







EDITOR'S WELCOME

Editor's Corner: 2023- Lodges and Chapters Working to Strengthen Our Communities

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

This sixth issue of the Masonic Digest highlights the fall 2022 and winter 2023 community service and social activities in which the Brothers and Sisters have engaged. All of your great deeds greatly inspire others and ultimately uplift the value of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia. Like previous issues, this sixth issue features the Grand Master's and Grand Worthy Matron's Corner of 19th Most Worshipful Grand Master Honorable Primus T. James and our 17th Grand Worthy Matron Saundra Parks.

This issue also features a "Meet the Team" section providing background information and pictures of our Grand Lodge elected officers. Our elected grand lodge officers and deputies are here to serve the membership and are always available to lend an attentive ear.

Let us stay vigilant and safe as the COVID-19 pandemic is still here. Your health and well-being are of utmost importance to the Masonic Digest editorial staff and the leadership of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia. We have lost many brothers, sisters, friends, and family members during the pandemic, and we must follow guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local health departments.

Please continue to support the "But God Initiative" as it is a method to perpetuate financial stability for our future. A new Silver option has been added, which provides an alternative to the original payment option. Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master Jonathan White spearheaded this change with his team. We want to thank all the brothers and sisters that continue to see the big financial picture for this jurisdiction and support our elected and appointed leaders in their vision for the sustained viability of our organization.

Please continue to support the efforts of Morris Brown College. They have received their full accreditation and offer tuition discounts to our members. The college is led by one of our brothers, Dr. Kevin James, who needs all the support we can give him. Please take advantage of this opportunity to further your education.

We, as your editors, request that you continue to chronicle your community service and social events. Please submit all pictures as separate files outside the articles instead of embedding them within the article. Please submit only in word format and not PDFs. Continue highlighting your youth activities and your lodge and chapter functions as 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. Thank you for your continued support of the 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



GRAND MASTER'S CORNER

Brothers and Sisters,

I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you to each of you who attended the Mid-Winter Meeting. I pray everyone enjoyed it and had a chance to fellowship. Now is the time to prepare for the 152nd Grand Session in Columbus, Georgia.

Let us all remember that life is short, and we know not what day or time we will leave this earth for another resting place. I say that to remind us that we never know what's happening in another person's life. The guy who cuts you off in traffic or the checkout clerk who reacts with impatience. How someone reacts doesn't always reflect how they feel about you or me. It is often instead a response to the complex circumstances of their life on that given day.

So, I ask God to help us to remember to respond to others with grace and kindness, to put good into the world just for the sake of doing so, for the right words spoken to someone at the right time might lift the worry that burdens another's heart.

Primus T. JamesPrimus T. James
Most Worshipful Grand Master



GRAND CHAPTER

Grand Matron's Corner







Grand Worthy Matron Saundra E. Parks

I am blessed and excited to start this new year as your Grand Worthy Matron. Let us all first thank God for the year that has gone and all of the blessings that He bestowed upon us in 2022. This new year is a new chance for self-care, to encourage others, to strengthen bonds, to grow our faith, and to shine in unity with the Brothers and Sisters of this wonderful Jurisdiction.

This new year is also a great opportunity to renew our COMMITMENT TO SERVICE. Let us renew our commitment to attending our Chapter meetings, participating in community service projects, getting involved in our Districts, and fundraising for scholarships. Quoting Marting Luther King, Jr., "Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." It is in this spirit that I hope we live by 2023.

Our Grand Chapter team has started off 2023 just as busy and motivated as we left in 2022. We've continued to disseminate knowledge across the jurisdiction as well as support District & Zone meetings and Chapter events. In January, our Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge teams also hosted the Southeast Regional Conference of Grand Masters, Grand Matrons, and Grand Patrons representing Alabama, Bahamas, Caribbean, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee.

Next, words cannot adequately express the joy I felt leading my first Mid-Winter Meeting alongside Grand Master Primus James. I am grateful for all of the support that I received and the planning that made it a success. I especially appreciated the attentiveness of the District Matrons and District Patrons during our Grand Chapter leadership meeting held the evening prior to the larger meeting and I eagerly await the next opportunity to congregate.

Finally, I will continue to lead this jurisdiction according to God's plan as embodied in the four functions of **For the Love of the S.T.A.R.**: Sisterly Strategizing, Training with Technology, Accountability through Activity, and Respect through Rejuvenation.

Serving with Integrity, Saundra E. Parks 17th Grand Worthy Matron



GRAND WORTHY PATRON'S CORNER

Greetings from the Desk of the Grand Worthy Patron,

As we approach the halfway point of my first year as Grand Worthy Patron, I am thankful for everything I have experienced in this position. I have had the opportunity to travel to South Carolina, Michigan, Ohio, and DC Jurisdictions to represent Georgia. Traveling is a learning experience for us and a chance to brag on everything we do well here in Georgia. Attending the



Southeast Regional Conference along with other Grand Officers gave us an opportunity to interact with Jurisdictions within our conference.

District Worthy Patrons are asked to report quarterly to keep the Grand Associate Patron and myself aware of what is happening in their District. This gives me documented information to share with the Grand Master. We should be notified of positives and accomplishments before the negatives and failures. Please make this happen to keep our Jurisdiction moving in the right direction.

