

58th MW Grand Master Rev. James H. Willis, Sr. Honored at Testimonial Banquet

By RW Jimmie E. Johnson, Editor

The weekend of Friday, November 9 through Sunday, November 11, 2007 over 600 persons made the pilgrimage to the "Renaissance City" of Toledo, Ohio, to participate in the Testimonial Banquet honoring the 58th Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, the Reverend James H. Willis, Sr.

The members of the Prince Hall Family of Toledo must have thought of the words penned and sang by the late, great Sam Cooke — "It's been a long time, a long time coming," but they knew a change was going to come. It has been 54 years since the City of Toledo last had an elected Grand Master to serve this great Grand Lodge and so the two Masonic Lodges, Amazon Lodge #4 and Composite Lodge # 108 and the two Eastern Star Chapters, Jewel Chapter #20 and Pride of Composite Chapter #81, along with Mecca Temple #43, Mecca Court #73, and the entire Prince Hall Masonic Family of Toledo combined to roll out the red carpet for family, friends, and guests from across the Buckeye State and the

United States who came to pay homage to this servant of God who has ascended to the highest position in Masonry — Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Friday evening guests were treated to a delicious "soul food" dinner that would rival that of Toledo's finest restaurant, Ruby's Kitchen. The food was absolutely

tremendous and plentiful.

Saturday afternoon belonged to the First Lady, Sister Linnie Willis as she had a treat for us. She presented her "Gospel in the Glass City" program featuring "Total Praise" Dance Ministry from St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Soloist, Brother Moses Cooper from St. Paul MBC, Soloist, Sister Lisa Johnson of St. Paul MBC, Brother William Spencer who played a medley of songs on the alto sax accompanied by Brother Jerome Carr, Minister of Music from

St. Paul MBC and her special guests, Gospel Recording Artists "The First Creation" of Toledo, Ohio who sang the audience (See *Testimonial*, pages 6,7)



MWGM Willis received a gift from his classmates of the Booker T. Alexander Class of 1995, where he received his 33° and last degree of Freemasonry.



Keeping the MWGM well dressed, the Grand Lecturer and Deputy Grand Lecturers presented him with a new tuxedo and white dinner jacket.



MW Grand Master Rev. James H. Willis, Sr. with his beautiful wife, Mrs. Linnie B. Willis and sons, James Jr. and Shelby Willis.

Photos by Woodrow Riddle, Jr.

2008 Planning Session for 159th Annual Communications of MWPHGL of Ohio and 121st Amaranth Grand Chapter, Inc. OES



MWGM James H. Willis, Grand Worthy Matron Zeda K. Roberson and GWP Brian T. Moragne, and the 2008 Grand Lodge/Grand Chapter Planning Committee at the Park Inn Hotel in Toledo, Ohio during planning session.

By RW Jimmie E. Johnson, Editor

It has been seven years since we last held our Grand Lodge/Grand Chapter Session in Toledo, Ohio but that will change as 2008 will again find the Prince Hall Masonic Family in the "Renaissance City" of Toledo for the 159th Annual Communications of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge and the 121st Annual Communications of Amaranth Grand Chapter, Inc., Order of the Eastern Star.

A very informative planning meeting was held at the Park Inn Hotel on Saturday, January 19, 2008 and we left with the complete satisfaction of knowing that the plans have been drawn up, leaving no stones unturned and the City of Toledo awaits our arrival with great anticipation.

Past Master Charles D. Allen is the Grand Chairperson of Arrangements for the Grand Lodge and Past Matron Willie Mae Brown is the Grand Chairperson

of Arrangements for Amaranth Grand Chapter and they are working in harmony as a team to ensure that all of our needs will be met.

In addition to the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter appointed persons, the two lodges, Amazon Lodge #4 and Composite Lodge # 108 and the two chapters, Jewel Chapter #20 and Pride of Com-

posite Chapter #81, have joined forces to form the various sub-committees that will support this Grand Session.

Some particulars that are known at this time:

- There is space for twice as many vendors as usual.
- Amaranth Grand Chapter will meet in the Hotel Ballroom and the Grand Lodge will meet in the Seagate Convention Center, which is attached.
- The Scholarship Awards Pro-

(See *Planning*, page 3)



Friday evening the Grand Trustees of the MWPHGL and Amaranth Grand Chapter and members of the 2008 Planning Committee enjoy a delicious dinner at Toledo's finest soul food restaurant, Ruby's Kitchen.

Photos by Woodrow Riddle, Jr.

THE LAMP

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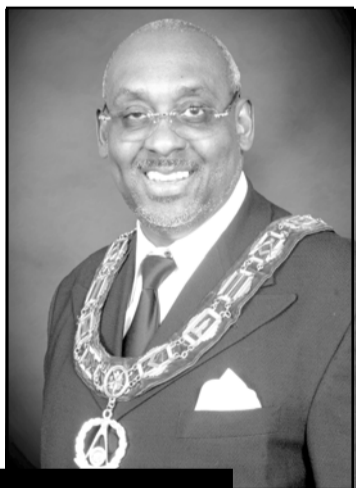
From the Desk of the Editor...

By RW Jimmie E. Johnson, Editor

This is the second edition of *The Lamp* published since I have assumed the position of Editor and I would like to thank all of you who have called or E-mailed me with your compliments. Please know that I can't and won't take all of the credit for this great publication, but my hat is off to Sister Joan O. Wilson, #104 Associate Editor, who does the layout and typesetting and PM Eldred Jones, #77 Associate Editor, who helps with preparing the articles and with the proofreading.

I am still a member of the local Lodge and how can one be a member of a Grand Lodge for *The Lamp* without being a member of the local lodge. The plain the pro... at is on file

1. If you are a widow of a son who is in this jurisdiction and you are a... widow of a son who was a member of a Grand Lodge of Ohio (page 3)



From the Desk of the MW Grand Master... REV. JAMES H. WILLIS SR., #4

(Inserts taken from Isaiah 9:6)

The Season For A Hallelujah Praise

With the season just past where many people were into shopping and buying gifts for loved ones, co-workers, and children, little do they realize the true meaning and the significance of this season.

For some it's the man in the red suit with a sleigh and eight reindeer shouting Ho! Ho! Ho! There are some who are busy running up credit card debt and not worrying about how to pay the bill. But there are others who aren't running up the credit card debt because they're still paying for last year's Ho! Ho! Ho! It is very clear that the reason for this season has been lost, and with that thought, it brings me to my first of two points.

Looking at the two scriptures I just want to briefly touch on.

Point Number One:

Going back to the fall of the garden, man had completely lost fellowship with God. Man was into doing his own thing. If man had only stepped up to the plate like he was commissioned to do, we as men would be in a better position to deal with life and it's adversities.

When God commissioned Adam to take charge over the garden He meant for him to do just that. Take charge of the garden and not to be passive. Adam was the covering of his wife Eve. He was to protect her since she was the weaker vessel, and to provide for her. But somehow, all of that did not happen the way it was supposed to happen. As you know when the snake entered the Garden of Eden, his approach was with Eve and not with Adam.

If you go back and check the scriptures in Genesis 3:1-5, all of the conversation was between the snake and Eve. Adam was right there watching and listening. He had the authority to order the snake to leave the garden, but he didn't. Once the bond between man and God was broken, there had to be a plan B put into place. The Godhead, the Trinity, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit already had a plan B in place before the creation of the world.

Now that brings me to the prophet Isaiah, he was a man of God whom God had hand picked to carry His message. He had prophesied that there would be one coming, a great one coming.

Isaiah 9:6 says, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

The Jews were delivered from the yoke of many oppressors; this was a shadow of the believer's deliverance from the yoke of Satan. The cleansing the souls of believers from the power and pollution of sin would be by the influence of the Holy Spirit, as purifying fire.

The Messiah, better known as Emmanuel, will do these great things for the church — **(He will do it for the Lodges and Chapters, too)** in the Greek it means with us is God or God with us.

The Child is born, it was certain, and the church, before Christ came in the flesh, we all were destined to hell, but when Christ came into the flesh, we all benefited by His undertaking.

This Child was born for the benefit of us men, of us sinners, of all believers, from the beginning to the end of the world. Justly is He called Wonderful, for He is both God and man. His love is the wonder of angels and glorified saints. He is the Counselor, for he knew the counsels of God from eternity; and he gives us counsel in which he consults us for our welfare.

He is the Wonderful Counselor; none teaches like him. He is God, the mighty One. He is our mediator. He has no less power than God Himself. He is the only one that brings things to pass. He is God, one with the Father.

As we continue to **"Reclaim, Revitalize, and Return"** to the principles that we are about, we need to remember that after the celebration is over, we still have to do God's will. As we align our lives, according to **His will**, we can achieve anything.

Let us continue going forward and being about the business of the Fraternity and the Order. **Continuing forward, continuing to repeat**, it's not about us, **it's all about the Organization**. Keep God first, Family second, and the Organization will follow and fall into place.

As the Prince of Peace, he reconciles us to God; he is the Giver of peace in the heart and conscience; and when his kingdom is fully established, men shall learn war no more. The government shall be upon him; he shall bear the burden of it. Glorious things are spoken of Christ's government. There is no end to peace.

Peace will increase itself day by day. Happiness will increase it self day by day. These things will last forever.

Point Number Two:

Psalms 149:3 says, "Let them praise His name with dancing and make music to Him with tambourine and harp."

May I say this if I please? When I think of the goodness of Jesus and all that He has done for me, my soul cries out.

In Psalm 150:6, it says, "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord." Now let's not take praise for granted. There's going to come a time when the breath that comes through our nostrils will leave our nostrils and will return no more. That's why John 9:4 says, "As long as it is day, we must do the work of Him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work."

You should praise Him while you have a chance. For as long as you are breathing, and have the function of your mind, you should be giving God some praise.

We still have a lot of work to do, but with God's help We can make it.

Fraternally,
Rev. James H. Willis, Sr.
 Most Worshipful Grand Master



**The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, Free & Accepted Masons
PROCLAMATION JHW-2008-1**

By the Virtue of the power and authority vested in me as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, Free and Accepted Masons, Know YE That I, **Rev. James H. Willis, Sr.**, do hereby proclaim that the **One Hundred and Fifty Nine (159) Annual Communication of The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, Free and Accepted Masons, shall convene at the Park Inn Hotel, 101 North Summit Street Toledo, Ohio August 2 through August 5, 2008.**

I do further proclaim that the craft and guests join us for the **Grand Lodge Sunday Morning Worship Service, August 3, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. in the Convention Center. Assembly time for the Brethren to parade to the Memorial Service is 6:00 p.m. Memorial Service will be in the Convention Center at 7:00 p.m.**

I do further declare and ordain that a Lodge of Master Masons will open at **8:30 a.m. Monday, August 4, 2008** by the 7th Masonic District under the directions of RW Marlon Shockley Deputy Grand Lecturer of District #7 with all Grand Lodge Officers and representatives from the subordinate Lodges participating. **The Most Worshipful Grand Master will be received at 9:15 a.m.** The business will continue until completion on Tuesday, August 5, 2008. The **Grand Chaplain and his Associates** will conduct the devotional period from **8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.** on Monday and Tuesday.

It is **directed** that all Worshipful Masters, Wardens, and Past Masters, in good standing, are to be present and register with the Credentials Committee. Any other Master Mason in good standing are encouraged to register and attend.

