRACS is also a member of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE), a worldwide association of over 200 organizations active in the theory and practice of quality assurance in higher education. Moreover, the agency is a member of the American Council on Education (ACE), with over 1,700 organizations that collectively promote, protect, and advocate for students, faculty, and administrators in higher education.

Morris Brown College earning full accreditation is a significant achievement demonstrating that it holds quality standards and is engaged in continuous improvement. Furthermore, the college has been reinstated to participate in the Federal Financial Aid Program. Financial aid is any type of college funding that does not come from family, personal savings, or earnings. It can include grants, scholarships, work-study jobs, and federal or private loan programs. Financial aid can be used to cover educational expenses such as tuition/fees, room/board, books/supplies, and transportation. Morris Brown has one of the most affordable tuition rates in Georgia at \$4,250 a semester.



was truly The Hard Reset. This is just the beginning!"



Having served as chief executive for three years, President Kevin James said, "I am honored to lead this great institution. Many thought that this feat was impossible, but due to our strong faith in God, our hardworking and wonderful faculty and staff, the support of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, our dedicated alumni, and our resilient spirit, we were able to achieve full accreditation. Morris Brown offers a unique, affordable, and quality education that prepares students for success. This

Founded by formerly enslaved religious leaders at Big Bethel AME Church in 1881, MBC is the first college in Georgia to be owned and operated by African Americans. The iconic Fountain Hall and the current Morris Brown campus are where Dr. W.E.B. Du Bois wrote "The Souls of Black Folk" in 1903. Notable alumni include Alberta Williams King, mother of Martin Luther King, Jr., and James Alan McPherson, the first Black writer to win a Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.

To learn more about Morris Brown College, visit [morrisbrown.edu](http://morrisbrown.edu).

## ABOUT MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE:

Morris Brown College was founded in 1881 by the African Methodist Episcopal Church. It is a private, coeducational liberal arts college engaged in teaching and public service with a special focus on leadership, management, entrepreneurship, and technology. The institution is the only college in Georgia founded solely by African American patronage.



## GRAND LODGE HIGHLIGHT - CCFC

CONTRIBUTED BY

GRAND EDITOR PAST MASTER BERTRAM THOMAS JR., GRAND CCFC PAST MASTER JAMES SHEPPARD, III &  
GRAND ASSISTANT CCFC PAST MASTER ISAAC ROBINSON

The Most of Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia has many appointed officers that work hard for the welfare of the brothers of this jurisdiction. In each issue, we will focus on a different committee to highlight their activities and bring awareness to their achievements. These are the unsung heroes that work behind the scenes to either make our lives easier as freemasons or further the benevolent and fraternal mission of the order. Special thank you to Grand CCFC Past Master James Sheppard, III, and Past Master Isaac Robinson for taking the time to participate in a virtual interview to explain the importance of their Grand Lodge office. The first Grand Lodge department to be recognized is the office of the CCFC. The CCFC is an acronym that means & Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.&quot; The Grand

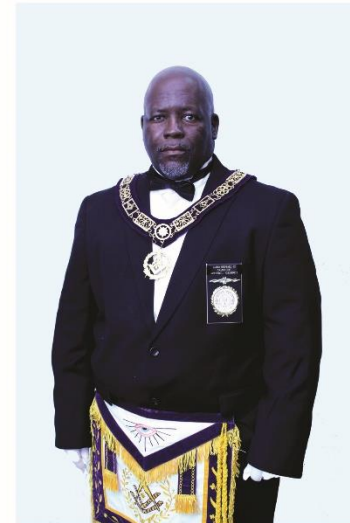
CCFC is Past Master James Sheppard, III. Past Master Sheppard is a member of Pythagoras Lodge No. 11 of Masonic District No. 1 and served as Worshipful Master in 2007, 2009, and 2015. He was appointed as the Assistant CCFC to Grand CCFC Past Master Michael Delgado in 2018 by Past Grand Master Bruce James. He was appointed to Grand CCFC in May 2021 by the 18 th Most Worshipful Grand Master Corey D. Shackleford Sr. The Grand Assistant CCFC is Past Master Isaac Robinson. Past Master Robinson is a member of Exodus Lodge No. 593 and served as Worshipful Master in 2011. He was appointed as the Assistant CCFC on June 8, 2021, by the 18 th Most Worshipful Grand Master Corey D. Shackleford Sr.

In the United States, most Grand Lodges have a Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence (A primary officer and assistant in many jurisdictions). The Office of the Grand CCFC reports every Grand Session of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia. It includes everything that has been done concerning foreign communication outside of the United States and between jurisdictions within the United States. Sometimes, it contains recommendations adopted by the grand lodge at the session if required. All communication between jurisdictions goes through the Office of the CCFC, which maintains communications protocol as points of contact. Also, the office of the CCFC informs the Grand Master of all election results of elections that occur within all Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodges throughout the United States.