District Worthy Patrons please assist your districts with preparation for the Grand Youth Session in anyway needed. We also would love to see you present in Augusta, GA for the Grand Youth Session.

As we enter Black History Month, I leave you with a quote by Marcus Garvey. "A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture is like a tree without roots." I encourage you all to continue to do your best, you are capable of doing amazing things, and of course....

Be Blessed,
Brother MackArthur Walton, GWP



GRAND MATRON'S CORNER

Southeast Regional Conference of Grand Matrons & Grand Patrons



Sister Deaidra P. Wilson Past Grand Worthy Matron - GA Conference President





Greetings,

The Jurisdiction of Georgia hosted the Southeast Regional Conference on January 14th at the Renaissance Concourse Atlanta Airport. Visiting Jurisdictions in our conference were Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Bahamas. Texas Jurisdiction was our guest has well. Approximately 160 Brothers and Sisters were in attendance.

PGWM Deaidra Wilson, serves as President of the Conference for the Grand Chapter. The Southeast Grand Chapter presented a scholarship during the luncheon. Our speaker was Gerald Griggs, President of the State NAACP. The Leadership of Georgia and the volunteers did a wonderful job serving as host for this event. Next year the Jurisdiction will be traveling to the Bahamas for our annual meeting.

Sisterly and Loving It, Deaidra P. Wilson Conference President

THE "BUT GOD" INITIATIVE





For Additional Information, email: butgod@mwphglga.org

For the "But God" initiative, members can now make a selfless sacrifice of \$1,000 (Gold Member), \$500 (Silver Member), or any in-kind donation to help pay off the mortgage owed at 7340 Old National Highway.

> As a Contributing GOLD Member - \$1000 You will receive the following:



Building Fund Exemption

Lifetime Exemption from the annual Building Fund of MWPHGL of GA.



Registration Exemptions

One-year exemption of registration fees for Grand Session, Mid-Winter Leadership Meeting, and PH

"But God" Award



Distinguished "Wall of Fame"

Your name will be engraved on a gold wall plaque in the foyer of the Grand East - on display - for your selfless contribution.



Presented with a "But God Initiative" Certificate and Neck Medallion - with the option to wear, when in full Masonic/OES regalia, to identify you as a full participating member.

As a Contributing Silver Member - \$500 You will receive the following:



Building Fund Exemption

Five (5) Year Exemption from the annual Building Fund of MWPHGL of GA.



Registration Exemptions

One-year exemption of registration fees for Grand Session, Mid-Winter Leadership Meeting, and PH



Distinguished "Wall of Fame"

Your name will be engraved on a silver wall plaque in the foyer of the Grand East - on display - for your selfless contribution.



As a Contributing GOLD Lodge or Chapter - \$1000 You will receive the following:



Giveaway Ticket Exemption

One (1) Year Exemption from the annual Giveaway of the MWPHGL of GA (\$300.00).



Distinguished "Wall of Fame"

Your lodge/chapter name will be engraved on a gold wall plaque in the foyer of the Grand East – on display - for your selfless contribution.

Available Payment Options

GOLD - Option 1

One Time Payment

A one-time \$1,000.00 payment into the initiative

Silver - Option 1

One Time Payment

A one-time \$500.00 payment into the initiative

GOLD - Option 2

Installment Plan

Initial payment of \$250.00 followed by additional payments totaling \$1000.00 within 18 months or less from the first installment.

Silver - Option 2

Installment Payment

There is no installment plan for the \$500.00 Silver option.

Available Payment Types

Option 1

Online Payment (via Stripe)

Payment via the MWPHGLGA website:

Option 2

Check by mail:

Cashier's check made payable to "But God Initiative" and sent to:

> **MWPHGLGA** c/o But God Initiative P.O. Box 490750 College Park, GA 30349

THE "BUT GOD" INITIATIVE





For Additional Information, email: butgod@mwphglga.org

For the "But God" initiative, members can now make a selfless sacrifice of \$1,000 (Gold Member), \$500 (Silver Member), or any in-kind donation to help pay off the mortgage owed at 7340 Old National Highway.

> As a Contributing GOLD Member - \$1000 You will receive the following:



Building Fund Exemption

Lifetime Exemption from the annual Building Fund of MWPHGL of GA.



Registration Exemptions

One-year exemption of registration fees for Grand Session, Mid-Winter Leadership Meeting, and PH



Distinguished "Wall of Fame"

Your name will be engraved on a gold wall plaque in the foyer of the Grand East – on display – for your selfless contribution.



"But God" Award

Presented with a "But God Initiative" Certificate and Neck Medallion – with the option to wear, when in full Masonic/OES regalia, to identify you as a full participating member.

As a Contributing Silver Member - \$500 You will receive the following:



Building Fund Exemption

Five (5) Year Exemption from the annual Building Fund of MWPHGL of GA.



Registration Exemptions

One-year exemption of registration fees for Grand Session, Mid-Winter Leadership Meeting, and PH



Distinguished "Wall of Fame"

Your name will be engraved on a silver wall plaque in the foyer of the Grand East - on display - for your selfless contribution.



As a Contributing GOLD Lodge or Chapter - \$1000 You will receive the following:



Giveaway Ticket Exemption

One (1) Year Exemption from the annual Giveaway of the MWPHGL of GA (\$300.00).