Advance Registration - \$70.00. On-Site - \$80.00 for Grand Lodge Members \$5.00 for Brethren Eastern Star Members There will be a form enclosed with this information. **Lunch for Monday, August 4 and Tuesday, August 5th will be \$12.00 each day.**

The **Prince Hall Scholarship Foundation "Awards Program"** will be **Saturday, August 2nd**. Following the "Awards Program," there will be a special program entitled **"The Prince Hall Variety Show," 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.**

ALL BUSINESS SESSIONS and EVENTS WILL START ON TIME.

Proper attire for all sessions **beginning Sunday evening**, shall be dark suit, white shirt and dark tie, black shoes, white gloves and apron.

All Grand Lodge Trustees will be formally attired (Tails) Sunday Grand Lodge session and Tuxedos on Tuesday.

Appointed Grand Lodge Officers, (i.e. Deputy Lecturers, Marshal, Deacons, Stewards, Standard Bearer, etc.) will be Tuxedos.

Proper attire for the Banquet Monday evening - White Dinner Jacket.

This proclamation is to be read at the Business and Work night meetings during the months of April, May and June.

"RECLAIM, REVITALIZE AND RETURN"

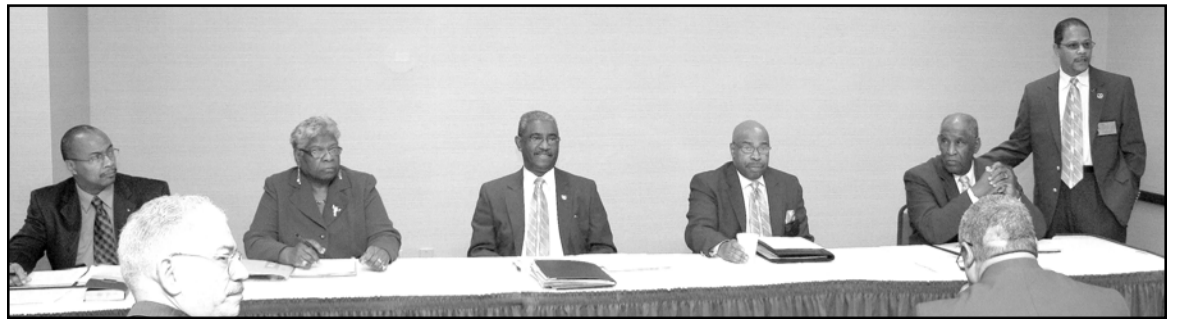
Take due and timely notice of the foregoing and govern yourselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and the Private seal of the Grand Master hereto attached at Toledo, Ohio on this February 23, 2008 AD - AL 6008.

Fraternally,

Rev. James H. Willis, Sr.

Most Worshipful Grand Master



Planning a successful 2008 Grand Session are (l. to r.) GWP Brian T. Moragne, GWM Zeda Z. Roberson, MWGM James H. Willis, Sr., RW DGM Robert L. Jones, PM Charles Allen, Grand Chairman of Arrangements, RWSGW Johnny O. Pitts (standing). Not shown: PM Willie M. Brown, Grand Chairperson of Arrangements for Armaanth Grand Chapter.)

2008 Planning Session--- (Continued from page 1)

gram will be Saturday, August 2, 2008 from 5:00 -7:00 p.m.

- The OES Breakfast honoring PGM Janet M. Gee-Jordan and PGP Ray S. Robinson will be held Sunday, August 3, 2008 from 8:00 -10:00 a.m. Cost is \$20.00 and PGD Joyce Aldridge is Chairperson of the OES Breakfast for 2008.
- Divine Services will include

communion since it is the first Sunday of the month.

- The Scholarship Foundation Luncheon (by invitation only) will be held on Sunday, August 3, 2008 from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
- Room rates for the Park Inn Hotel are \$105.00 per day. Parking is being negotiated with the Seagate Convention Center.
- The Grand Worthy Matron

will not have an OES Reception this year due to the prohibitive costs.

- The Grand Master is again directing each District to have a combined Hospitality to limit disturbances in the hotel. The RW Deputy Grand Lecturers and OES Grand Deputies will coordinate the hospitality for their districts.



2008 REGISTRATION FORM
159th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF OHIO, INC.
121st ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE AMARANTH GRAND CHAPTER, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR, INC., PHA
Park Inn Hotel, 101 N. Summit Street, Toledo, Ohio 43620
1-419-241-3000 — Room Rate: \$106.00 + Tax

NAME _____ TITLE _____

JURISDICTION (For Visitors) _____

LODGE _____ CHAPTER _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (____) _____ FAX (____) _____ E-mail _____

Registration Fee: Deadline for advance registration is July 21, 2008 (\$80.00 after July 21, 2008)

Advance/Banquet Meal Alternate Choices Fish _____ Vegetarian _____ \$70.00 = \$ _____

OES Brothers Registration \$ 5.00 = \$ _____

Luncheon Ticket (Monday) \$12.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Luncheon Ticket (Tuesday) \$12.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Total Paid: \$ _____

Make all checks or money orders payable to:

MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF OHIO (MWPHGL of OH)

MWPHGL Members mail registration and check to: MWPHGL of Ohio 50 Hamilton Park Columbus, Ohio 43203	OES Members mail registration and check to: Mrs. Brenda Ledbetter-Ross 5000 Folger Drive Columbus, OH 43227
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EDITOR ---

(Continued from page 2)

upon his death, and you are not receiving *The Lamp*, contact the local Lodge secretary where your husband belonged to verify that they have your name and correct address in their database to provide to the Grand Secretary.

3. If you are a member of a Lodge in another jurisdiction but belong to another Masonic House in this jurisdiction, or if you are in the Order of Eastern Star and don't receive *The Lamp* under paragraph 1 or paragraph 2, then you can subscribe to *The Lamp* and receive all issues printed in a year for the low cost of \$5.00 per

year.

I would remind you again that there are newsworthy events that are occurring across this jurisdiction and no one is taking the time to write the article so that they can be published.

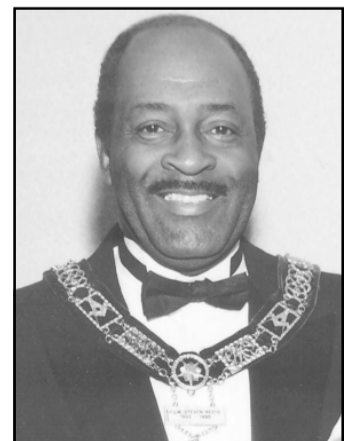
Finally, I am developing a section called **"Masons on the Move"** and within this section; I would like to publicize all of the "firsts" or significant events, promotions, appointments that our Brothers and Sisters are receiving in their communities, employment, education, etc. The best way to defeat those who would disparage our good name and fraternity is to show them who we are and what we are all about and

Masons on the Move...

The Prince Hall Family of Ohio congratulates MWPGM Steven Reece, Sr., on his recent appointment as Deputy Manager of the

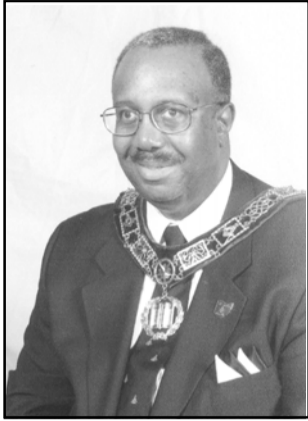
that we are educated, productive and viable to our community. So please, if you have an event that is newsworthy, please contact me and let us make that call and do not deny us the opportunity to see what you have accomplished.

NAACP National Convention, which is to be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, July 13th through 17, 2008. The appointment was made by Cincinnati's NAACP President Christopher Smitherman, and the Blue Ribbon Committee Chairman, State Representative Tyrone Yates. PGM Reece is responsible for coordinating all details of the convention with the National NAACP staff.



From the Desk of the RW Grand Chaplain...

New Year is the time to bid farewell to the old year and welcome the coming year. It is the time to forget and get past memories that are no longer useful or worth pondering upon. It is the time for new beginnings and new starts in life. New Year has a message for each of us. One should let go of the past that has bad memories and accept what has happened, has happened for some reason. Instead of clinging onto your past and things that have gone, it is better to let go.



There is an old saying that goes, "Don't cry because it is over, smile because it happened." This essentially means that there is no use crying over spilt milk. You cannot turn back time and do things that would benefit you. New Year is the time to start afresh and do things that would make someone else smile. Make a pledge to make at least one person happy. You will see the difference it can make in both your lives. The essential message of 2008 is to let go of the past and embrace life as it comes to you. You will be happier and merrier that way.

Please remember the words of The Apostle Paul, "Brothers and Sisters, I count not myself to have apprehended, but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:13-14)

Joann and I wish to all our Sisters and Brothers the very best in 2008.

Fraternally,
Rev. Wilton E. Blake I, RW Grand Chaplain

4th Masonic and 5th OES Districts celebrate St. John's Day...



The 4th Masonic and 5th OES Districts and local Heads of Houses visited Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio, in January due to inclement weather forcing the cancellation of the regularly scheduled visit for St. John's Day in December.

Leading the 4th Masonic District was RW Keith A. Perkins (r.) Deputy Grand Lecturer. Pictured are (l. to r.) Companion Darryl R. Smith, II, Order of Pythagorans; PGM Homer L. Buchanan; RW Darryl R. Smith, Junior Grand Warden (partially hidden), and RWDGL Perkins. Grand Deputy of the 5th OES District was Sis. Kimberley Harnick was also present (seated c. above).



Next deadline for The Lamp will be announced on the Website.

5th Masonic District Observes St. John the Evangelist Day

In keeping with the ancient tradition adopted by Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons, the 5th Masonic District observed St. John the Evangelist Day in Ravenna, Ohio, on December 16, 2007, at the Church of God, 333 Ravenna Avenue.

This event was hosted by Evergreen Lodge #101, WM Armond Scott, presiding. Services began at 10:30 a.m. In attendance were Masons, Eastern Stars and Pythagorans.

Remarks were given by WM Scott and RWDGL Jerry R. Ellerson. Even though the weather was unfavorable, there was a good turnout.



RWDGL Provitt presents monetary gift on behalf of the 6th Masonic District.

(Photo r.) Rev. Lee (r.) welcomes Masonic and political guests prior to the morning worship service.



6th District Masonic Family Observes St. John the Evangelist Day



RW Deputy Grand Lecturer James O. Provitt, #87, and members of the 6th Masonic District, observed St. John the Evangelist Day at Third Baptist Church in Youngstown, Ohio. The observance was held Sunday, December 16, 2007, during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Rev. Dr. Morris W. Lee, RW Associate

Grand Chaplain, is the pastor of Third Baptist Church.

The 6th District was represented by members of Covenant Lodge #59, King Solomon Lodge #87, Rising Sun Lodge #90, and Brotherhood Chapter, Order of Pythagorans, Warren, Ohio. Also present were OES members of Mizpah Chapter #66, Covenant

Chapter #48 and Rising Sun Chapter #82.

Local politicians from the Greater Mahoning County was represented by the Honorable Jay Williams, Mayor of the City of Youngstown, the County Sheriff, County Trustees and others were also in attendance.

Third Baptist Church was also observing Whit Sunday, which is a day when special gifts of food and money are donated to the needy. Rev. Lee stated that normally only one collection is made each Sunday, but the church members decided that the first Sunday of December an extra collection would be made to help those in need. He stated that anyone in need can always come to the church for food and assistance.