A key role of the CCFC is also the responsibility for scheduling and facilitating all aspects of Sojourner & funerals. Sojourner & funerals refer to a deceased brother from another jurisdiction that may pass away in this jurisdiction and is alerted by the office of CCFC from that jurisdiction that the brother&#39;s family requested the last rites to be performed at the funeral.

The Georgia office of CCFC will work with the local District Deputy Grand Master or another official to coordinate all logistics pertaining to the last rites. The process also operates in the same manner if a brother from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia passes away in another jurisdiction or has his funeral in another jurisdiction.

Travel logistics and communication with the destination Grand Lodge is also under the purview of the Office of the CCFC. The office of CCFC works with other jurisdiction offices of CCFC and Grand Master to coordinate masonic travel for three or more brothers from Georgia to another jurisdiction for an official purpose. This does not include numbers less than three or for unofficial visits, which fall under the purview of the District Deputy Grand Masters. The office of the CCFC is currently collaborating with the Grand Director of Technology, Assistant District Deputy Reggie Walker, to automate the communications process between jurisdictions to include electronic forms that can be used to communicate directly with Grand CCFC and Assistant CCFC. These updates will be discussed in depth at the 2022 Grand Lodge Session of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia. Our jurisdiction looks forward to continued leadership and foreign communications guidance as we increase our fellowship with jurisdictions in foreign lands.





## EDITOR'S WELCOME

### **Editor's Corner: Historic Signing of the Treaty of Mutual Recognition- A Culmination of the Seriousness of Our Purpose**

To the brothers and Sisters of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge and Chapter of Georgia, our newly recognized brothers of the Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia, and all our Prince Hall Brothers and Sisters worldwide:

This fourth issue of the Masonic Digest highlights significant strides that the brothers and sisters have made in the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia. With continued efforts by our respective lodges and chapters to conduct our charitable endeavors, our leadership and designated mutual recognition team have worked to be a positive force in changing the status quo in Georgia. We have operated for 150 years in a "separate but equal" status as legitimate and regular organizations, but neither organization recognized the legitimacy of the other nor permitted visitation. Regardless of where your politics guide your feelings on this topic, it cannot be debated that noteworthy progress has been made. Several articles within this Masonic Digest issue address the treaty signing and explain the long-range significance of this extraordinary act.

This issue also features our first highlight of a grand lodge committee: the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence (CCFC). The highlight of this integral committee contains an informative interview of the Grand CCFC Past Master James Sheppard and the Assistant Grand CCFC Past Master Isaac Robinson.

As with previous issues, we have a COVID-19 public health article to keep the membership apprised of the clinical trajectory of the pandemic. Let us stay vigilant and safe as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to mutate. We have lost many brothers, sisters, friends, and family members during this pandemic, and may we never forget the legacy and guidance they have set for us. They sacrificed their time and leadership skills to ensure that we have viable lodges, chapters, and a sustainable grand lodge. We are all products of praying mothers, fathers, family members, and guardians. Let us continue to make them proud.

Please continue to support the "But God Initiative" as it is going strong. We want to thank all the brothers and sisters that continue to see the big picture for the future of this jurisdiction and support our elected and appointed leaders in their vision for sustained viability for our future.

Please continue to support the efforts of Morris Brown College. After 20 years of efforts to regain this quality benchmark, they finally received their accreditation. The college is led by one of our brothers, Dr. Kevin James, and he needs all the support that we can give him. As stated in the Grand Master's proclamation, our members can attend that fine Historically Black College (HBCU) for a nominal fee. Please take advantage of this phenomenal and unique opportunity to further your education.

We, as your editors, request that you continue to chronicle your community service and social

events. We are growing with each issue, and it is our job to collaborate with you to highlight your efforts. Please submit all pictures as separate files outside the articles instead of embedding them in the report. The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge and Chapter have a rich history of supporting the underserved communities and creating mentoring opportunities through the Youth Chapters and the Knights of Pythagoras. Please continue to highlight these youth activities in addition to your lodge and chapter functions. We strive to include all articles and will publish all according to our layout space. Your articles will be published in a subsequent issue for any pieces that did not make it into this issue due to the deadline. The Masonic Digest will keep the members in touch with each other as we head into the 2022 Grand Session in Augusta, Georgia. Thank you for your continued support of your Masonic Digest and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Georgia.

Fraternally,

Worshipful Bertram Thomas Jr. (57), Grand Editor

Worshipful James Q. Leach (107), Grand Digital Editor

Worshipful Michael Johnson (8), Grand Communications Editor





NEXT DEADLINE

SEPTEMBER 1

2022