Distinguished "Wall of Fame"

Your lodge/chapter name will be engraved on a gold wall plaque in the foyer of the Grand East – on display – for your selfless contribution.

Available Payment Options

GOLD - Option 1

One Time Payment

A one-time \$1,000.00 payment into the initiative

Silver - Option 1

One Time Payment

A one-time \$500.00 payment into the initiative

GOLD - Option 2

Installment Plan

Initial payment of \$250.00 followed by additional payments totaling \$1000.00 within 18 months or less from the first installment.

Silver - Option 2

Installment Payment

There is no installment plan for the \$500.00 Silver option.

Available Payment Types

Online Payment (via Stripe)

Payment via the MWPHGLGA website:

Option 2

Check by mail:

Cashier's check made payable to "But God Initiative" and sent to:

> **MWPHGLGA** c/o But God Initiative P.O. Box 490750 College Park, GA 30349

PRESS RELEASE



Contact: Olivia Almagro olivia.almagro@gmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE PARTNERS WITH THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA-(Article Reprint)

ATLANTA (March 1, 2022) -- Morris Brown College (MBC) is proud to announce it has partnered with the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia to offer its members (Order of the Eastern Stars {OES} included) the opportunity to complete their college education at little to low cost. Morris Brown is also elated to announce its reinstatement to participate in the Federal Financial Aid Program administered by the United States Department of Education. This announcement comes on the heels of receiving accreditation candidacy by the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), a Virginia-based accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. This monumental achievement came after nearly 20 years of effort, marking a historical milestone for the 141-year-old college.

Prince Hall Freemasonry is the oldest and largest (300,000+ initiated members) predominantly African American fraternity worldwide. Rev. James M. Simms, a District Deputy Grand Master, established Eureka Lodge, No. 1, F. & A. M. in Savannah in 1866. Several other lodges were formed, and in 1870, he organized the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons. Rev. James M. Simms was elected to serve as its first Grand Master. The Grand Lodge went on to charter more than 500 lodges with over 20,000 members.

President Kevin James, a member of the Prince Hall Masonic Fraternity, said, "I am elated to partner with Grand Master Corey Shackleford, Sr., in this initiative. With the restoration of Morris Brown College as the most affordable HBCU in Atlanta, what better way than to offer this wonderful opportunity? Moreover, the members participate in the historic resurrection story while earning their degrees simultaneously. Through this partnership, all eligible financially active Georgia members will automatically be admitted to Morris Brown College to major in programs such as business, psychology, music, hospitality, general studies, and esports. Moreover, the institution is now a viable option to everyone as we are historically a haven for all hungry souls."

Grand Master Corey Shackleford, Sr. stated, "This partnership with Morris Brown is right on time as we continue to press Freemasonry forward in Georgia. The Prince Hall Masonic Lodge on Auburn Avenue (formerly our Grand East/HQs) recently received a grant that will provide funding for a preservation plan to guide the restoration of the building's character and condition. Moreover, recently the Grand Lodge of Georgia and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia agreed to grant mutual recognition, further strengthening Georgia Freemasonry. This partnership is meaningful because education is the root of many of these endeavors. These are historic times.

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.

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, focusing on leadership, management, entrepreneurship, and technology. The institution is the only college in Georgia founded solely by African American patronage.

PRESS RELEASE





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Atlanta's John Marshall Law School and Morris Brown College Partner to Improve Educational Opportunities in Legal Education

(ATLANTA) February 6, 2023 - Atlanta's John Marshall Law School (AJMLS) and Morris Brown College have engaged in a new partnership, facilitating a counseled track to attending law school for eligible applicants.

The partnership, a first of its kind with a historically black college for Atlanta's John Marshall Law School, creates favorable space for Morris Brown students to seek application guidance from the Office of Admissions at Atlanta's John Marshall Law School; and for eligible applicants who meet the standard admissions criteria, to receive priority law school admission. AJMLS is dedicated to providing the opportunity for legal education to both traditional and non-traditional students who show promise of making positive contributions to the profession, legal system, or society. Complimentary to that mission, Morris Brown College prepares their graduates to live meaningful and rewarding lives, thereby enabling them to make socially constructive and culturally relevant contributions to society.

"The partnership between Atlanta's John Marshall Law School and Morris Brown College will open doors for many students from underserved communities that show promise of succeeding in law school," said Jace C. Gatewood, Dean and CEO of AJMLS. "This partnership signals a change in the future of legal education where institutions work together to improve the educational opportunities for all students."

Of the announcement, Morris Brown College President, Dr. Kevin James, said, "We are ecstatic to partner with Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. Morris Brown students now have an official pathway and opportunity to earn a Juris Doctorate degree once they earn their degree from Atlanta's most affordable accredited HBCU."

Both institutions are invested in the goal of improving educational opportunities in legal education, and look forward to working together through this historic partnership.

###

ABOUT ATLANTA'S JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL

Founded in 1933 and fully accredited by the American Bar Association, Atlanta's John Marshall Law School is Atlanta's only stand-alone law school focused on preparing talented students for legal careers in the public and private sectors. Atlanta's John Marshall Law School students matriculate in a learning environment that includes exceptional faculty, accelerated externships, and intelligent learning collaboration.