RW Deputy Grand Lecturer James O. Provitt, #87, 6th Masonic District (c.0 and Dr. Morris W. Lee, #90, RW Associate Grand Chaplain (r. of DGL) with members of the 6th Masonic District Family.



(L. to r.) Companion Jared R. Brumfield; PM Chaun Edwards, Griffin #264; RW James O. Provitt, #87; RW Rev. Morris W. Lee, #90; WM Charles Montgomery, #90; SW David M. Lawrence, #90; and JW James White, #90.



Fifth Annual Brotherhood Night Held in Cincinnati

The Fifth Annual Brotherhood Night was an island of warm light shining on a snowy and cold weekend in Cincinnati. In spite of inclement weather, this year's special Masonic evening went without a hitch. A Lodge of Master Masons was opened at 4:00 p.m., recognizing the dignitaries in attendance while their guests were entertained in the hospitality room.

The main cathedral guests were welcomed by a musical video on a large screen displaying the genius of Stevie Wonder's "Higher Ground," Cat Steven's "Peace Train," and the music video of "We Are The World." This set the mood for what was to follow.

Bro. John Cutter serving as Master of Ceremonies gave a warm welcome. Simon Commandery, Knights Templar and 3rd Division Commandery, Knights Templar, posted the colors followed by the singing of the *Star Spangled Banner*.

Remarks were given by Kenneth Carter, Prince Hall Grand Lodge and David Fine, Grand Lodge of Ohio, Chairmen of the 2007 Brotherhood Night. Contributions were given to the four following charities: Masonic Learning Center for Children, Prince Hall Scholarship Foundation, Neediest Kids of All and The Grand Lodge Foundation.

Dr. Inyat Malik representing the Cincinnati Islamic Center spoke about the Koran and how the teachings therein relate to brotherhood. Reverend Don Dixon from the Hyde Park United Methodist Church spoke of his

childhood in a small town and how he did not realize the importance of Brotherhood among the varied people that make up this world until later in life. Reverend Dr. Wilton Blake I was entertaining as well as poignant when expressing his deep commitment of visiting more of his Grand Lodge Brothers between Brotherhood Nights, and urged all in attendance to do the same.

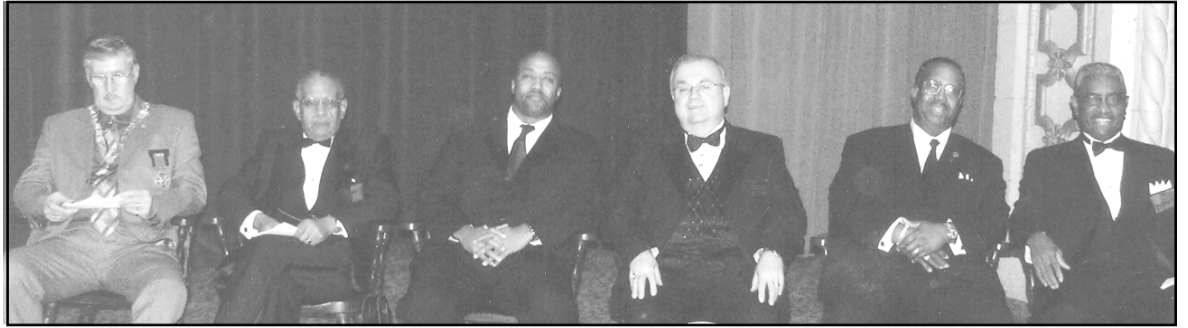
First rate entertainment was provided by Grammy Nominated James McCray and others who sang and played their hearts out.

Brothers Stephen P. Blackwell, Sr. and David Fine were honored for their efforts in bringing Brotherhood Night to Cincinnati. It was a touching moment to see both brothers light a ceremonial candle symbolizing the unity and brotherhood between Masonic brothers of all races, color, and creed. Timely remarks were given by Ill. Williams Powers, Ill., Chester Pryor II, MW Rev. James H. Willis, Sr. and Bro. Norman Mick.

Live classical music was enjoyed while at the banquet, and had a surprise guest appearance from Mr. Howie Damron as seen on the National Nashville Channel. Mr. Damron writes and plays music with a Free Mason theme, and travels throughout the country and can be seen on television.

If you have not had the opportunity to attend Brotherhood Night, you owe it to yourself and friends to enjoy this year's which will be held on November 22, 2008 in the Cincinnati Masonic Center.

(Submitted by Stephen Blackwell, Sr.)



(Above) Dignitaries at the 5th Brotherhood Night held in Cincinnati.

(Photo r.) Special speakers for the evening with MW Grand Master Rev. James H. Willis, Sr., 2nd from r.)



(Below) PM Stephen Blackwell, Sr. and PM David Fine light the Unity Candle symbolizing Brotherhood between the organizations.



(Below) Joint Knights Templar presented flag during ceremony.



Co-Chairmen of the event were (l. to r.) Bro. Kenneth Carter and PM David Fine.

1st Masonic and 6th OES Districts Thanksgiving Baskets for the Needy



The 1st Masonic and 6th OES Districts held their Annual Thanksgiving Basket give-away for the needy on November 17, 2007, at the Evanston Community Center.

This joint charity event supplied Thanksgiving dinner to 622 low to no income families in the Cincinnati area. Each basket contained a turkey along with all the trimmings that would feed a family of

four to six people.

Brother Kenneth McCullars, Chairperson, under the leadership of RW Deputy Grand Lecturer Otis Elam, Jr., and representatives from all Prince Hall Family organizations attended the planning meetings, packed the baskets and distributed them.

Donations came from Cincinnati Lodges, OES Chapters, Ap-

pendant and Concordant Prince Hall Houses and the youth Girls Assemblies and Pythagorans Chapters. Cincinnati Prince Hall Bodies are working together for the good of the Order in brotherly and sisterly love to reach out to the needy members of our communities.

(Submitted by Sis. Jeannie Elam, PM, Gothic #99)

Famous Masons

- Daniel "Chappie" James**
Four Star General-USAF
- John H. Johnson**
Publisher Ebony/Jet
- "Duke" Ellington**
Jazz Musician
- Nat King Cole**
Singer

Testimonial Banquet---

(Continued from page 1)

happy. Minister Allen Smith from St. Paul MBC served as Master of Ceremonies and Gospel Comedian and he kept the audience in stitches and the program moving. We had "church" on Saturday afternoon and everybody left feeling uplifted and ready for the banquet.

The banquet on Saturday evening was filled to capacity with many dignitaries, Grand Heads of Masonic Houses and members of the Prince Hall Family from throughout the State and visiting jurisdictions.

Among those present were MWGM Shelton Redden, Grand Master of Maryland and the President of the Prince Hall Conference of Grand Masters; MWGM James Davis, Grand Master of Wisconsin and President of the Midwest Conference of Grand Masters and his delegation; Deputy Grand Master Charles Murphy, representing the MWGM of the Grand Lodge of Ohio; Mr. Alan L. Bannister, representing The Honorable Ted Strickland, Governor of the State of Ohio; Mr. Michael Ashford, President of the Toledo City Council; Ms. Wilma Brown, City Councilwoman, City of Toledo; and GIG John R Davis, President of the Booker T. Alexander Class of 1995; GIG (Reverend Dr.) Wilton E. Blake, Vice President of the Booker T. Alexander Class of 1995; and GIG Reuben Pugh (New York), Secretary of the B.T. Alexander Class of 1995.

Other jurisdictions present were MWGM Joseph Slay and his delegation from Indiana; Past Grand Master Pink Garner and his delegation from Kentucky.



MW Grand Master Rev. James H. Willis, Sr.'s official photo.

Grand Heads of Houses present were Grand Worthy Matron Zeda K. Roberson; Grand Worthy Patron (Reverend) Brian T. Moragne; Most Excellent Grand High Priest Charles V. Williams, III; Most Ancient Grand Matron Jeannie Elam; Most Worthy Grand Joshua James E. Jones; Deputy of the Orient SGIG Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr.; State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler Alma M. Long; President of the Commanders of the Rite Clamion Marshall; Eminent Grand Commander William C. Parker; Grand Princess Captain DeNoris Brown; Grand Thrice Illustrious Master Derrick Grigsby; Eminent Prior William Watkins; Imperial Deputy of the Desert, Noble Carl W. Lee; Imperial Deputy for the Desert, DOI, Barbara M. Turner; Imperial Assistant Rabban Homer L. Buchanan; Grand Royal Queen Jessica Rice; and Most Valiant Grand Master Counselor Dominique Hopkins

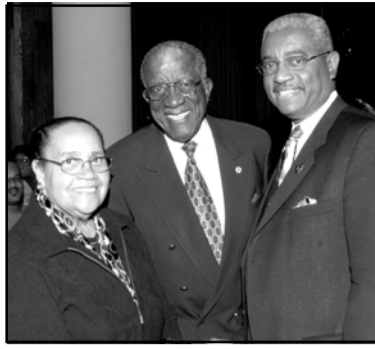
MWGM Shelton Redden presented MWGM Willis with a shirt and jacket with the logos of the Conference of Grand Masters.

MWGM Willis made special presentations of roses to the First Lady, Mrs. Linnie Willis and his Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Dorothy Smith, and he gave Mrs. Willis a special gift.

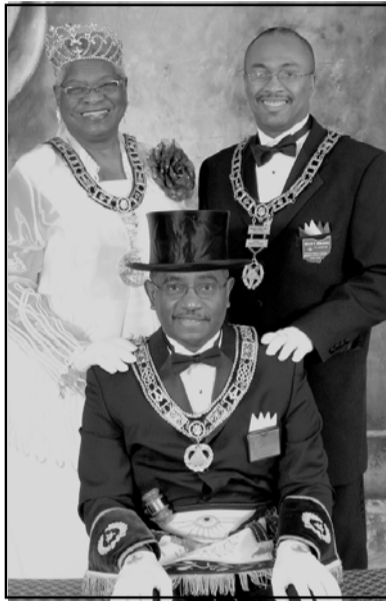
The weekend ended with the Most Worshipful Grand Master inviting all who would come, to worship with his church family at the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church and many took him up on his offer.



Reverend Dr. Willie Perryman, Mrs. Monica Perryman with MWGM Willis. Rev. Perryman is Pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church the the Grand Master's Pastor.



Dr. Joseph C. Sommerville and Mrs. Mattie Sommerville congratulate MWGM Willis. Dr. Sommerville is Chairman of Deacons at St. Paul MBC where MWGM Willis serves as Pastor.



MWGM Rev. James H. Willis Sr. with Grand Worthy Matron Zeda K. Roberson and Grand Worthy Patron Rev. Brian T. Moragne.



MWGM Willis and members of his 33rd Class, The Booker T. Alexander Class of 1995. (L. to r.) GIG Reuben Pugh (NY); Class Secretary; MWGM Willis; GIG John R. Davis, Class President; and GIG Rev. Wilton E. Blake I, Class Vice President. (Photos by RW Woodrow Riddle, Jr., Gr. Photo.)



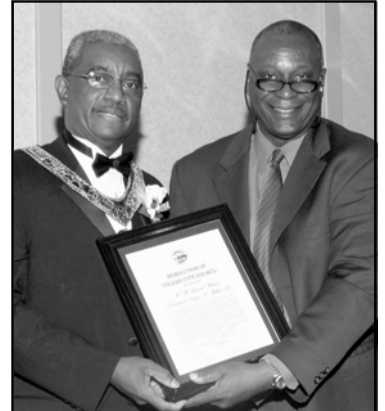
MWGM Willis with Grand Trustees: (l. to r. seated) RW Robert L. Jones, Deputy Grand Master; GM Willis; RW Johnny O. Pitts, Sr., Senior Grand Warden. Standing: RW Leo C. Beavers, GLDF Trustee; RW Charles G. Smith, Grand Secretary; RW Darryl R. Smith, Junior Grand Warden; RW Charles V. Williams, III, Grand Treasurer; and PGM Gregory S. Snead, Grand Trustee.



(Above) MWGM Willis with Grand Lecturer and RW Deputy Grand Lecturers.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Rev. James H. Willis, Sr. with Appointed Grand Lodge officers of the MWPHGL of Ohio.



Michael Ashford, President of the Toledo City Council presents a Resolution to MWGM Willis on behalf of the City Council.

Next Deadline for The Lamp will be announced on the Website.

Testimonial Banquet---



MWGM Willis and members of his family.



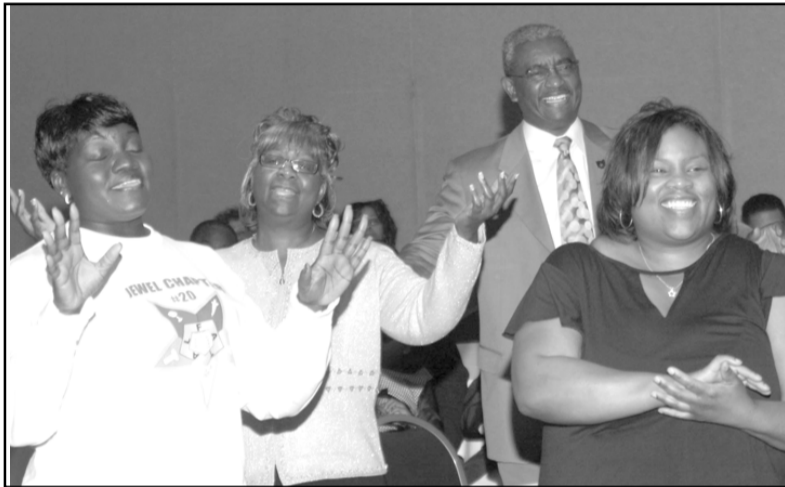
MWGM Rev. James H. Willis Sr. and his beautiful wife, Mrs. Linnie B. Willis.



A masterful Master of Ceremonies and Gospel Comic, Minister Allen Smith, provided some laughs between the outstanding singing rendered at the program.



Guest solist at the "Gospel in the Glass City" program was Bro. Moses Cooper from St. Paul MBC.



Enjoying themselves at the "Gospel in the Glass City" hour, (l. to r.), Mrs. Mary Reed (sister of MWGM Willis), First Lady Linnie Willis, MWGM Willis and Lisa Johnson, guest soloist.



"Total Praise" Dance Ministry of the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church. (L. to r.) Minister Sharon Galloway (Rhema Word); Tiffany Bumpus, Morgan Gordon, Tanya Files and Vontyna Smith.



Visiting Grand Masters: (L. to r. standing) MW Joseph Slay, (IN); MW James Davis (WI); MWPGM Pink Garner (KY); DGM Charles Murphy (Grand Lodge of Ohio); and MW Shelton Redden (MD) honoring MW Grand Master Rev. James H. Willis Sr. (seated).



Stars of the "Gospel in the Glass City" program were the Gospel Recording Artists "The First Creation." (L. to r.) Minister Jerry Boose, Bro. Jesse Coleman, Minister Ron Hogue and Bro. William Crooke.

(R.) Bro. William Spencer on alto saxophone played a medley of old favorites, including "Amazing Grace," "Down at the Cross," and "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone." He was accompanied by Bro. Jerome Carr on the piano.



(Below) Seated l. to r.: PGM Wilbert West, MWGM Willis, PGM Kenneth E. Lewis. Standing: PGM Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr., PGM Embie R. Bostic, PGM Steven Reece, Sr., PGM Homer L. Buchanan, and PGM Gregory S. Sneed.



Members of Jewel Chapter #20 and Pride of Composite Chapter #81 served as hostesses for the Friday night festivities. (L. to r.) Pam Hopkins, Joyce Aldridge, Ruth Henderson and Willie M. Brown.



Famous Masons
Richard Allen
Founder & First Bishop
AME Church
Andrew Young
Former Ambassador to the
United Nations &
Mayor of Atlanta, GA

Testimonial Banquet---



Most Worshipful Grand Master Reverend James H. Willis Sr. and members of Composite Lodge #108, Toledo, one of the host Lodges.

Most Worshipful Grand Master Reverend James H. Willis Sr. and members of Amazon Lodge #4, a host lodge and the GM's lodge.



MWGM Willis with Amaranth Grand Chapter, Inc. OES Grand Trustees. (Seated l. to r.) Grand Associate Patron Gerald S. Friason; Grand Associate Matron Kay F. Anderson; Grand Worthy Matron Zeda K. Roberson; MWGM Willis; Grand Worthy Patron Rev. Brian T. Moragne; and Grand



Conductress Beverly J. Beavers. Standing: Kennedy C. McCall, Grand Sentinel; Grand Treasurer Patricia A.P. Taylor; Grand Secretary Betty A. Bradshaw; and Grand Attorney Freddie Springfield.



Amaranth Grand Chapter: (seated l. to r.) PGWM Peggy A. Edwards; PGWM Daisy L. Lewis; MWGM Willis; PGWM Dr. Gloria S. Malone; PGWM Bernice M. Wells; and PGWM Thomasine G. Allen. Standing: PGWP Jimmie E. Johnson; PGWP Keith D. Clark, Sr.; PGWP Emerson D. Ballard; PGWP Albert L. Lewis; and PGWP Jerry D. Springer.



MW Grand Master Rev. James H. Willis Sr. with the Most Valiant Grand Master Counselor Dominique Hopkins, Order of Pythagorans; Grand Royal Queen Jessica Rice, Grand Girls Assembly; with two of their faithful advisors, RW Curtis Campbell and RW Melvin Russell.



Heads of Houses (seated l. to r.) Grand Royal Queen Jessica Rice; Imperial Deputy for the Desert, DOI, Barbara M. Turner; Grand Princess Captain DeNoris Brown; Grand Worthy Matron Zeda K. Roberson; MWGM Willis, Grand Worthy Patron Rev. Brian T. Moragne; Most Ancient Grand Matron Jeannie Elam; and State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler, Alma M. Long. Standing: Most Valiant Grand Master Counselor Dominique Hopkins; Imperial Deputy of the Desert, AEAONMS, Carl W. Lee; Eminent Grand Commander William C. Parker; Grand Thrice Illustrious Master Derrick Grigsby; President, Commanders of the Rite, Claimon M. Marshall; Most Excellent Grand High Priest Charles V. Williams III; Most Worthy Grand Joshua James E. Jones; Deputy of the Orient SGIG Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr. and Eminent Prior William Watkins.

Grand Master Holds Workshop...

The MW Grand Master Rev. James H. Willis, Sr. held a workshop in December which was attended by the officers of the subordinate lodges. Above at the 8:30 a.m. session he explains where the Grand Lodge is headed in the future and what he expects from the subordinate lodge officers.



At the 10:00 a.m. session Grand Master Willis discusses Grand Lodge problems and solutions under the watchful eyes of the PGMs in the photos behind him. The workshop took place at 50 Hamilton Park in Columbus.



RW Grand Lecturer Carl A. Williams, Deputy Grand Lecturer James O. Provitt, #6, and Marion Shockley, PM, #108, were present to assist the Grand Master with his presentations.

(Photos by Woodrow Riddle Jr.)

Advisors Workshop Held January 12th in Columbus, Ohio



MWGM Rev. James H. Willis Sr. (c.) and RW Ben Moore, Director of Youth Activities (r. of MWGM) enjoy the cooperation of the many volunteer Youth Advisors and the Deputy Grand Lecturers to have a viable Order of Pythagorans Chapters in the Jurisdiction of Ohio.

The Ohio Grand Chapter, Order of Pythagorans, held its Annual Advisors' Workshop on Saturday, January 12, 2008, in Columbus, Ohio. There were 65 Master Masons in attendance including a combined 24 Worshipful Masters and Wardens from throughout the state of Ohio. Most Worshipful Grand Master Rev. James H. Willis Sr., many of the Grand Lodge Trustees, Grand Lecturer and all of the Deputy Grand Lecturers were present for this informative event.

One of the highlights of the proceedings was the announcement of a statewide "First Torch" program for boys who are interested in the Pythagoran program, but are not quite old enough to officially be accepted into a chapter.

The day was concluded with the presentation of prizes from the Pythagoran Raffle which was completed this past December. The winners were David Lewis, Lillian Bower and Ben Woods.

PM Ben Moore, Jr., Director of Youth Activities, may be contacted for further information on the "First Torch" program, or any information regarding the Pythagorans by calling 513-300-5405.

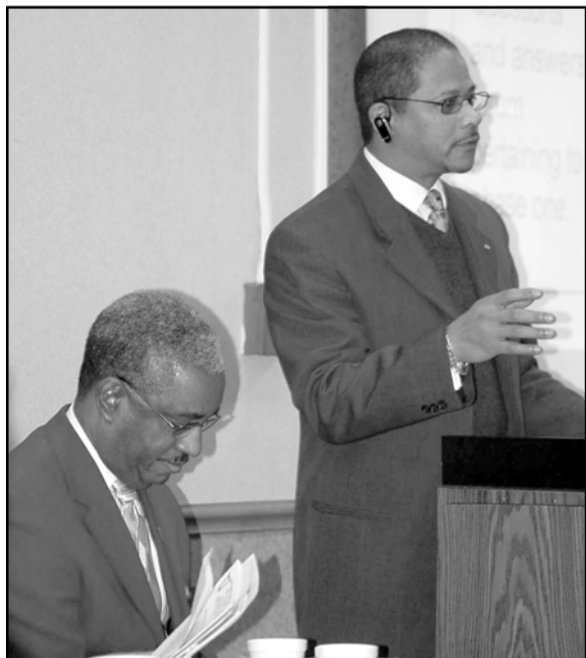
(Article and photos submitted by Bro. Eric Kidd, Sr., JW #76.)



There were over 65 Master Masons in attendance, including guests from the MWPHGL of New Jersey and the MWPHGL of West Virginia on hand to hear the information presented at the advisors workshop.



MWGM Willis (c.) and RW Ben Moore Jr., Director of Youth Activities (r. of GM), along with some of the statewide Appointed Associate Youth Advisors and Administrative Staff that ensure the Grand Chapter, Order of Pythagorans functions in a spirit of excellence for our youth.



MWGM Rev. James H. Willis Sr. listens as RW Senior Grand Warden Johnny O. Pitts Sr., gives a presentation at the Youth Advisors' Workshop held on January 12, 2008.



RW Director of Youth Activities Ben Moore Jr. makes presentation.



(Photo r.) RW Director of Youth Activities Ben Moore Jr. (l.); RWDGL 4th Masonic District Keith A. Perkins (c.); and MW Grand Master Rev. James H. Willis Sr. (r.), display some of the prizes that were awarded at the recent raffle held in December by the Order of Pythagorans.