PRESS RELEASE





Atlanta's John Marshall Law School academic programs consist of a Juris Doctor Program, J.D., including Full-Time, Part-Time Day, and Part-Time Evening programs; as well as a Criminal Justice Certificate Program.

For more information, please visit <u>www.johnmarshall.edu</u>.

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.

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.

FIRST MASONIC DISTRICT CELEBRATES DISTRICT ACHIEVEMENTS AND WELCOMES NEW LEADERSHIP

The Savannah First Masonic District continues to thrive. In these still uncertain times, members of the District made up of 10 lodges and ten chapters under the leadership of District Deputy Grand Master Everett E. Tolbert, Eureka Lodge No. 1 and District Worthy Matron Carol D. Magwood, Prince Hall Chapter No. 258, continue to be the change we want to see in our communities through our service. That service was celebrated during District Weekend, held October 28-30, 2022. The weekend kicked off with a Family Game Night on Friday, a Cookout, and a Halloween Fun Zone for the kids followed on Saturday, and the fun-filled weekend culminated with the Deputy's Awards Banquet on Sunday.

As this was our first District celebration since the COVID-19 pandemic, the accomplishments of 2020 and 2021 were also recognized. Award recipients included: Worshipful Master of the Year 2020 - PM Leroy Allen, Pythagoras Lodge No. 11, Worshipful Master of the Year 2021 - PM Michael Johnson, McKinley Lodge No. 211, Worshipful Master of the Year 2022 - WM Jakevious Green, Eastern Star Lodge No. 58, Master Mason of the Year 2022 - Bro. Morris Monday, Pythagoras Lodge No. 11, Worthy Matron of the year 2020 - PM Shauna Lloyd, Electa Chapter No. 1 and PM LaMonica Graham, Prince Hall Chapter No. 258, Worthy Matron of the Year 2021 - PM Nicole Davis-Edwards, Pride of Guyton Chapter No. 292 and PM Janet Hill, Mt. Moriah Chapter No. 37, Worthy Matron of the year 2022 - WM Karen Smalls, Savannah Chapter No. 159 and WM Rosetta Daniel, Prince Hall Chapter No. 258, Eastern Star of the Year 2022 - Sis. Ericka Walden, Prince Hall Chapter No. 258, Leadership Award 2022 - PM Yolonda Washington, Grand Queen, Savannah Chapter No. 159, 2022 Certificate of Appreciation - Sis. Mary Maxwell, Associate Matron, Clyo Chapter No. 297, and Lodge of the Year 2022 was presented to Pythagoras Lodge No. 11. Deputy Tolbert gave special recognition to PM Joseph Hymes, Deputy Emeritus, Hilton Lodge No. 2, PM Steve Shellman, Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 15, Bro. Lorenzo Mills, McKinley Lodge No. 211, and Bro. George Bryant, U.L. Houston Lodge No. 75.

2023 has gotten off to a great start with the Leadership Appreciation Breakfast hosted by DDGM Tolbert and DWM Magwood on January 7th. The breakfast was a way to show appreciation for all leaders in the district who continue to make the First Masonic District the BEST district in the jurisdiction! The highlight of the breakfast was a surprise presentation to DWM Magwood from the district leaders to honor her service. DWM Magwood served selflessly as District Worthy Matron from 2016 to 2022.

The annual District Meeting was held on Saturday, January 14, at the Masonic Prince Hall Center at 602 East Broad St., Savannah. During a joint session, Deputy Tolbert announced the official appointment by Grand Worthy Patron Mack Arthur Walton of PM Brian Dawsey, Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 15, as District Worthy Patron. PM Dawsey's appointment fills the void that occurred with the passing of District Worthy Patron Timothy Darby in 2021. During the breakout session, DDGM Tolbert announced that Grand Worthy Matron Saundra E. Parks had appointed PM Natasha Mills, Pride of Guyton Chapter No. 292, as our new District Worthy Matron. After the 2023 meeting, the gavel was turned over to PM Mills by outgoing District Worthy Matron, PM Magwood.

Savannah First Masonic District looks forward to another successful year filled with brotherly/sisterly love as we continue to serve our community, proudly representing the Jurisdiction of Georgia!









Participating in the Ludowici and Hinesville Martin Luther King Jr. Parade

The Ludowici Prince Hall Masonic family participated in the Ludowici and Hinesville Martin Luther King Jr. parade on January 7th and 15th, 2023. Also in attendance were other lodges and chapters throughout the area. Our presence is essential to emphasize to our youth and the greater community the sacrifice and changes that were made because of the efforts of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We would not have many of the rights that we enjoy today were it not for his courage and ultimate sacrifice of life for the goal of equality and justice.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was the driving force behind watershed events such as the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the 1963 March on Washington, which helped bring about such landmark legislation as the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act. Dr. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, and his birthday and life are celebrated annually in our community.



A Joyful occasion: Sumner Lodge #10 and Adah Chapter #3 celebrated the spirit of Christmas by blessing a single mother and her four children during the Holiday Season.



Macon District No. 5 on the Move

Macon District No. 5 is on the move, and giving back to the community is what we are known for. Several Chapters in Macon District No. 5 participate in walks, donate food baskets, and feed families in their respective cities. Macon District No. 5 participated in the following events:

- Brenda G. L. Carswell Sister Session where we get together to fellowship and pray for traveling grace to and from Grand Session.
- -Annual district outing
- -Feeding families through donating food to families in need during the holidays.
- -Supporting our Grand Pearls.
- -Awarding scholarships to our deserving youth.

We, the members of Macon District No 5, will continue to do what we do best: SERVE!





"TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAMWORK"

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

Our goal is to bring the sisters together from all Chapters within the district to work together as one cohesive unit, and we did just that. We are inclusive, not exclusive.

Saturday, February 26, 2022, Athens District No. 6 OES hosted a Meet and Greet reception to encourage the chapters within the district to come together and get to know each other Zebulon Star Chapter No.166 presented District Worthy Matron Debbie Watkins with a gift of appreciation for her continued support and encouragement.

Tuesday, July 19, 2022, District Worthy Matron Debbie Watkins and Grand Lecturer Sister Ann Bates hosted a New Members Workshop to educate incoming members on what it truly means to be an Eastern Star.

Saturday, October 29, 2022, Athens District No. 6 honored 35 Life Members and Sisters 75 and above at the District Diamond Celebration. Lunch, gifts, and plaques were presented to the recipients. Grand Associate Matron Sister Sallie Mills/Zone 2 Coordinator and Grand Worthy Patron Brother Mack Arthur Walton were in attendance. What a privilege to be surrounded by beauty, wisdom, and grace.

Saturday, January 28, 2023, Athens District No. 6 OES held its first District Meeting of the year. We were blessed with a slideshow of all events featured from 2022. There were 37 sisters in attendance, three of whom were the day's vendors.

The best is yet to come from Athens Masonic District No. 6 OES!



ATHENS MASONIC DISTRICT No. 6

Athens District No. 6 Scholarship and Awards Banquet

Athens Masonic District No. 6 recently held its Annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet at the Oconee Civic Center, distributing over \$12,000 in scholarships. Some 22 students received \$500 each, while District Deputy Marvin J. Nunnally presented the In Touch Management Group \$1,000 scholarship to Jordyn Clark of Florida A&M University. Athens Chapter No. 9 OES shared \$500 scholarships with Savannah Maddox, Amaya Howard, Elijah Welch, Renardo Faust, and Zollie Mattox. Star of Amaranth No. 15 OES made presentations to Roger Clark and Janae Pettigrew. Shiloh Academy No. 50 OES gave Lance Pitts, Jr. a scholarship. Zenith No. 92 OES blessed Tykerious Monford, Aaniya Jarrette, Destiny Hodges, Elease Ryals, Summer Phillips, Jaila Salley Barnett, and Jordyn Clark. Zebulon Star No. 166 awarded Lydia Odige with a scholarship. Mt. Zion No. 207 OES gave Anaiah A. Rucker and Kaylin Lawrence scholarships. Greensboro No. 345 OES shared scholarships with Raven Hutchinson and Tayla Merritt, and Tuscan Lodge No. 38 shared scholarships with Amariyah Woods and Draylon Stark. The keynote speaker was motivational speaker Iyaba Lawal. We were joined by Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter officers.

33rd Annual Emancipation Proclamation and Pioneer Awards Observance

The 33rd Annual Emancipation Proclamation and Pioneer Awards Observance was held on January 1, 2023, at the Bethel Baptist Church in Watkinsville. Lincoln Lodge No. 62 and the Athens Masonic District No. 6 joined the In Touch Management Group in co-sponsoring the annual recognition of the Proclamation and spotlighting community service winners. The program continues highlighting the Emancipation Proclamation, signed in 1862 but became effective on January 1, 1863. For the past 20 years, the Pioneer Awards have been given to unsung heroes. This year's winners were active in the education and vaccination of COVID-19, including Piedmont Athens Regional Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital, Athens Nurses Clinic, Athens Neighborhood Health Center, University of Georgia College of Pharmacy, Augusta State University-University of Georgia Medical Partnership, Athens Cancer and Blood Center, Northeast Georgia Public Health, the City of Watkinsville, and the Oconee County Board of Commissioners. Bethel Baptist Church, the Athens Masonic District No. 6, and the Oconee Civic Center hosted two COVID-19 vaccinations servicing over 1,700









LODGES

Spreading The Cement of Holiday Cheer

The Brothers of W.C. Thomas Lodge No. 112 ended the year Doing What Masons Do by being charitable with our school engagement partners. The Brothers provided additional hope and joy this past holiday season to families in need that participated in our annual Angel Tree Toy Giveaway at Dobbs and Fickett Elementary Schools.

In 2022, our Lodge was fortunate to have an opportunity to focus more on providing support by providing special blessings to two of our school families. At Fickett Elementary, Brother Thomas Walters assisted a father who recently lost his wife to illness and struggled to make ends meet for his family. This father had been sharing his struggles with the school counselor and his worry that he would be unable to provide his 7-year-old daughter with anything for Christmas. Brother Walters ensured that both the father and his 7-year-old had gifts this holiday season and spent time with the family on Christmas day to ensure the day was nothing less than amazing.