MWGM Travels to Washington DC and Pennsylvania



MWGM Willis journeyed to the nation's capital, Washington, DC, in December 2007, to visit MWGM Jay Raymond Murray during their Grand Session. Accompanying the Grand Master were several members of his cabinet.



The Grand Trustees accompanied MWGM Willis to Pennsylvania in October 2007, along with PGMs Kenneth E. Lewis and Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr.; RW Chief Administrative Officer John Covington and Past Grand High Priest, George W. King (whose brother is the MWGM of PA).

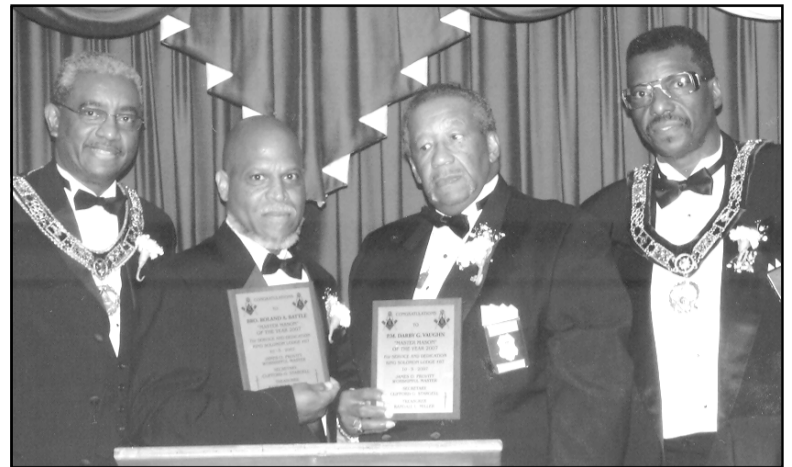
(Photo r.) MWGM Willis with MW Grand Master of Pennsylvania Samuel King.



King Solomon Lodge #87 Celebrates 85th Anniversary



(L. to r.) RW James O. Provitt, Deputy Grand Lecturer, Dist. #6 and Worshipful Master of King Solomon Lodge #87; Bro. Gregory O. McCray; MWGM Rev. James H. Willis Sr.; PGM Gregory S. Snead, Grand Trustee; RW John D. Covington Sr., PM, RW Grand Chief Administrative Officer.



Master Masons of the Year, Brother Roland A. Battle (2nd from l.) and PM Darby G. Vaughn, (2nd from r.) with MWGM Willis and WM Provitt.

The Brothers of King Solomon Lodge No.87, F&AM, Warren, Ohio, celebrated their 85th Anniversary on October 5, 2007 with a banquet held at the Divieste's Banquet Center in Warren.

Promptly at 7:00 p.m., guests at the dais were escorted into the banquet room. The Master of Ceremonies for the affair was Senior Warden Rev. Brother Eric U. Brown. After the singing of the National Anthem, Brother Brown gave the invocation and dinner was served. Everyone enjoyed the dinner music by the DeeJay, Brother Gregory Edwards.

Following dinner Rev. Brother Eric U. Brown gave the proper salutations after which Brother Gregory K. Flowers, Junior Warden gave the welcome. Brother Russell A. Thomas rendered a beautiful solo accompanied by Van Nelson on the keyboard. Introductions of the head table were made by the Master of Ceremonies, Brother Brown.

Greetings were extended to King Solomon Lodge No.87 by the following persons: Companion Desmond Reed, Master Counselor of Brotherhood Chapter, Order of Pythagorans; Princess Darriale Talley, Royal Queen of Pauline Brogdon No.26 Girls Assembly; and Sister Barbara Y. Morgan, Worthy Matron of Mizpah Chapter No.66, Order of Eastern Star PHA.

Worshipful Master James O. Provitt presented a 25 year pin to Past Master Larry J. Rodgers Sr. Brother Bernard Ricks, Senior Steward was acknowledged for his service to the lodge and given a meritorious certificate. Past Master Darby G. Vaughn and Senior Deacon Roland Battle were named "Master Masons of the Year" and each was presented with a plaque.

Brother Russell A. Thomas sang another soul stirring solo "I'll Fly Away" and PGM Gregory S. Snead introduced the Honorable Grand Master of the State of Ohio, Most Worshipful Rev. James H. Willis Sr.

gory S. Snead introduced the Honorable Grand Master of the State of Ohio, Most Worshipful Rev. James H. Willis Sr.

MWGM Willis thanked the lodge for the invitation to be the keynote speaker and all gratuities shown to him. His message evolved around his theme "Reclaim, Revitalize and Return." He challenged the lodge to reclaim those Brothers who are ill or shut-in by visits or calls and seek out the Brothers who seem to have lost their zeal for the lodge and try to rekindle that fire of brotherhood that will inspire them to become

active members again.

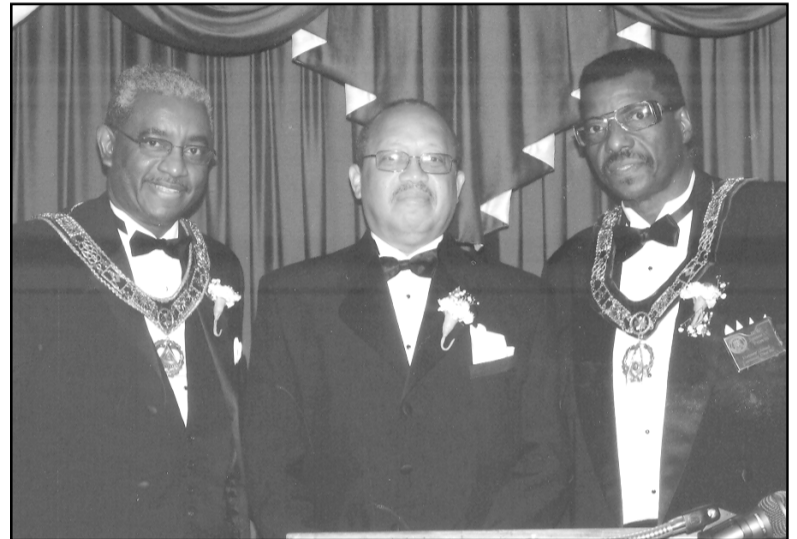
The Grand Master was impressed that the lodge had invited the widows of fallen Brothers who served the lodge. Fourteen widows attended the banquet. He also expressed his gratitude that the Companions of Brotherhood Chapter Order of Pythagorans and the Princesses of Pauline Brogdon No.26 Girls Assembly attended the banquet.

Rev. Brother Eric O. Brown gave the benediction and DJ Brother Gregory Edwards provided the music for dancing.

(Submitted by PM Clifford G. Stargell)



Master Counselor Desmond Reed of Brotherhood Chapter, Order of Pythagorans, brought greetings and presented MWGM Willis a Pythagorean T-shirt from the 2007 Grand Youth Session.



PM Larry J. Rodgers Sr. (c.) received his 25-year pin from WM James O. Provitt.



Princess Darriale Talley, Royal Queen of Pauline Brogdon Girls Assembly No. 26 extends greetings.



Sister Barbara Y. Morgan, Worthy Matron of Mizpah Chapter No. 66, extends greetings.



(Photo r.) MWGM Willis, guest speaker for the occasion, thanks PGM Snead for the marvelous introduction.



Brothers of King Solomon Lodge #87 with MWGM Rev. James H. Willis Sr., who was the guest speaker.

Mt. Calvary Lodge #76 Brethren Receives 25-Year Pins



On October 25, 2007, WM Trell Meeks of Mt. Calvary Lodge #76, Akron, Ohio, and RW Trustee-at-Large James R. Brown presented the following members with 25-year service pins. (L. to r.) Brother Charles Wright, PM William Fullum, Brother Bobby Griffin Sr., RW Deputy Grand Lecturer Jerry R. Ellerson, WM Trell Meeks, RW James R. Brown, PM Ulysses Parker, PM Charles Parnell, PM Joe D. Patterson, Brother Herbert Robbins, and Brother Jesse Shelton. It was good to have some of these Brothers come back to the lodge and we would like to see more of them.

(Submitted by Bro. Eric Kidd Sr., #76)



Message from The Most Valiant Grand Master Counselor Comp. Dominique J. Hopkins

To all Worshipful Masters of The Ohio Prince Hall Lodges, and Members:

Greetings,

I bring you greetings from the office of the Most Valiant Grand Master Counselor, State of Ohio, Order of Pythagorans. This is to inform you of upcoming events of the Order of Pythagorans. We will have a statewide Pythagoran Day on April 19th in Toledo. On June 21st we will be accompanying the Brothers at the ceremonial Cornerstone laying in Columbus. Finally, the weekend of July 10th through July 13th, 2008, is the annual Grand Session which is to be held at Central State University, Wilberforce, Ohio.

On April 19th there will be a statewide Pythagoran Day in Toledo, Ohio. Over the past few years Pythagoran Day has been held on a local level, but as one of my acts of office, I am making this event statewide to be held in Toledo this year. This gives us a chance to join in the fellowship of our fellow companions on a common ground. I have personally taken charge of this program, souvenir book, and hotel accommodations, but my companions really helping me out. My companions used their connections to obtain a DJ, and cater the food and provide transportation between the hotel and hall. As the days draw close to the event my companions are more anxious to see it happen. In seeing how this event is affecting my companions and talking to my cabinet, we feel very strongly in establishing this event as being recognized as a statewide event and having it held in the home city of the Most Valiant Grand Master Counselor each year. Tickets and reservation information for this event can be obtained through Brother Wilbert Thompson at 419-343-0810.

The week of July 10th through the 13th is our annual combined Grand Session. At my workshop, we had an open discussion on ways that we could improve the Grand Session. My companions felt that if we could have some recreation time on Thursday, this could be something to occupy our Companions after they have registered. Thursday is our registration day and only the Grand Officers are busy. Unfortunately, if any problems occur throughout the weekend, Thursday is the day that those problems happen. We decided that we would like to be able to have a recreation period, possibly rent a gym for several hours that night, or have a video game tournament on that day. The problem brought to us is that the current advisors feel that there wouldn't be enough advisors to take the companions to any events that day and still get them registered and perform all of their registration duties.

The RW Junior Grand Warden Mr. Darryl R. Smith said that the reason for this is because most of the lodges do not know the dates of Grand Session or they may have a scheduling conflict on that weekend. He asked me to send out this letter to notify the entire state in the hopes that if possible at least one member from each Lodge would be able to volunteer as a chaperone or temporary advisor. With a little bit more of your help we could do so much more and invoke even more membership to attend these sessions. I would like to say thank you for listening to my plea and I appreciate all of you.

Dominique J. Hopkins

Most Valiant Grand Master Counselor 2007/ 2008



Golden Link Chapter #91 Member Volunteers During Holiday Season...

Sister Danita Carpenter from Golden Link Chapter #91, Cincinnati, Ohio, volunteered countless hours this past holiday season to distribute donations to families in need.

She was involved with the Free Store Food Bank, which is a non-profit organization that helps thousands of families each year. Several large corporations such as Hormel Foods, P&G, General Motors and the Cincinnati Bengals made donations to the Food Bank.

This Food Bank helps families in crisis all year. Sis. Carpenter made a donation on behalf of Golden Link Chapter #91 and stated, "I thank God that I am able to be on the giving side instead of the receiving side." Next year she plans to encourage other members of the Chapter to assist in the worthwhile effort, "our organization is about giving and this is one way that we can give back to our community," she stated.