At, Dobbs Elementary, the Brothers provided additional support for a mom of four who had recently lost her home in a fire. The Brothers provided gifts for each of the children and paid for several weeks of her stay at a weekly motel while she looked for affordable housing. Seeing that this would have difficulty identifying affordable housing that would accommodate her family, the Brothers of W.C. Thomas Lodge No. 112 leveraged a community relationship that led to our deserving parent receiving a newly furnished townhome with all expenses paid for the year. In addition, she participated in a large community toy giveaway at Cascade Skating Rink. This event was spotlighted by the local news and featured in Essence Magazine.

W.C. Thomas Lodge No. 112 recognizes that we can provide life-changing and lifesaving services through our compassion and charity. Our Brothers continue to be dedicated to service and answer the call of our partners and families. Their actions show that we understand the true reason for the season!







LODGES

ZION LODGE No. 7 DONATES SCHOOL SUPPLIES

KINGSLAND GA - On September 01, 2022, the brothers from Zion Lodge #7 donated school supplies to David L. Rainer Elementary School at the beginning of the school year. Zion Lodge No. 7 has been the adopted school that Zion Lodge No. 7 has supported for over ten years. The principal told us that we are the only organization that came to support the school since the beginning of the pandemic, and she appreciated everything we do for her students. Brothers joined to collect pencils, paper, folders, notebooks, crayons, and other essential items.

On September 26, 2022, the brothers of Zion Lodge No. 7 made a second delivery of school supplies to David L. Rainer Elementary School to continue our full support of this school's mission.

On November 17, 2022, the brothers of Zion Lodge No. 7 delivered three turkey baskets and donated 4 Cracker Barrel hot-n-serve certificates to David L. Rainer Elementary School for families that need assistance with Thanksgiving Day meals.

In December 2022, the brothers of Zion Lodge No. 7 elected new principal officers. The election was presided by District Deputy Grand Master Kevin McKenzie for the 2023 fraternal year. The elected officers were: Worshipful Master- Brother Gerald Howell; Senior Warden- Brother Michael Haynes; Junior Warden- Past Master Daniel Davis; Secretary- Past Master Henry Williams; and Treasurer- Past Master Donald Taylor.

On January 16, 2023, the brothers from Brunswick Masonic District No. 7 participated in the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Parade. Several brothers participated, including Assistant District Deputy Grand Master Donald Taylor, Past Eminent Commander Jim Banks, Brother Michael Anderson, and Past High Priest Gerald Howell.









HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING

EXODUS LODGE NO. 593

HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING IN 2023 ON MLK DAY!







WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED TO SEE ANOTHER YEAR!

Under the direction of our newly installed Worshipful Master Rick Simmons 32°, with the assistance of newly installed Worthy Matron Sheena Rayford, the Brothers and Sisters of Exodus Lodge no. 593 and Vashti Grimes Pullen Chapter no. 586 OES provided socks, and emergency blankets in abundance to those in need this MLK Day.

Worshipful Master Simmons has an aggressive
Trestle-Board this year with support from the
Craft to make things happen. Thanks to
our SD Bro. Frazier for collecting the
socks, both Wardens, Sandige and
Haygood respectfully, for bringing out
the crowd. More to come from this
Lodge and Chapter.....stay tuned!

CHAPTERS

Doing the impossible with love, faith, unity, and HOPE!

Foundation Chapter No. 587 is passionate about community service and raising awareness for serious health matters. During the final quarter of 2022, our Chapter donated to several organizations like Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, Partnership Against Domestic Violence, the Society of Gynecologic Oncology (SGO), and the American Diabetes Association. In addition, Chapter members helped to bring awareness by wearing t-shirt colors in support of these foundations.

Building the Foundation for Positive Change in the Community



Beulah Chapter No. 116 Continues to Serve the Community

"The way you get meaning into your life is to devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to your community around you, and devote yourself to creating something that gives you purpose and meaning." - Mitch Albom

Beulah Chapter No. 116 of Millen District No. 16 has portrayed those words. November was busy for the chapter. The annual awards banquet was held on November 19th and hosted by the lodges & chapters of Burke County. The banquet was well attended by Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter Officers and other members from throughout the jurisdiction. During the event, Beulah Chapter was awarded "Chapter of the Year" by District Worthy Matron Ella Rhodes. Beulah Chapter had a church visitation at Greater Bethel AME Church in Sylvania, GA, the following Sunday. The Pastor, Rev. Solomon Roberts Jr. is a member of Western Star Lodge No. 65. He delivered a dynamic message entitled, "What is Your Motivation?" The chapter's most rewarding times of November and December were the annual donations. Along with Western Star Lodge No. 65, Beulah Chapter donated Thanksgiving Dinner baskets to 10 families in need. This was followed in December again in conjunction with Western Star, donating ten bikes, ten tablets, and various games and toys to multiple families within the community. As the new year comes, we will continue to serve with love for the community.







Camden County Chapter No. 191 - 2022 Year in Review

Camden County Chapter No. 191 Order of the Eastern Star PHA is a Christian-based nonprofit, charitable organization that focuses on education, benevolence, and charity among its members and local communities. One of the missions of our organization is to ensure Camden County students are prepared to learn and succeed in the classroom and to show that w students the community cares and believes in their success.

In 2020, Camden County Chapter No. 191 unanimously adopted Woodbine Elementary School in Kingsland, GA. We donate school supplies to each grade level each school year and provide food items for the school's food pantry. On January 26, 2022, and January 30, 2023, additional food pantry donations were made to Woodbine Elementary School. We hope this donation continues to assist the students of Woodbine Elementary School greatly and that we can continue this partnership for years to come.