Sister Danita Carpenter with other volunteers at the Food Bank.

Unity Lodge #115 Celebrates 50th Anniversary

The officers and members of Unity Lodge #115 held their 50th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, October 13, 2007, at the Holiday Inn Dayton South, 2455 Dryden Road in Dayton, Ohio. The keynote speaker for the evening was the Honorable Reverend James H. Willis, Sr., Most Worshipful Grand Master of The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio.

Rev. Charles Holmes, PM, Unity #115, served as Master of Ceremonies. After the singing of the National Anthem by the audience, the welcome was given by Senior Warden and Charter Member, Robert L. Dunson. The invocation was given by Chaplain Bro. Blese A. Richardson III, and then dinner was served with music provided by Bro. Thomas Graham, PM. Proclamations and introduction of dignitaries was delivered by Fr. Benjamin E.K. Spere-Hardy II, PM.

Bro. Darryl R. Smith, RW Junior Grand Warden, MWPH Grand Lodge of Ohio, introduced the keynote speaker MWGM Willis. He delivered an uplifting speech encouraging the Brethren of Unity Lodge, Sisters of Unity Chapter #95, OES, and all guests present to live a life of positivism through the Spirit of the Lord. MWGM Willis sent an impressive message to WM Charles Baker of Unity Lodge #115 and all of the young members who will some day become Worshipful Masters, "Once you leave the East and become a Past Master, your work is not over; it has just begun."

Reflections of membership in Unity Lodge were shared by the Master of Ceremonies, Rev.

Charles Holmes. He acknowledged the efforts and memory of Reginald A. Guy, the first Worshipful Master of Unity Lodge.

Brothers to receive 50-year pins was declared by Bro. Marvin Anderson, PM and Secretary of Unity Lodge, and presented to Charter Members Robert L. Dunson, Philip Warden, and John Smith by MWGM Honorable Rev. James H. Willis Sr. Bro. Robert Dunson, who is also a Past Patron of Unity Chapter #95, celebrated with family, including his wife and two of his daughters, all Past Matrons of Unity Chapter No. 95. John Smith celebrated with his family, including his son, Fernando Smith, PM, #115.

Remarks were given by Bro. Blese A. Richardson III, Chaplain, #115. Exercising his duty as Worthy Patron of Unity Chapter #95, he introduced Sis. Lawyanna M. Marshall, Worthy Matron of Unity Chapter #95, who also shared remarks.

WM Charles Baker gave remarks and thanked the Grand Master for taking time out of his busy schedule to celebrate with Unity Lodge. He also thanked the audience for their participation and acknowledged the members of the committee who put this event together. Bro. Darryl R. Smith, RW JGW, gave remarks before introducing the MWGM Honorable Rev. James H. Willis, Sr., who gave final comments.

The benediction was given by Chaplain Richardson, concluding a successful and enjoyable 50th Anniversary Celebration for Unity Lodge #115, Dayton, Ohio.

(Submitted by Blese A. Richardson, III)

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, F&AM

DIRECTIVE JHW-2008-1

All Grand Lodge Officers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio; Grand Worthy Matron, Grand Worthy Patron, Grand Chapter Officers of Amaranth Grand Chapter, Inc., Order of Eastern Stars of Ohio, PHA; Past Grand Masters; Past Grand Worthy Matrons; and Past Grand Worthy Patrons; Officers and Members of Subordinate Lodges and Chapters; Officers and Members of the Adoptive Rite Bodies and/or Auxiliaries owing Allegiance to any organization who has received fraternal recognition by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio.

The following Directive is issued and immediately in full force unless otherwise revoked.

To permit the Heroines of Jericho and the Heroines of Templar Crusade to waiver rules and regulations of their eligibility to permit members of the Order of Eastern Star that are in good standing to join.

This communication is to be read at your February, March and April meetings.

"RECLAIM, REVITALIZE AND RETURN"

Take due and timely notice of the foregoing and govern yourselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and private seal of the Grand Master at Toledo, Ohio this 3rd day of January, AD 2008, AL 6008.

Fraternally,

Rev. James H. Willis, Sr.

Most Worshipful Grand Master



98th Annual Communication of the Ohio Council of Deliberation, AASR, PHA, NJ, Held in Cleveland



Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, SGIG Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr., delivers his allocution, his first as Deputy of the Orient of Ohio.

By Sovereign Grand Inspector General (SGIG) Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr., 33° & Grand Inspector General (GIG) Jay Johnson, 33°

On October 27, 2007 in the Valley of Cleveland (Beachwood), Orient of Ohio, the 98th Annual Ohio Council of Deliberation convened under the authority of the Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, SGIG Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr., 33°.

Highlights of the 98th Annual Communications of the Ohio Council of Deliberation

After a splendid devotion conducted by the Grand Prior, GIG (Rev. Dr.) Wilton E. Blake, I; and with assistance from GIG (Rev.) C. Robert Lewis and GIG (Rev.) Brian T. Moragne; Bezaleel Consistory # 15, led by the Commander-in-Chief SGIG Carl A. Williams, opened the Consistory in due form. The Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief SGIG Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr. was received under the direction of the Grand Master of Ceremonies of the United Su-

preme Council, SGIG Frederick E. Kelley, Sr., and escorted through the arch of steel, then to the East where he was afforded Grand Honors.

The officers of the Ohio Council of Deliberation then assumed their stations. They are: 1st Lt. Commander SGIG Jesse L. Russell, #26; 2nd Lt. Commander GIG Aaron Ray, #15; Grand Minister of State, SGIG Clarence J. Walker, Jr., #24; Grand Prior, GIG Wilton E. Blake, I, #20; Grand Treasurer, SGIG Van C. Barnette, #26; Grand Secretary, GIG Gerald S. Friason, #20; Assistant

Grand Secretary, GIG Jimmie E. Johnson, #26; Assistant Grand Secretary, GIG Ronald Ogletree, #26; Grand Hospitaler, GIG Theodore R. Patton, #24; Grand Master of Ceremonies, SGIG Frederick E. Kelley, Sr., #21; Assistant Grand Master of Ceremonies, GIG Jerry D. Springer, #26; Grand Captain of the Guard, GIG Arnold W. Scott, #20; Grand Sentinel, GIG Woodrow Riddle, #15; Director of Candle bearers and Sword Bearers, GIG Curtis McKinney #20; and President of the Commanders of the Rite, GIG Clamion M. Marshall #20.

The five Illustrious Commanders-in-Chief; SGIG Carl A. Williams, Bezaleel Consistory # 15, Valley of Cleveland; GIG Derrick Grigsby, King Solomon Consistory #20, Valley of Cincinnati; GIG Kennedy C. McCall, L.D. Easton Consistory #21, Valley of Columbus; GIG E.C. Harrell, St. Matthews Consistory #24, Valley of Toledo; and GIG Darryl R. Smith, Miami Consistory #26, Valley of Dayton was received.

After the reception of the Grand Inspectors General (GIG) and the



Lieutenant Grand Commander, SGIG Basil L. Sands (Bahamas) brings greetings from the United Supreme Council.

33rd Degree Class of 2007, the male Grand Heads of Masonic Adopted, Appendant and Concordant Bodies were received. Those present were: GIG Brian T. Moragne, Grand Worthy Patron, Amaranth Grand Chapter, Inc., OES; GIG Charles V. Williams, III, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Ohio, Royal Arch Masons; GIG Derrick A. Grigsby, Sr., Grand Thrice Illustrious Master, Ohio Grand Council, Royal & Select Masters; GIG William C. Parker, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Ohio Grand Commandery, Knights Templar; GIG William Watkins, Jr., Eminent Prior, Alpha Priory #1, Knight York Cross of Honor; GIG Clamion M. Marshall, President, Ohio Commanders of the Rite; and GIG Carl W. Lee, Imperial Deputy of the Desert of Ohio, A.E.A.-O.N.M.S.

There were 15 Sovereign Grand Inspectors General (SGIG) present counting the Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief. They are SGIGs Frederick E. Kelley, Sr., Van C. Barnette, Gregory S. Snead, Jesse L. Russell, Carl A. Williams, Clarence Walker, Oliver W. Sumlin, Steven Reece, Sr., Stephen P. Blackwell, Sr., Charles W. Hales, William F. Crockett, Chester C. Pryor, II, Charles Richardson and Kenneth E. Lewis. Excused was SGIG William A. McClain.

There were twelve (12) Past Grand Masters present: Most Worshipful Brothers — Kenneth E. Lewis, Chester C. Pryor, II, Steven Reece, Sr., Frederick E. Kelley, Sr., Embie R. Bostic, Sidney D. Broadnax,

MWGM Rev. James H. Willis Sr. addresses the Fraters.



Jr., Gregory S. Snead, Jesse L. Russell, Wilbur West, Charles W. Hales, William F. Crockett, and Oliver W. Sumlin. PGM William A. McClain was excused.

Eight Past Grand Worthy Patrons were present: SGIG Stephen P. Blackwell, Sr.; GIG Wilse Simpson; GIG Albert L. Lewis; GIG Jerry D. Springer; GIG Charles E. Williams; GIG Emerson D. Ballard; GIG Keith D. Clark, Sr.; GIG Jimmie E. Johnson.

The Grand Master of Ceremonies then escorted the representative of the Sovereign Grand Commander Solomon Wallace, 33°, SGIG Basil L. Sands, Lieutenant Grand Commander of the United Supreme Council, Northern Jurisdiction, from Nassau, Bahamas, to the East and he was given Grand Honors.

The last individual received was none other than the 58th Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, the Honorable Reverend James H. Willis, Sr. He was escorted into the Chambers by a delegation of Past Grand Masters and preceded to the East where he was afforded Private Grand Honors.

Congratulations are in order for: GIG Steve Murray, St. Matthews Consistory #24, who is the "Secretary of the Year" for the Orient of Ohio; SGIG Kenneth E. Lewis who was reclassified from GIG and once again appointed Standard Bearer for the United Supreme Council; SGIG Steven Reece, Sr., who was appointed to the USC Convention Department and also to the Ohio State Commission on Black Males; GIG Jerry D. Springer, appointed to the USC Ritual Committee and to GIG Carmen Williamson for years of service with the International Boxing Commission.

The Ohio Council of Delibera-

tion Scholarship Commission donated over \$11,000 to students for scholarships, \$1,000.00 to the USC Benevolent Foundation, and \$1,000.00 to the Ohio Grand Assembly Order of the Golden Circle for their 2007 Scholarship Program.

Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief informed us of his re-classification to Active status and appointment as Deputy of the Orient for Ohio. The Honorable Solomon Wallace, 33° of New York was elected Sovereign Grand Commander; SGIG Basil L. Sands was elected Lt. Grand Commander and SGIG Melvin Basemore was elected Grand Minister of State. SGC Algie S. Oldham was named Sovereign Grand Commander Emeritus during the 126th United Supreme Council Session held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

He also shared plans for the 127th Annual United Supreme Council, which will be held in Cincinnati, OH May 23-27, 2008. Since Ohio will be the host, complete cooperation and participation from all SGIGs, GIGs, Sublime Princes, and Loyal Ladies of the Golden Circle are expected. Also, we are soliciting participation from the Ohio Prince Hall Masonic Family for our souvenir book.

There will be two "first" at this upcoming 127th Annual Session in Cincinnati:

1. Sovereign Grand Commander has charged the Orient of Ohio to exemplify the Thirty-Third (33°) for the class. SGIG Stephen P. Blackwell, Sr. and GIG Arnold Scott are in charge of the Statewide Degree Team.

2. "First Annual Golf Outing" to benefit the United Supreme Council Benevolent Foundation, Inc. This will be held on Friday May 23, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. All golfers (male and female) are welcome to participate and do not have to be members of the Order. This is limited to the first 144 paid

(See Council of..., pg. 13)



Fraters listen attentively to the allocution presented by the Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief SGIG Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr.

(Photos by Ival Angel)

Council of Deliberation---

(Continued from page 12)

golfers. You can "WIN A NEW CAR!" by scoring a "HOLE-IN-ONE" on one of the Par-3 Holes. To guarantee your tee-time, the registration form and fee must be returned no later than May 5, 2008. For more information, secure a form from any Illustrious Sir (33°) or officers of your consistory.

The Ohio Grand Assembly, Order of the Golden Circle will serve as official host for the visiting ladies during this 2008 Annual United Supreme Council. State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler Alma M. Long of Miami Assembly #22, Dayton is General Chairperson and Past SGLLR Mona Dickson of Dove Assembly #34, is local Chairperson and the Loyal Ladies of the Golden Circle have planned tours, luncheons and a fashion show for this convention. All ladies are welcome to participate and you must register in advance. For information, contact any member of the Golden Circle.

A wonderful "sit down" breakfast was served Sunday morning for all attendees.

The annual session concluded with remarks from the Lt. Grand Commander SGIG Basil L. Sands. He wanted the record to reflect that he personally chose Ohio as

one of his three official visitations because of the outstanding support that he received from several Sovereign Grand Inspectors General from Ohio in his quest for elevation to an elected position in the United Supreme Council. He spoke very lovingly of his two 1968 Classmates from the Orient of Ohio, SGIG Clarence J. Walker and GIG Merville McCants. He concluded by giving us the mission statement of the United Supreme Council and identifying five areas that they plan to concentrate on during the next Triennium, specifically membership, financial stability and viability, cooperation within the entire Masonic family, inclusion of the membership with input into some of the decision-making processes and to make the Deputy's Training sessions more productive and informative.

Thanks to SGIG Charles W. Hales, Convention Director and Assistant Convention Director SGIG Carl A. Williams; Local Chairpersons GIG Embie R. Bostic and PSGLLR Merless Roberson; Committees of Bezaleel Consistory #15 and Assembly #19 for an outstanding job with the arrangements for our 98th Annual Ohio Council of Deliberation and 36th Annual Ohio Grand Assembly Order of the Golden Circle. This was a tremendous turnout and we are looking forward to another record turnout this October.

Past State Grand Loyal Lady Rulers stand united as PSGLLR Merless Roberson brings greetings on their behalf.



LL Jamesetta Royster of La Paz Assembly #35, introduces the Illustrious Deputy of the Orient and his delegation to the State Grand Assembly, Order of the Golden Circle.

tion and 36th Annual Ohio Grand Assembly Order of the Golden Circle. This was a tremendous turnout and we are looking forward to another record turnout this October.

The 99th Annual Ohio Council of Deliberation and the 37th Annual Grand Assembly Order of the Golden Circle will be held at the Holiday Inn Dayton / Fairborn 1-675 in Fairborn, Ohio October 24-26, 2008. Miami Consistory #26 and Miami As-

sembly #22 will host. Requirement for eligibility for membership "Any Female" who is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star is eligible to join the Order of the Golden Circle until January 10, 2009.

sembly #22 will host. Requirement for eligibility for membership "Any Female" who is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star is eligible to join the Order of the Golden Circle until January 10, 2009.

LL Alma M. Long Elected State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler



LL Alma M. Long, SGLLR

PLLR Alma M. Long, Miami Assembly #22, was elected to the position of State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler during the 36th Session of the Ohio Grand Assembly, Order of the Golden Circle Communication in Cleveland, Ohio, October 2007.

Grand Loyal Lady Ruler Long is a native of Dayton where she received her education and attended Wright State University and The University of Dayton. She is a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church.

Her other affiliations are: member of Deborah Chapter #19. OES for over 30 years; PLLR of Mi-

ami Assembly #22, Order of the Golden Circle; Past Illustrious Commandress of Amer Court #65, DOI; Past Imperial Deputy of the Oasis of Dayton; and a Past Honorary Imperial Commandress of the Imperial Court, Dts. of Isis.

She is married to SGIG Kenneth E. Long and they have one son, Kenneth.

Other elected officers are: Ruby McDaniels, GLL Assistant Ruler; Jamesetta Royster, GLL Priestess; LaVerna Elder, GLL Guide; Daisy L. Lewis, GLL Treasurer; Patricia A. Johnson, GLL Secretary. Appointed officers are: Carolyn Ray, GLL Herald; Jacqueline E. Harris, GLL Standard Bearer; Sharon Coleman, GLL Inner Guard; Charlesena H. Smith, GLL Outer Guard; Donna Austin, GLL Historian; W. Sue Davis, GLL Assistant Secretary; Dorothea Burton, GLL Musician; Gloris J. Tisdale, GLL Chaplain; Loling W. Sawyer and Barbara Hudson-Banner, GLL Assistant Guides.

SGIG Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr., Deputy of the Orient of Ohio, was the presiding officer for the election.

SGLLR Long will be honored at a banquet on Saturday, October 25, 2008 in Dayton, Ohio. Additional information will be forthcoming in The Lamp.

Ohio Commanders of the Rite Meeting Held

GIG Clamion M. Marshall President

Information was presented at the Annual Ohio Commanders of the Rite meeting, on Saturday, October 27, 2007, on the purchasing and wearing of robes by all Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and all Grand Inspectors General of the Ohio Council of Deliberation.

The robe for the SGIGs is black enhanced by a royal blue velvet facing. The robe for the GIGs is black enhanced by a black velvet facing.

Robes must be ordered through your local President and they are: Bezaleel Consistory #15, Illustrious Larry W. Johnson; King Solomon Consistory #20, Illustri-

ous Archie D. Johnson; L.D. Easton Consistory, Illustrious Wilse Simpson; St. Matthew Consistory #24, Illustrious Allan M. Roberts; and Miami Consistory #26, Illustrious Arlin E. Jackson. Please contact them for further information, i.e. measurements for the robe, description and cost.

To qualify to purchase and wear the robe, members must be in good standing with all Commanders of the Rite Chapters. The robes will be worn at your Consistory meetings and at the Annual Ohio Council of Deliberation.

The elected officers for 2008 for the Ohio Commanders of the Rite are: Illustrious Clamion M. Marshall, President; Illustrious

Charles V. Williams, III, Vice President; Illustrious Leroy Williamson, Sr., Secretary; and Illustrious Theodore R. Patton, Treasurer.



SGIG Stephen P. Blackwell, Sr. models robe that will be purchased by SGIGs with the blue velvet facing. GIGs will have black velvet facing. Estimated cost is \$104.95, includes tax and shipping. Thirty-third patch (10-1/2") is sown on back and must be purchased separately for \$10.00.



Miami Consistory #26 Elects New Leadership



Miami Consistory No. 26, Valley of Dayton held its regular meeting and election of officers for the year on Saturday, January 2, 2008. Presiding officer for the election SGIG Stephen P. Blackwell, Sr., the installing officer was SGIG Van C. Barnette. Elected to serve Miami Consistory No. 26 for the year were: Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, SP Jimmie L. Kilpatrick; 1st Lt. Commander, GIG Maurice Winston; 2nd Lt. Commander, SP Villani J. Thomas; Secretary, GIG Ronald A. Ogletree; Treasurer, GIG George Goolsby.

Melchisedec Chapter of Rose Croix: Most Wise and Perfect Master, SP Ernest Neilson, III; Senior Warden, SP Gurley Ramey; Junior Warden, SP Anthony W. Reynolds. Trojan Lodge of Perfection: Thrice Potent Master, SP Willie Chattman; Deputy Thrice Potent Master, SP Frank Smith; Senior Warden, SP Howard Isley; and Junior Warden, SP Eric Means.



Golden Star Chapter #1 Hosts Recognition Dinner



Brother Michael Henry (l.) Worthy Patron, #1 and Sister Zeda K. Roberson, Grand Worthy Matron (r.) present plaque to honoree Sister Josephine Core, PM #1.

Golden Star Chapter #1, OES, Springfield, Ohio, had the honor of the Grand Worthy Matron Zeda K. Roberson attend an informal dinner honoring Past Matron Josephine Core. PM Core was awarded a recognition plaque for

Outstanding Service and Achievement to Golden Star Chapter #1.

Sister Carolyn Henry is Worthy Matron and Brother Michael Henry is Worthy Patron of Golden Star Chapter #1.



The Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Ohio Royal Arch Masons

To: All Grand Chapter Officers, Present and Past, Excellent High Priest, Kings, Scribes and Companions

PROCLAMATION CVW-2008-1

In accordance with Article V, Section 1 of the Code and Constitution of the Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Ohio Royal Arch Masons, and by the power in me vested as the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, know ye that I, The Honorable Charles V. Williams, III, do hereby proclaim the 141st Annual Grand Convocation of Ohio Royal Arch Masons shall convene at 8:30 a.m., on Saturday, April 26, 2008 at:

Holiday Inn Dayton-North
I-75 & Wagner Ford Road
Dayton, Ohio 45414

Front Desk: (937) 278-4871 • Toll Free Number: (888) 465-4329

NOTE: Please make room reservations directly with the hotel by March 31, 2008. Room rates: Single/Double \$70.00 plus tax.

Grand Chapter Officers will open an Occasional Grand Chapter at 8:30 a.m. The Grand Chaplain will conduct a Devotional Service beginning at 8:00 a.m. The prescribe dress shall be: Red Jacket, Black Pants, White Shirt, Red Tie, Black Socks and Black Shoes. Masonic Dress or Black Suits shall be allowed.

Advanced registration is \$35.00 prior to April 08, 2008. On-site registration is \$40.00. Present and Past Grand Chapter Officers, Past High Priests, High Priests, Kings, Scribes are to register with the Credentials Committee immediately after leaving the registration desk. All High Priest or Chapter Representatives with more than one (1) vote MUST bring a certificate of proxy, signed the High Priest and Secretary with the chapter's seal affixed thereto.

Please take due and timely notice of the foregoing and govern yourself accordingly.

Given under my hand and the private seal of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, hereto attached at 3719 Judy Lane, Dayton, Ohio on this 26th Day of January, AD 2008, AL 2538.

Holiness To The Lord,

Charles V. Williams, III

Most Excellent Grand High Priest



GWM Zeda K. Roberson (l.) is presented a gift by Worthy Matron Carolyn Henry



GWM Roberson looks on as PM Josephine Core proudly displays special cake in her honor.

Golden Star #1 Elects Officers for 2008



Golden Star Chapter #1 recently elected Sister Carolyn Henry as Worthy Matron for 2008. Her husband, PP Michael Henry was elected to serve as Worthy Patron. Her theme for the year is "Accepting Correction is the Path to Perfection."

Other officers elected were: PM Wordie Nolcox, Associate Matron; PM Verna Reed Treasurer; PM Betty Reed, Secretary; Phyllis Lock, Conductress; Mary Dill, Associate Conductress; and PM Pamela Reed, Marshal.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM

141st Annual Convocation of the Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Ohio Royal Arch Masons

Saturday, April 26, 2008 - Holiday Inn Dayton-North I-75 & Wagner Ford Road Dayton, Ohio
45414 Front Desk: (937) 278-4871 Toll Free Number: (888) 465-4329

NAME: _____

CHAPTER'S NAME: _____ NUMBER: _____

Title: _____

Advance Registration: \$35.00 • On-Site Registration: \$40.00

Deadline for Advance Registration is: April 8, 2008

Please make Checks or money Orders payable to:

Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Ohio Royal Arch Masons
and mail to:

Fred Conway 3792
Denlinger Road
Dayton, Ohio 45426
(937) 268-4543



Did You Know?...

...The United Grand Lodge of England (Mother Lodge of the world) and 33 of the 51 Grand Lodges of the United States, plus almost every Canadian Grand Lodge and about a dozen other Grand Lodges in Europe recognize Prince Hall Masonry and its Grand Lodges.

2008 MASTER CALENDAR

2008 APRIL

- 4-5 - SGC Solomon Wallace's Testimonial Banquet, Rye, New York
- 5 - Girls Assembly District #2 Meeting - Alliance
- 12 - PHGL Southern District Meeting - Cincinnati
- 12 - Girls Assembly District #4 Meeting - Cincinnati
- 19 - OES 2nd District Meeting - Elyria
- 26 - Grand Convocation, Royal Arch Masons & MEGHP Banquet - Dayton**
- 27 - Grand Convocation, Heroines of Jericho - Dayton**

2008 MAY

- 3 - OES 6th District Meeting - Cincinnati
- 3 - Al Kaf Temple #109 Potentate Ball - Akron
- 8-11 - Imperial Commandress Testimonial Banquet - New Orleans
- 10 - Girls Assembly District #1 Meeting - Cleveland
- 10 - PHGL Northern District Meeting - TBA
- 15-17 - Prince Hall Conference of Grand Masters and Eastern Stars - Louisville, KY
- 16-18 - Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters - Dayton**
- 18 - DOI Feast of Isis - Worldwide
- 18 - PHGL Charity Scholarship Raffle Drawing - Columbus
- 23-27 - United Supreme Council, Northern Jurisdiction Meeting - Cincinnati, Millenium & Hyatt Hotels
- 31 - OES 4th District Meeting - Columbus - Midwest Conference Center

2008 JUNE

- 6-8 - Shrine Gala Days - Akron, (Holiday Inn/Fairlawn)**
- 7 - OES 1st District Meeting - Cleveland
- 8 - Julibee Day - Akron (Holiday Inn/Fairlawn)
- 8 - OES Esther Day - Columbus, 4:00 p.m., Southfield Baptist Church**
- 14 - OES 3rd District Meeting - Alliance
- 13-14 - Alpha Priory #1 Convocation - Fairborn, Hope Hotel**
- 15 - Zerubbabel Day - Statewide (District Observance)
- 21 - MWPHGL of Ohio and Grand Lodge of Ohio Meeting - Columbus
- 21 - Alla Baba Temple #53 Potentate Ball - Columbus
- 22 - St. John the Baptist Day - Stateside (District Observance)
- 28 - OES 5th District Meeting - Dayton
- 25-27 - Grand Encampment Knights Templar & Grand Guild H of TC - Braintree, MA
- 28-July 1 - General Grand Conference RAM & Heroines of Jericho - Braintree, MA

2008 JULY

- 10-13 - Youth Grand Session - TBA
- 18-20 - Grand Convocation Knights Templar & Grand Guild - Dayton Eminent Grand Commander's Banquet**
- 26 - MAPHGC HofJ Northern District Prayer Breakfast - TBA
- 26 - Al Lalim Court #205 Commandress Ball - Elyria

2008 AUGUST

- 1-5 - 159th Grand Communication of MWPHGL of Ohio - Toledo**
- 121st Grand Communication of Amaranth Grand Chapter, OES - Toledo**
- 15-21 - 115th Imperial Council Session, AEAONMS, Inc. - Kansas City, MO**
- 97th Imperial Court Session, Daughters of Isis - Kansas City, MO**

2008 SEPTEMBER

- 6 - Sinai Temple #59 Past Potentates Council Testimonial - Cincinnati
- 13 - Sinai Court #35 Commandress Ball - Cincinnati
- 13 - El Hasa Temple #28 Potentate Ball - Cleveland
- 14 - Prince Hall Americanism Day - Statewide
- 20 - MAPHGC HofJ Southern District Prayer Breakfast - TBA

- 20 - Amer Court #65, DOI Commandress Ball - Dayton
- 27 - Al Lalim Temple #223 Potentate Ball - Elyria
- 27 - Alla Baba Court #75 Commandress Ball - Columbus
- 27 - Heads of Houses Calendar Meeting - Columbus (50 Hamilton Park)**

2008 OCTOBER

- 4 - Joint Potentate/Commandress Ball Akbar Court #33/Akbar Temple #41, Springfield
- 4 - Al Asir Court #200 Commandress Ball - Youngstown
- 4 - Grand Guild H of TC Workshop - TBA
- 11 - Shrine Desert Conference - Springfield
- 11 - William T. Boyd #79 Past Master's Ball - Cleveland
- 11 - Mecca Court #73 Commandress Ball - Toledo
- 18 - Al Kaf Court #144 Commandress Ball - Akron
- 18 - Heroines of Jericho School of Instruction - TBA
- 25-26 - Ohio Council of Deliberation/Order of the Golden Circle - Dayton**
- State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler's Banquet - Dayton**

2008 NOVEMBER

- 1 - Youth Planning Session - TBA
- 7-9 - Grand Worthy Matron's Testimonial Banquet (Ruth Chapter #104 host) - Fairborn (Hope Hotel & Conference Center)**
- 15 - Brotherhood Night - Cincinnati
- 22 - Amer Temple #107 Potentate Ball - Dayton

2008 DECEMBER

- 6 - El Hasa Court #47 Commandress Ball - Cleveland
- 21 - St. John the Evangelist Day - Statewide**
- 25 - Knights Templar Christmas Observance - Worldwide

Ringling Bells for the Needy...

Members of Akbar Temple #41, Springfield, Ohio, braved blizzard like weather conditions to ring bells for the Salvation Army collection pot during the holiday season. (L. to r.) are PP Michael Henry and Noble Richard Echie, who is also Worshipful Master of Champion Lodge #15. Other Nobles from Akbar Temple also participated.



Al Asir Temple #210 Feed Needy Families



(L. to r.) PP Jesse Humphrey; PP Willie Caradine; PP Willien E. Spence Sr., PP John R. Clark; Rescue Mission worker; Illustrious Potentate Andrew J. Huff, Imperial Deputy of the Oasis Wayne Gamble; Rescue Mission worker; Noble Petross Leftwich, and PP Marshall B. Coney, Jr.

The Nobles of Al Asir Temple #210, Youngstown, Ohio, showed generosity during the holiday season by donating 50 turkeys to two local community agencies that serve the needy.

Illustrious Potentate Andrew J. Huff, several Nobles of Al Asir made personal donations toward the purchase of the turkeys. The Rescue Mission of Youngstown and the Samaritan House were given 25 turkeys each. The Res-

cue Mission cooked the turkeys to provide dinners for the needy on Christmas day.

The Samaritan House distributed the turkeys to needy families for their holiday meals.

Illustrious Potentate Huff was

pleased that the Nobles responded in such a generous fashion. He thanked them for helping to make Christmas a little brighter for those less fortunate.

(Submitted by William E. Spence Sr.)

Fact... The Grand Lodge Committee on Non-Prince Hall Masons reported finding 56 bogus Non-Prince Hall Masonic Bodies operating in the Jurisdiction of Ohio.

Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court Heroines of Jericho, State of Ohio

Proclamation JTE- 2008-1

Greetings:

In accordance with Article IV, Section I of the Constitution of the Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court, Heroines of Jericho State of Ohio, and by the power and authority in me vested as Most Ancient Grand Matron, Know ye that I, Jeannie T. Elam, do hereby proclaim that the 34th Annual Grand Convocation will convene at the Holiday Inn North, 2301 Wagner Ford Road, Dayton Ohio 45414 on Sunday, April 27th, 2008. Morning devotion service will begin at 8:00 a.m. Convocation will open at 8:35 a.m.

Registration

Advance registration is \$ 35.00 and \$ 40.00 on-site.

Contact: Heroine M. Darlene Harrison, 3618 Barberry Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45207.

Yours In The Bonds Of The Scarlet Cord,
Heroine Jeannie T. Elam PMAM #1
Most Ancient Grand Matron



Mecca Court Spreads Cheer During the Holiday Season

The Daughters of Mecca Court No. 73, Oasis of Toledo, Desert of Ohio, were very busy during the Christmas season. On Tuesday, December 6, 2007, the Daughters opened a Christmas Store at Mott Branch Public Library in the inner city for kids to purchase Christmas gifts for family and friends with merchandise donated by the Daughters of Mecca Court No. 73. Within 30 minutes of the doors opening, the Christmas Store was sold out. All items ranged in price from 25 cents to \$1. Free gift wrapping and refreshments were provided with all proceeds donated to the Library.

The Christmas cheer did not stop there. Mecca Court No. 73 also donated Christmas baskets full of non-perishable food items

and a turkey for each. Three families were chosen by the staff of Fulton Elementary School, which is also the school that was adopted by Mecca Court to supply school supplies throughout the academic year. We gave two baskets to a Daughter who is a caregiver to several family members. Baskets were delivered to the school and to the Daughter's house on Friday, December 21 in time for the big holiday dinner, by the Illustrious Commandress, Dt. Claudia Roberts with several other Daughters and Noble Allan Roberts, the husband of the Illustrious Commandress. Mecca Court also surprised several Daughters who are no longer able to make meetings by sending a special Christmas greeting to them. Love tokens of \$15 were given to seven members

along with a Christmas card from the Court.

Congratulations to the 2008 Divan of Mecca Court No. 73 which was recently elected. Continue being successful and keep Mecca "Magnificent." Officers are: Illustrious Commandress Dt. Danielle Y. Shockley; 1st Lieutenant Commandress Dt. Mary A. Wilkins; 2nd Lieutenant Commandress Dt. Debbie A. Dean-Mitchell; High Priestess Dt. Charlene K. Miller; Oriental Guide Dt. Lisa M. Bonds; Illustrious Recordress Dt. Vivian McGee-Carroll, HPIC; Illustrious Treasurer Dt. Pamela D. Hopkins, PC; 1st Ceremonial Daughter Dt. Tanya R. Roach; 2nd Ceremonial Daughter Dt. Delores Bates; Inside Spy Dt. Stacey Thomas; Outside Spy Dt.

THE LAMP
50 Hamilton Park
Columbus, OH 43203

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DAYTON OH

Gertrude R. Brown; and Marshal Dt. Jeanne Harris.

Congratulations to Dt. Charlesena H. Smith, elected as Deputy Imperial Commandress, Imperial Court; Dt. Barbara M.

Turner, Imperial Deputy for the Desert of Ohio; Dt. Joyce E. Aldridge; Imperial Deputy of the Oasis of Toledo, who were recently appointed by the Imperial Court.

(Submitted by Dt. Tanya Roach)

Collage of Banquet, Honoring State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler E. Rose Ferguson on October 27, 2007, in Cleveland, Ohio

Photos by Richard Maxey