On August 27, 2022, Brunswick District No. 7 held degree work for Queen of the South and Amaranth degrees. Camden County No. 191 had four participants receive their degrees. Participants were Brother Gerald Howell, Brother Donald Taylor, Sister Twinette Pope, and Sister Denise Key.

In September 2022, Camden County No. 191 awarded \$500 scholarships to four deserving college students. The recipients were Brooklyn Culver, Deonte Dozier, Semaj Parker, and Kaelynn Davis.

On October 13, 2022, Camden County Chapter #191 celebrated its 109th chapter anniversary! They celebrated with Finger Food & Fellowship! Some chapter members are pictured with a cake to celebrate the special occasion!





VIOLA HART-FELTON CHAPTER No. 584 STAYS R.E.A.D.Y.

The members of Viola Hart-Felton No. 584, under the leadership of Worthy Matron Sister Tamicka Jones and Worthy Patron Brother Anthony Mace, partnered with our brother lodge Port Royal Scott No. 591 to serve the Riverdale community and the through various community service events in alignment with the vision and theme, R.E.A.D.Y. Viola Hart-Felton No. 584 continues to be dedicated to serving the Riverdale community and making an impactful presence in the jurisdiction of Georgia. We firmly believe that when you "stay ready, you never have "to get ready"!

R.E.A.D.Y

(Remembering Embracing Acknowledging Determining Yielding)

⊠Honored by the City of Riverdale for 20 years of service and dedication to the Riverdale community (June 2022)

⊠Sister Mary Surry, PM elected as Grand Chairman of Trustees (June 2022)

Annual Three-Day Feed the First Responders & Fireman (August 2022)

8 "Party to the Polls" Pt.2 (October 2022)

Annual Thanksgiving Box Distribution with Fountain of Faith Missionary Baptist Church

(November 2022)









MEET THE TEAM







MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER - PRIMUS TIMOTHY JAMES

BIRTHDAY: OCTOBER 10

PLACE OF BIRTH: KINGSTREE, SC

OCCUPATION: INVESTIGATOR (RET.) - CITY OF ATLANTA

SPOUSE: BRENDA B. JAMES

CHILDREN: FRANSHONTA WEBSTER (DAUGHTER), ALLEN WILLIAMS (STEPSON)

GRAND CHILDREN: FIVE (5) 2 GIRLS, 3 BOYS

FAVORITE FOOD: SCALLOPS

HOBBIES: CLASSIC CARS, MUSIC AND DANCING

DO YOU HAVE ANY SKILLS OR TALENTS THAT MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT? GARDENING

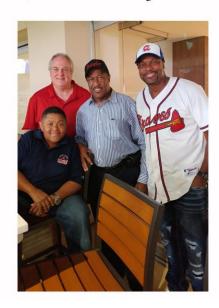
WHAT ARE YOU HAPPIEST DOING WHEN YOU'RE NOT WORKING?

TRAVELING AND SPENDING TIME WITH FAMILY

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH FRIENDS IN YOUR SPARE TIME?

GET TOGETHERS FOR BIRTHDAYS, EATING AND JUST SPENDING QUALITY TIME TOGETHER







MEET THE TEAM









BIRTHDAY: NOVEMBER 1
PLACE OF BIRTH: BROOKLYN, NY

OCCUPATION: SENIOR SECURITY AND COMPLIANCE CONSULTANT, TRUSTEDSEC, LLC SPOUSE: KATHRYN M. WHITE, DISTRICT WORTHY MATRON, ATLANTA DISTRICT NO. 3 EAST CHILDREN: TAKIEA L., JONATHAN J., JUSTIN S., ALEXANDRIA R. (KATHRYN – MOM) GRAND CHILDREN: SIX (6) (TAKIEA), AND ONE (1) GREAT-GRANDSON BORN FEBRUARY 2023 FAVORITE FOOD: SEAFOOD, A GREAT STEAK

HOBBIES: TRAVELING, RIDING MY HARLEY DAVIDSON ROAD GLIDE MOTORCYCLE

WHAT MADE YOU BECOME A MASON?

GROWING UP AS A YOUNG MAN IN BROOKLYN, WE ALWAYS VIEWED MASONS AS UPSTANDING MEN WHO WERE RESPECTED, HELD IN HIGH REGARD, AND IN SOME CASES FEARED. I AM NOT A LEGACY IN THAT NONE OF MY DIRECT ANCESTORS WERE MASONS, BUT MY GOAL IS TO BECOME A LEGACY THAT HELPS TO RESTORE THE LUSTER TO MASONRY SO OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN WILL RECOGNIZE THE STRENGTH OF THE MASONIC ORDER.

DO YOU HAVE ANY SKILLS OR TALENTS THAT MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT?

I PLAY THE PIANO AND CAN READ MUSIC.

WHAT ARE YOU HAPPIEST DOING WHEN YOU'RE NOT WORKING?

SPENDING TIME WITH FAMILY, MASONRY (HONESTLY)

WHO IS SOMEONE YOU ADMIRE. AND WHY?

MY MOM AND DAD. THEY WERE BOTH LIVING LEGENDS WHO NURTURED MY GROWTH AND WHO ARE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PERSON I AM TODAY.

WHAT'S THE MOST EXOTIC COUNTRY YOU'VE EVER TRAVELED TO?

I CAN'T SAY EXOTIC, BUT I HAVE TWO – FRANCE AND MOROCCO

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH FRIENDS IN YOUR SPARE TIME?

PERIODIC GATHERINGS AT VARIOUS EVENTS TO REMINISCE AND BASICALLY APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT WE ARE GROWING OLDER TOGETHER.

HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED?

AS SOMEONE WHO FEELS THAT WE CAN ALL GROW TOGETHER AS A PEOPLE. THE ROAD AND KEYS TO SUCCESS SHOULDN'T BE KEPT TO ONESELF BUT SHARED WITH OTHERS. I WANT TO BE KNOWN AS SOMEONE WHO WAS DEDICATED TO SERVING OTHERS AND BUILDING FUTURE LEADERS.

FUN FACT: I AM A PROUD MEMBER OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC, I SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS, AND GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE WHEN I WAS 45 YEARS YOUNG.

MEET THE TEAM



GRAND SENIOR WARDEN – DERWIN CANTY



BIRTHDAY: OCTOBER 24

PLACE OF BIRTH: STATESBORO, GA (LIVES IN ALBANY, GA – "THE GOOD LIFE CITY")

OCCUPATION: RETIRED – WORKED AT KRAFT FOODS (NABISCO) FOR 33 YEARS

DEACON – 2ND MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

SPOUSE: TRACY B. CANTY

CHILDREN: TABITHA, DERWIN, TRAKEYTHIA, KIZMIK, DEJUAN GRANDCHILDREN: NASIR, MARCUS, NOLAN

HOBBIES: FISHING, HUNTING, HANGING OUT WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS, SPORTS, COACHING LITTLE LEAGUE/ TRAVEL BASEBALL

HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED?

I WANT TO BE REMEMBERED AS SOMEONE THAT ALWAYS TRIED TO FIND THE GOOD IN EVERY SITUATION, NEVER MET A STRANGER, WAS MOTIVATED BY POSITIVE PEOPLE DOING POSITIVE THINGS AND BELIEVES EVERYONE HAS SOMETHING GOOD TO OFFER

PERSONAL MOTTO: "MAY THE WORK I'VE DONE SPEAK FOR ME – I DID MY BEST!"







MEET THE TEAM



GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN TEREGINAL (REGGIE) ROSHUN WALKER

BIRTHDAY: JULY 20

PLACE OF BIRTH: ATLANTA, GA (BY WAY OF ASHBURN, GA)

OCCUPATION: SENIOR MANAGER FOR ADOBE

OWNER OF BUZZWORD COMPLIANT CONSULTING & MOJO COFFEE COMPANY

SPOUSE: LANEA MYERS-WALKER

CHILDREN (AGES): TIANNA (28), DOMINIQUE (25), JOEY (24), MALCOLM (21)

GRANDCHILDREN: SOPHIE (9), ZOE (6), CHROME (6 MOS.)

FAVORITE FOOD: ANYTHING MEDITERRANEAN

HOBBIES: TRAVELING, READING, GOLF AND ATTENDING NFL FOOTBALL GAMES

WHAT MADE YOU BECOME A MASON?

SEEING MY GRANDFATHER GET DRESSED TO GO TO MEETINGS AS WELL AS, DURING MY TIME SERVING IN THE NAVY – MANY IN MY CIRCLE WERE PRINCE HALL MASONS

DO YOU HAVE ANY SKILLS OR TALENTS THAT MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT?

I AM AN EXCELLENT COOK AND I'M TEACHING MYSELF TO PLAY THE GUITAR WHAT ARE YOU HAPPIEST DOING WHEN YOU'RE NOT WORKING?

TRAVELING

WHO IS SOMEONE YOU ADMIRE, AND WHY?

MY LATE GRANDFATHER – BROTHER WALLACE EDGE, SR. (ENGLEWOOD LODGE #399 – FITZGERALD, GA, LIFE MEMBER). WITH ONLY A FIFTH-GRADE EDUCATION, HE WAS ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT MEN I'VE EVER KNOWN. HE ALSO TAUGHT ME THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY! AFTER WE WORKED HIS FIELDS AND LEFT THE MARKET, HE WOULD TRAVEL AROUND ASHBURN – HANDING OUT THE UNSOLD CROPS TO THOSE WHO NEEDED IT.

WHAT'S THE MOST EXOTIC COUNTRY YOU'VE EVER TRAVELED TO?

CHINA

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH FRIENDS IN YOUR SPARE TIME?

GOLF. BILLIARDS & COUPLES' GAME NIGHTS

HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED?

I WANT TO BE REMEMBERED AS SOMEONE THAT LIVED LIFE AND NOT JUST SURVIVED. THAT I GENUINELY CARE ABOUT PEOPLE AND THEIR WELL-BEING AND THAT I FEEL LIKE I'VE NEVER MET A STRANGER.

FUN FACT: I HAVE ATTENDED AN ATLANTA FALCONS AWAY GAME FOR 28 OF THE OTHER 31 TEAMS (DEN-VER, KANSAS CITY & ARIZONA REMAINING)

NEXT DEADLINE

AUGUST 1, 2023

THEME:
COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT