

160th Grand Lodge/122nd Grand Chapter Communications Planning Session Held

The Grand Trustees of the MWPGL of Ohio and Amaranth Grand Chapter, along with other select individuals, descended upon The Columbus, A Renaissance Hotel, on January 24, 2009, to plan for the upcoming Grand Sessions that will be held in August 2009.

Since this facility has been utilized by the Grand Lodge for several years and our members are aware of the accommodations, the planning time this year was used to see how we could improve upon registration, attendance and other areas of need.

After a brief "brainstorming" session, the Grand Trustees decided to attempt to attract some of our non-voting members to the session by reducing their registration fee from \$70.00 in advance to \$45.00, but this would not include a banquet ticket. On site registrations for non-voting members

is \$50.00 and all voting members is \$90.00. Additional banquet tickets will cost \$45.00.

The MWGM also decreed that there would again be joint district hospitalities on the third floor only in the small conference rooms to limit the traffic and noise on the sleeping floors.

The Local Chairman for the MWPGL is PM Ben Carson and the Grand Chairperson of Arrangements for Amaranth Grand Chapter is PM Ruth Keels, both extremely experienced and diligent in the performance of their duties.



2009 Planning Committee headed by MW Grand Master Rev. James E. Willis, Sr. and Grand Worthy Matron Kay F. Anderson. (Photo by Reginald Oliver)

MAGM Mary Louise Brookins and MWGJ Rufus T. Duhart Honored at Joint Recognition Banquet

By Jay Johnson

Approximately 190 persons entered the main ballroom of the Holiday Inn North in Dayton, Ohio, on Saturday, April 25, 2009, to pay tribute to Heroine Mary Louise Brookins, Most Ancient Grand Matron and Knight Rufus T. Duhart, Most Worthy Grand Joshua, of the Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Court, Heroines of Jericho.

Prince White Court No. 1, Cincinnati, OH and Burning Bush Court No. 3, Dayton, OH, home courts of the Grand Joshua and Most Ancient Grand Matron respectfully, hosted the affair.

After the customary reception and introduction of the head table, those in attendance enjoyed a delightful meal.

Heroine Eva Bess, Vice Ancient Grand Matron, served as the Mistress of Ceremonies and Heroine Jeannie Elam, PMAGM, entertained the audience with her melodious voice.

The MEGHP Charles V. Williams, III, Grand Worthy Matron Kay F. Anderson and Deputy Grand Master Robert L. Jones, representing the MWGM James H. Willis, Sr., gave remarks.

**The Honorees
MWGJ Rufus T.
Duhart and
MAGM Mary
Louise Brookins.**

(Photos by
Woodrow
Riddle, Jr.)



The honorees and officers of MAPH Grand Court, Heroines of Jericho. (Additional photos on page 15)

Midwest Regional Conference Held In Chicago, Illinois



The Ohio Delegation in attendance at the Midwest Regional Conference.

(Photo by Greg Sneed)

A delegation of 27 persons, led by MWGM, Rev. James H. Willis, Sr., GWM Kay F. Anderson and GWP Jerry Friason traveled to the "Windy City" of Chicago, March 12 -15, 2009, to attend the Midwest Regional Conference of Grand Masters and Masons and Grand Chapters and Eastern Stars.

The conference was held at the Wyndham O'Hare Hotel and Resort, actually located in the city of Rosemont, IL, and the host Jurisdiction had it laid out for our arrival.

The OES Conference had a special guest this year in the person of GWM Elvera Shannon, (Louisiana), President of the Conference of Grand Chapters, USA, Canada and the Bahamas.

There was a changing of the guard within the Conference of Grand Masters and MWGM Frank Humphrey, Jurisdiction of Wisconsin, was elected President of the Midwest Conference. Ohio did not come home empty handed as our Grand Worthy Matron was elected President of the Conference of Grand Chapters and our Grand Worthy Patron was elected Vice President, the first time this

has happened in over 20 years.

Plans are under way to take a large delegation from Ohio to the next session, which will be held from March 11-14, 2010, in Omaha, Nebraska, in support of our leadership team. The rotation of the conference is as follows: 2010 - NE, 2011 - MI, 2012 WI, 2013 - KY, 2014 - MO, 2015 - OH, 2016 - IA and 2017 IN.



(Above) Newly elected members of the Steering Committee; PGWP Anderson, MI; PGWM Frances Walls, KY; GWP Gerald S. Friason, Vice President, OH; and GWM Kay F. Anderson, President, OH.

(Photos by Jay Johnson)



(Left) GWP Friason receives resolution from GWM Sholanda Patterson, IL, President, and GWP James Woodard, IN, VP, on the death of his father, S. Vernon Friason.

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

The Recipe for an Abundant Life

My brothers and my sisters, as we continue to journey through this Masonic trail, we know that there is a path that we must take. In doing so, we realize that there are recipes for just about everything: **cakes, pies, desserts, and assorted dishes**, but, the question that I am asking... is there a recipe for life? Is there a special recipe that we can follow that would guarantee an abundant life that is filled with **joy, peace, love, long suffering, gentleness, and meekness**?

A recipe is a special list of ingredients and procedures used to achieve a desired result. It is usually detailed enough so that those who follow it to the letter will get the predefined result. Those who have a special way of cooking or preparing an item that produces their unique result usually guard their recipes. **Coca Cola** has a special mixture of ingredients that produces its unique taste. It has kept that recipe secret nearly a century. **Kentucky Fried Chicken** keeps its special blend of herbs and spices used to produce its **"finger licking good taste"** under lock and key. Even the franchise owners in local communities are not told the recipe. It is a trade secret.

There are some secrets that cannot be reproduced, even with the best recipe. I am reminded of the story of the grandchild who had always been impressed with the way grandma made pound cakes. Now a newly married microwave bride, the grandchild decided to make a pound cake, just like grandma made. She went up and down the aisle at the grocery store getting ingredients that she remembered sitting on the counter at grandma's house.

When she came to the spices, she stood there for a long time reading every box and bottle, searching for something.

An elderly woman stood nearby and watched. The young woman seemed frustrated at her inability to find what she was looking for. Finally, the woman approached the young woman and asked if she could help.

The frustrated grandchild turned quickly and said, **"I'm trying to find something grandma used to put in her cakes, but I can't find it!"** Puzzled, the woman asked what it was, only to hear the woman respond: **"She called it scratch!"** The old woman responded: **"That's love and patience baby, you won't find it on a shelf, it came from her heart."**

As we prepare to close out this



Masonic year, please be reminded that God has a recipe for living abundantly that is available for everyone. Such a recipe would be worth millions, but believers have found it and it is free. It's not on a shelf and it's not in a box. It's from His heart. It is not a secret. In fact, we have been commanded to go into the entire world and tell everyone about the recipe, then show them how to blend its ingredients to produce the abundant, spirit-filled life.

Jesus said He came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. The bible is a detailed recipe for believers to follow to achieve the spirit-filled life. It begins with one simple idea... Matt. 6:33 says: **"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all of these things shall be added unto you."**

Knowing that we are all God's children, we strive to live according to God's plan. He has given us the recipe for spirit-filled living. If we obey His word and follow the result will be a life that is both fulfilling and pleasing in His sight.

When you are able to read this scripture for yourself, you will see a father whose son is possessed by a demonic spirit and Jesus' response.

In reply to Jesus' compassionate inquiry, the father said his son had experienced such pathetic and near-fatal convulsions from childhood. The lad's condition was long-standing and critical. The words, "If You can do anything," indicate that the disciples' inability to expel the demon had shaken the father's faith in Jesus' ability.

Jesus took up the father's words of doubt, if You can, to show that the point was not His ability to heal the boy, but the father's ability to trust in God who can do what is humanly impossible.

Jesus then challenged the father not to doubt; Everything is possible for him who believes. **Faith** sets no limits on God's power and submits itself to His will.

The father's response was immediate. He declared his faith, but

also acknowledged its weakness: Help me overcome my unbelief!

Herein lies the key to living the abundant life. The main ingredient that was missing from this father's experience was faith. We need faith to achieve our life's purpose. Everything is possible for the person who believes.

God will show us how to break yokes, for He says, **"take my yoke upon you, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light."**

He shows us how to prepare for the heat, by reminding us that, **"blessed are ye when men shall persecute you and say all manner of evil against thee for my name's sake."** If you want the recipe for a spirit-filled life... most especially a Masonic life... start with a spoonful of faith.

Soak faith in your soul for a few minutes then add a touch of hope, because, "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness."

Now throw in a spoonful of confidence that will help you say, **"The Lord will make a way somehow."** (Regardless of how our brothers and sisters try to look down on us.)

You need a dash of optimism because when things look bad you remember, **"All things work together for the good of them that love the Lord!"**

You need a pinch of forgiveness because Jesus said we should say, **"Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors."**

You need a few drops of patience because, **"They that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up on wings as an Eagle, they shall run and not be weary, walk and not faint."**

Now sprinkle it over with two dashes of assurance; it's what the songwriter meant when he said, **"Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine, oh, what foretaste of glory divine."**

Get two stalks of righteousness and blend them together with a faithful walk. That's why the old warriors sang, **"I want Jesus to walk with me. While I'm on this tedious journey. Lord I want Jesus to walk with me."** However, what is the main ingredient in this recipe? What makes this recipe work is the blood. It's the blood of Jesus! I know it was the blood! I know it was the blood that saved me! As a **Masonic Family**, let us continue to love one another and not belittle anyone, because we **ALL** fall short of the glory of God.

We look forward to your attendance at our 160th Grand Communication being held at the Renaissance Hotel at 50 N. 3rd Street in Columbus, Ohio. It has been a pleasure to serve you as the 58th Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand

Prince Hall Scholarship Raffle Announces Winners

On behalf of the MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio and the Prince Hall Scholarship Foundation, the Executive Director, Ronald A. Ogletree, thanks everyone for their participation and support. The 2009 raffle drawing was held on May 17, 2009, at Grand Lodge Headquarters, 50 Hamilton Park, Columbus, Ohio and the winners are:

1st Place	Donald Shaw, Youngstown, Ohio - \$3,000.00
2nd Place	Angle Grand, Bedford, Ohio - \$1,750.00
3rd Place	Ralph Clay, Portsmouth, Ohio - \$750.00
4th Place	P.H. Bowlines, Cincinnati, Ohio - \$500.00

Lodge of this Jurisdiction. I look forward to continued service for the incoming Grand Master. I ask for your continued prayer for my Family and I... and I will remain prayerful for you.

SCRIPTURE: "Jesus said

unto him, if thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." Mark 9:23

Fraternally,

Rev. James H. Willis, Sr.

Most Worshipful Grand Master

Next Deadline for The Lamp November 30, 2009



Published By The Most Worshipful Prince Hall

Grand Lodge of Ohio, Free and Accepted Masons

THE LAMP STAFF

MWGM James H. Willis, Sr. #4..... Editor-in-Chief
703 Nancy Drive, Toledo, OH 43707
H - 419-531-0466 • F - 419-754-5101 Cell - 419-344-4188
Grand Lodge Headquarters: 614-221-6197

RW Jimmie E. Johnson, #123..... Editor
5870 Charlesgate Road, Huber Heights, OH 45424
H - 937-667-5698 • F - 937-669-3077 • C - 937-369-6621
Johnson5870@aol.com • Lambskinjayahio@aol.com

RW Eldred J. Jones, #77..... Associate Editor
Sis. Joan O. Wilson, #104 (OES)..... Associate Editor
RW Eston "Lucky" Wilson, #18..... Editor, Emeritus
RW Kenneth E. Long, #77..... Associate Editor, Emeritus

GRAND LODGE PHOTOGRAPHERS

RW Woodrow Riddle, Jr., #87..... Grand Photographer
330-856-7853

ASSOCIATE PHOTOGRAPHERS

W. Richard Maxey, #52
W. Gary L. Lewis, #122
W. Ival Angel, #68
W. Carmen Williamson, #4
W. Villani J. Thomas, #83

W. Samuel Crosby, Jr., #1
W. Reginald Oliver, #116
W. Bradley L. Smith, #77
W. Kenneth L. Long, #77, Emeritus

LAMP REPORTERS

W. Robert H. Carpenter, #106, Dist. #1
W. Oliver W. Cousins, #6, Dist. #2
W. Rico J. Singleton, #110, Dist. #3
W. Arper Tentman, Jr., #123, Dist. #4
W. James K. Willis, #80, Dist. #5
W. William E. Spence, #90, Dist. #6
W. Melvin I. Russell, #79, Dist. #7

MWPHGL OF OHIO WEB SITE: www.phaohio.org

W. Bradford J. Stallworth, #123 (Webmaster) - 937-278-7608
W. Jerome Byrd, #106 (Assistant) - 513-851-0106

W. Tim Collier, #1 (Member) - W. Rico J. Singleton #110 (Member)

Articles should be sent directly to the Editor by E-mail or mailed to the address above. Articles must be double spaced, typed and proofread. E-mailed articles will be checked for grammar and syntax and corrected prior to publication. Photos should be sharp, clear - no scanned photos on plain paper or photos clipped from other publications will be accepted. Articles MUST accompany photographs. Click on [Guidelines for The Lamp newspaper](#) on GL website for additional details.

Published according to the mandates of the MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, F&AM, 50 Hamilton Park, Columbus, OH 43203. Paid subscriptions are \$5.00 for (4) issues. Mail articles, photos, subscription requests and change of address to: Lamp Production Staff, 5870 Charlesgate Road, Huber Heights, OH 45424-1166.

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid at Tipp City, OH 45371
U.S. Postage Paid Permit No. 375

The Most Worshipful...



Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio

...Free and Accepted Masons

PROCLAMATION JHW-2009-2

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 Sixty (160th) Annual Communication of The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, Free and Accepted Masons, shall convene at the Columbus Renaissance Hotel, 50 North Third Street, Columbus, Ohio, July 31 through August 4, 2009.**

I do further proclaim that the Craft and guests join us for the **Grand Lodge Sunday, Morning Worship Service, August 2, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. in the Ballroom. Assembly time for the Brethren to parade to the Memorial Service is 6:00 p.m. Memorial Service in the Ballroom of the Columbus Renaissance Hotel is 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 3, 2009, by the 3rd Masonic District** under the directions of R.W. Albert D. Francis, Deputy Grand Lecturer of District #3 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 4th, 2009. **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 "**Credentials Committee.**" Any other Master Mason in good standing is encouraged to register and attend.

- Grand Lodge Members - Advanced Registration with (1) Banquet Ticket - \$70.00**
- Brothers Eastern Star Members - Advanced \$5.00 On-Site Registration - \$5.00**
- Advance Registration for Non-voting members will be \$45.00 (Banquet ticket not included)**
- On-Site Registration for Non-voting members will be \$50.00, and \$90.00 for voting members.**
- Extra Banquet Tickets - \$45.00 each**

The Prince Hall Scholarship Foundation "Awards Program" will be Saturday, August 1st. After the "Awards Program" there will be a special program "Prince Hall Black and White Ball - 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, Marshals, 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 March 16, 2009 AD 2009 AL 5009.

Fraternally,

Rev. James H. Willis, Sr.

Most Worshipful Grand Master

The Most Worshipful...



Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio

...Free and Accepted Masons

To Grand Worthy Matron, Kay F. Anderson; Grand Worthy Patron, Gerald S. Friason; all Grand Chapter Officers Present and Past; Worthy Matron, Worthy Patrons; Officers and Members of Subordinate Chapters of Amaranth Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star, P.H.A., Inc. State of Ohio.

EDICT JHW 1-2009

The requirement for membership, Article V, Section I of the By-Laws of Amaranth Grand Chapter, Inc., Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliated, Inc., State of Ohio is being extended to **ANY** female petitioning for membership in the Order of the Eastern Star.

A member in good standing of a chapter must recommend the petitioner and a majority vote, by paper ballot only, is required for acceptance.

This **REQUIREMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP** will be for the period of May 1, 2009 thru July 31, 2009. (This is for the Order of the Eastern Star **ONLY**.)

This Edict is to be read at your business and work night meetings in May, June and July.

"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 at Toledo, Ohio this 10th Day of April, AD 2009, AL 2009.

Fraternally,

Rev. James H. Willis, Sr.

Most Worshipful Grand Master



In Memoriam PMWGM Jesse L. Russell

March 8, 1920 - May 3, 2009

Prince Hall Masonry has lost one of its valuable stalwarts. Brother Russell was a native of Camden, Alabama, and a graduate of Escambia County Training School in Atmore, Alabama. He was a World War II veteran, where he played in the Army band. Upon his separation from the Army, he made his home in Dayton, Ohio, where he was employed and retired from the United States Postal Service. He was a faithful member of Wayman Chapel A.M.E. Church for more than 50 years.



Jesse Russell became a Master Mason of Harmony Lodge #77, December 7, 1946. He exemplified his dedication by serving several offices and ultimately was elected Worshipful Master in 1957.

Brother Russell was also dedicated to the Grand Lodge. His delight was to lead the annual parade when he served as Grand Marshal for more than thirty years. The Grand Lodge bestowed the honor of Past Grand Master upon him under the leadership of Past Grand Master Steven Reece, Sr. This was indeed the highlight of his Masonic career as well as being elevated to the position of Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the United Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., Northern Jurisdiction, Inc.

His other Masonic affiliations were: Past Grand High Priest, Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Past High Priest, Burning Bush Chapter #7; Past Thrice Illustrious Master, Solomon Johnson Council #4 Royal & Select Masters; Past Commander-in-Chief, Miami Consistory #26; member of Boone Commandery #27, Knights Templar, member of Amer Temple #107 AEAONMS; Past Most Worthy Grand Joshua; Most Ancient Prince Hall Grand Council, Heroines of Jericho, State of Ohio. He served as 1st Lieutenant Commander of the Ohio Council of De-liberation for over 25 years.

Brother Russell was married to Sister Elizabeth "Betty" Russell who was Past Matron of Deborah Chapter #19 OES.

We will miss Jesse's hardy laugh and jovial personality. His love for the Masonic family will always be remembered.

"I am the resurrection and the life: he who believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live; and whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.

By Sis. Barbara A. King, PM #95

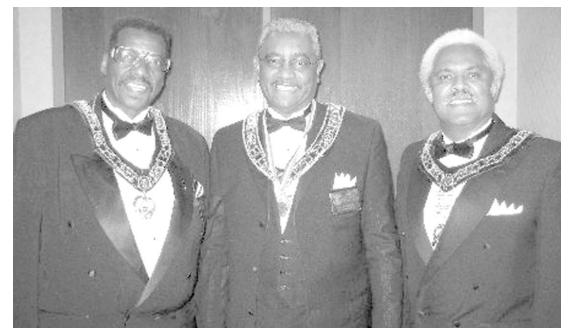
Michigan Visitation...



An Ohio delegation, led by MWGM James H. Willis, Sr., journeyed to Michigan for their Grand Lodge.

(R.) MWGM Willis with MWGM Clarence Round, Jr., of Michigan.

(Below l. to r.) RWDGL James O. Provitt, #6; MWGM Willis, and PGM Gregory S. Snead.



Phoenix Lodge #112, PH F&AM, Initiates 27 At Mt. Akra Lodge #680, F&AM

An historic example of the fellowship of Grand Lodges working together was brought to the level of their subordinate Lodges at the Masonic Center of Mt. Akra Lodge #680, F&AM in Akron, OH.

Since 1995, the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Ohio [GL F&AM of OH] and The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio [MWP HGL of OH] have worked to fully accept and recognize their various jurisdictions. To do this at the Grand Lodge level, a joint conferral of the Master Mason degree was held in Cleveland, OH, with 480 brethren from both Grand Jurisdictions in attendance.

Since then various subordinate Lodges of both Ohio jurisdictions have welcomed visitors from the other. Most recently, Phoenix Lodge #112 of Akron, initiated 27 new candidates into the Masonic Order at the Mt. Akra Masonic Center. The new initiates were from three Prince Hall Lodges in the area. Nine were from Phoenix Lodge #112, seventeen from Mt. Calvary Lodge #76 PHA (also from Akron) and one from Evergreen Lodge #101 of Ravenna, OH.

As the Prince Hall Masonic Temple of Akron, home to Phoenix Lodge #112 and Mt. Calvary



Members of Phoenix Lodge #112 and Mt. Akra Lodge #680 welcome 27 new members into the Masonic Order.

Lodge #76 was deemed too small for the expected attendance, they were pleased when the WM James Brumbaugh of Mt. Akra Lodge #680, GL F&AM of Ohio, offered the use of their Lodge Hall for the initiation. After some discussion between WM Price, #112 and WM Brumbaugh, #680, both Grand Lodges were approached to obtain permission to hold this historic event. Both Grand Lodges were encouraged to see subordinate Lodges working together on the local level. Dispensation was granted and the initiation took place on Thursday, March 19, 2009.

The meeting was opened at

8:00 p.m. with a full house of Brethren in attendance. After the necessary business was completed, the initiation rites began. There were two Entered Apprentices from the 21st District and one from Ravenna who were also admitted into the Lodge.

The work of the Lodge was excellent, with a few differences in the explanatory Lectures. There were 20 members in attendance from the Lodges in the GL F&AM of OH, representing seven different Lodges, including four WMs. The Prince Hall Brethren were from three Lodges, including two WMs and 61 of their Brethren in attendance. Also

present were two PDDGM from District 21 and one from the 22nd District. This made a grand total of 108 present for the initiation.

The Lodge closed at 11:50 p.m., with many brethren staying for the re-past and fellowship that followed the degree work.



WM Redgi Price, #112 and WM James Brumbaugh, #680.

Excelsior Lodge #11 Officers Visit Harding-Concordia Lodge #345



Excelsior Lodge #11, PH F&AM, line officers visit with Harding-Concordia Lodge #345, of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, F&AM, January 19, 2009, which was Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. This was the first time a Prince Hall Lodge had visited with Harding-Concordia Lodge.



Bro. David Gutridge receives his 50 year member pin and congratulations from Bro. Richard Schultz, Worshipful Master, #345, with family members present.



A shirt of brotherly love and friendship was presented to Bro. Richard Schulz, Worshipful Master of Harding-Concordia Lodge #345. (L. to r.) Bro. Mark A. Ledger, Bro. Phillip Smith, Bro. Richard (Bill) Schulz, Worshipful Master.



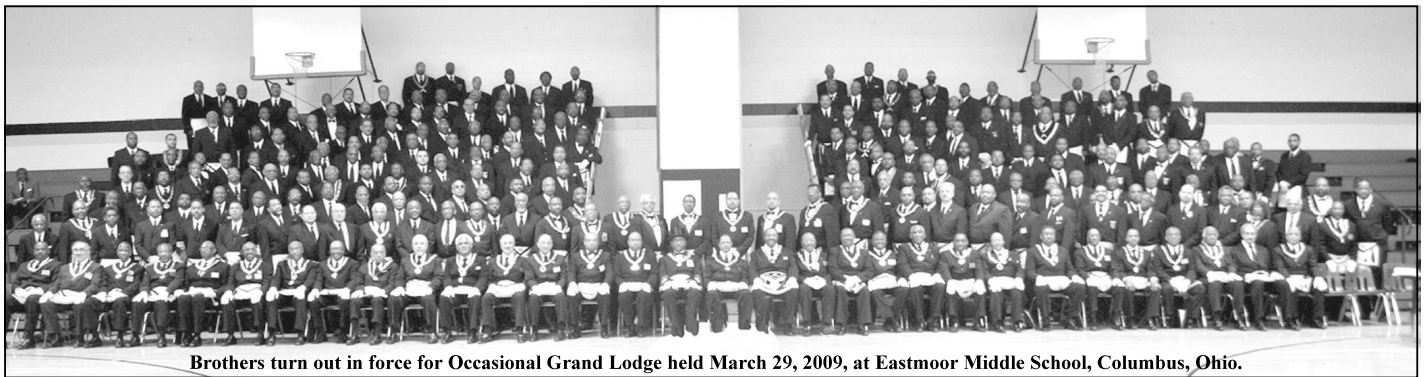
Copy of shirt that was presented by Excelsior #11 to WM Schulz.



Bro. Verlin Dixon receives his 50 year member pin with his family members present. Bro. Dixon said, "This was the first time time I have sat in a Lodge of Master Masons with my Prince Hall Brothers."

Send in your Lodge and Chapter News to The Lamp for Publication!

MWGM Willis Summons Craft for Occasional Grand Lodge



Brothers turn out in force for Occasional Grand Lodge held March 29, 2009, at Eastmoor Middle School, Columbus, Ohio.

By Jay Johnson, Editor

Approximately 300 - 350 members of the Grand Lodge answered the summons of the MWGM James H. Willis, Sr. to meet at the Eastmoor Middle School in Columbus, OH, on March 7, 2009, for the sole purpose of discussing the grave financial situation of the Grand Lodge.

Answering the roll call were all Grand Lodge elected officers, EDF Committee members, Grand Lecturer and Deputy Grand Lecturers, many Past Grand Masters, and a majority of the Appointed Grand Lodge Officers. A roll call of the representatives (three principal officers) of the Subordinate Lodges disclosed a quorum was assembled and the Occasional Grand Lodge was called to order.

The MWGM had the select committee on the financial condition of the Grand Lodge again read their report (which had already been mailed to each lodge for reading and discussion before arriving at the meeting).

The committee recommended that the per capita tax for each



(Photo L) RW Deputy Grand Master Robert L. Jones receives the MW Grand Master James H. Willis, Sr.

(Above) MWGM Willis with RWDGL Albert Francis and the opening team from the 3rd Masonic District.



(Left) Reception of Grand Lodge Appointed Officers. Photos by Woodrow Riddle, Jr.

brother be raised incrementally over the next several years by eight dollars and then one dollar each year thereafter. After some very thoughtful and insightful

comments, it was moved and properly seconded to grant an immediate eight-dollar increase in the per capita tax with no additional increases scheduled. The

motion passed by an overwhelming majority of the brothers present and the meeting was closed with peace and harmony prevailing.



Grand Marshal Michael L. Freeman leads the MWGM into the Occasional Grand Lodge for proper reception and honors.

Photos by Woodrow Riddle, Jr. Grand Photographer

MWGM Makes Master Masons at Sight in Toledo

A standing room only crowd observed the Honorable Rev. James H. Willis, Sr., Most Worshipful Grand Master, make 26 men Master Masons at Sight at Amazon Lodge #4, in Toledo, Ohio, on April 21, 2009.

RW Brother Homer L. Jackson, Deputy Grand Lecturer of the 7th Masonic District, organized the event. Grand Lodge officers in attendance were RW Brother James R. Brown, Grand Trustee-at-Large; RW Brother Keith A. Perkins, Deputy Grand Lecturer, 4th Masonic District; RW Brother Jerry Ellerson, Deputy Grand Lecturer, 5th Masonic District; RW Brother James O. Provitt, Deputy Grand Lecturer, 6th Masonic District; RW Brother Charles Allen, Worshipful Brother Rodell Ramsey, and a number of Brethren from Amazon Lodge #4 and Composite Lodge #108.

Among the men being made Master Masons at Sight were Mayoral candidate for the City of Toledo, Mike Bell; the Bishop of the A.M.E. Church, C. Garnett Henning; plus three local Pastors; a City Councilman, City Engineer, and a Lawyer.

MWGM Willis welcomes Pastors as Prince Hall Masons.



Twenty-six distinguished citizens were made Master Masons at Sight by MWGM James H. Willis, Jr.



Joint Table Lodge Held at Dayton Masonic Center

By Jay Johnson, Editor

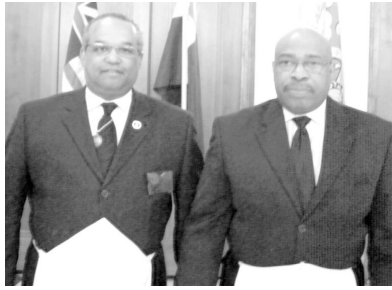
Members from the Grand Lodge of Ohio and the MWPHGL of Ohio gathered at the Dayton Masonic Center, on Tuesday, May 5, 2009, for the 2nd Annual Table Lodge. The host Lodge for this year was Dayton Lodge #147.

A Table Lodge is a styled Lodge opened on the Entered Apprentice Degree. The Due Guard and Sign of the Degree are to be used. Aprons are worn for the Festive Board only and are worn in the prescribed manner of an Entered Apprentice.

Officers of the Table Lodge for this year were: Worshipful Master - George Steberl, III, Dayton Lodge #147; Senior Warden - Robert M. Estelle, Jr., Unity Lodge #115; Junior Warden - Stanley D. Shank, Jr., Dayton Lodge #147; Senior Deacon - Arlin Jackson, Wilberforce Lodge #21; Junior Deacon - Walt Barner, Dayton Lodge #147; Senior Steward - Eric Peterson, Harmony Lodge #77; Junior Steward - Jacob Steberl, Alpha Lodge #729; Chaplain - Rev. George Murphy, Harmony Lodge #77; Secretary - Stanley D. Erk, Millennium Lodge #779; Treasurer - Charles V. Williams, III, Ed Dugger Lodge #123; Tyler - Dan Frye, Dayton Lodge #147.

Kicking the program off was RW Charles V. Williams, III, who presented the Flag Ceremony followed by a delicious dinner.

The Lodge was called up by



RW Junior Grand Warden Darryl R. Smith, represented the MWGM James H. Willis, Sr. Also attending was RW Deputy Grand Master Robert L. Jones.



PMWGM James E. Olmstead listens as Reverend Brother George Murphy engages him in conversation.

the WM and opened for the Festive Board, which includes several odes sung by the Brethren, the lesson of the Degree by the Chaplain, Charge to the Brethren by the Worshipful Master, the Box of Fraternal Assistance which this year was divided equally between the Dayton 32° Learning Center for Children and the PH Grand Lodge Scholarship Foundation and Grand Order of Pythagorans.

The Ceremony of the Seven

Toasts was conducted by the officers and the Lodge was closed in due form.

Representing MWGM James H. Willis, Sr. was Junior Grand Warden, RW Darryl R. Smith and representing MWGM Charles R. Murphy was PGM James E. Olmstead, who both brought timely and well-received remarks.

Also present was Deputy Grand Master Robert L. Jones from the MWPHGL of Ohio.

The Brothers of the Miami Valley from both Grand Lodges mixing and mingling as they greet each other.



WM George Steberl, III, (at dais) Dayton Lodge #147, serves as Master of Ceremonies to begin the program after the Flag Ceremony.



The Service of Bro. Robert Dunson: A Journey in Freemasonry Comes Full Circle

By Bro. Blese A. Richardson, III



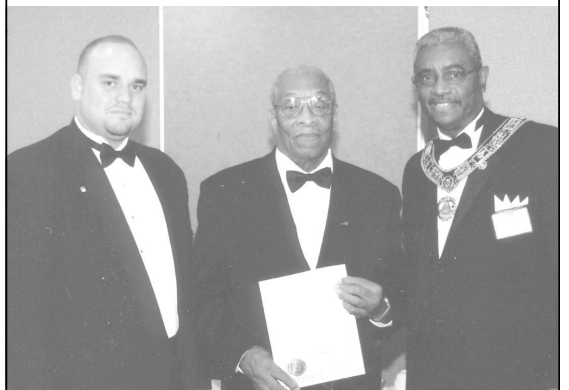
In 2008, Bro. Robert L. Dunson, Sr. served Unity Lodge #115 as Worshipful Master. This service is remarkable in the fact that Bro. Dunson reached the East 51 years after being a Charter Member of Unity Lodge.

Bro. Robert Dunson, along with 56 other men, formed Unity Lodge in 1957. Bro. Dunson had to temporarily halt his Masonic travels to perform his duties as a father and a husband, working to raise his family. As a result, Unity Lodge received a more upright man and Mason upon his return, and Unity Chapter #95 received three outstanding Sisters, his wife, Ruth Dunson, and daughters, Janet Dunson, and Patricia

Hasan, who are all Past Masters. It is also noteworthy to mention that Bro. Dunson himself is a Past Patron of Unity Chapter #95, thus proving that the Order of Eastern Stars is truly a family organization.

Being one of only four surviving Charter Members, Bro. Dunson's term as Worshipful Master in 2008 means that he will be the last of the Charter Members to serve in the East.

We thank Bro. Robert L. Dunson, Sr. for his service and devotion to Unity Lodge #115 and Prince Hall Freemasonry. He and the Brethren of his generation are the reason why we, as African Americans, enjoy the privileges of living not only as Freemasons, but above all, free men in America.



Brother Robert Dunson (c.) receives his 50-year pin from PM Charles Baker (l.) and MWGM James H. Willis, Sr. (r.)

St. Mark's Lodge #7 Building Gains Historical Designation

In early 2009, Bro. Marlon Hayles, a member of St. Mark's Lodge No. 7, located at 988 E. Long Street in Columbus, Ohio, presented the history of St. Mark's Lodge to the Columbus Historical Preservation office. The purpose of this presentation was to secure a "historical status" designation for the building, which houses St. Mark's Lodge No 7. Based on the results of this presentation, the members of the Historical Preservation office were pleased and requested Bro. Hayles to make the same presentation to the Columbus City Council for their consideration and approval.

On April 13, 2009, Bro. Hayles, along with the brethren, went before Columbus City Council. Based on the information provided by Bro. Hayles, the City Council overwhelming voted to bestow the "historical status" designation on St. Mark's Temple.

It should be noted that Bro. Hayles and many of the brethren

spent timeless hours researching and digging up information pertaining to St. Mark's Temple. Through this combined effort, they were successful in the undertaking and the Temple will now take its place as a part of the history of Columbus, Ohio.

The first stated communication of St. Mark's Lodge No. 7 was held on January 16, 1852. The Grand Master at that time was M.W. Griffin T. Watson. M.W. Watson granted the Brethren permission to create the first Prince Hall Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the City of Columbus. St. Mark's was the fourth Prince Hall Lodge founded in the State of Ohio, (the lodge numbers were consecutive for only the first three lodges due to other lodges being warranted outside the state by the Grand Lodge of Ohio.) The first officers of St. Mark's were: Charles M. Langston, Worshipful Master; David Jenkins, Senior Warden; and Hanson Johnson, Junior Warden.

Prior to the present location, the

Brethren met on the second and third floors of the building then located at 247 N. 4th Street. A committee comprised of Brethren of the Lodge began looking for an appropriate site to build the new Temple. E. Long Street and Miami was chosen. The owner of the property advised the committee that in no case would he make a direct sale to the Brethren due to their race, but that he would sell through some third person of the opposite race, through whom the title could be passed to the lodge.

The committee did find such a person, on July 28, 1920, the deal for the purchase of the property was completed, and the deed turned over to St. Mark's subject to a mortgage, which was cleared of debt a short time later. The Temple was completed and dedicated on January 15, 1927, 75 years after the Lodge was founded. At the time of its construction, the Temple hall was the first newly constructed Masonic edifice in Ohio.

Hiram Abiff Lodge #72 Celebrates 100th Anniversary

By Shawn Strode,
Mt. Calvary #76

Hiram Abiff Lodge No. 72 celebrated its 100th Anniversary on Saturday, September 27, 2008. Lodges from all over the state were in attendance as well as many guests from the community. This event is something that the local community of Canton looks forward to annually.

Master of Ceremonies Norman V. Hall introduced Worshipful Master Andrew Barnett, who presented several members of his Lodge with awards.

Corey Minor Smith, Director of the Compliance Department for the City of Canton, represented the Mayor's office and presented WM Barnett with the Mayor's Proclamation honoring Hiram Abiff Lodge on its 100th Anniversary. Mayor William J. Healy, II signed the proclamation.

There was a special acknowledgment given by Prince Hall Scholarship Foundation recipient, Juleta Newkirk. She stated that as a former recipient of the scholarship, she was able to further her education and she was very appreciative of the support given to her by the Foundation and Hiram Abiff. Ms. Newkirk completed her degree in Psychology and Chemistry from Case Western Reserve in May 2008.

The Most Worshipful Grand



Hiram Abiff Lodge #72 and MWGM James H. Willis, Sr. and RW Deputy Grand Lecturer, Jerry Ellerson.

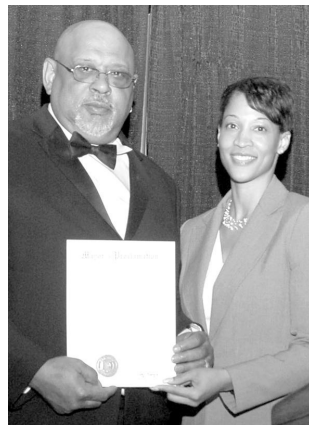
Master, Rev. James H. Willis, Sr. was the guest speaker for the evening. His topic was "Measuring Our Treasures, To Move Forward." Our treasures refer to the older members of our Lodges. They are our history and direct link to the past. Without them, we cannot preserve our past and our rich history will be lost.

MWGM Willis suggested that the younger members embrace the history and knowledge of the older members and encouraged the older members to be open to change. The younger members represent change. By working together, we can achieve more moving into the future.

He added "100 years is a major accomplishment for any organization and that Hiram Abiff and the City of Canton should be proud of such an accomplishment."



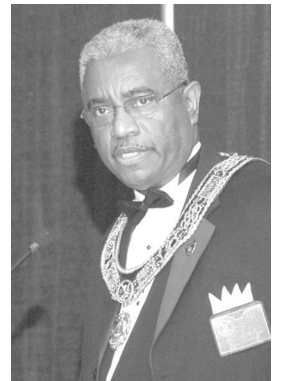
WM Andrew Barnett (c.) presents awards to several members of the Lodge.



WM Barnett receives Proclamation from the City of Canton from Corey Minor Smith, Director of the Compliance Department, who represented the Mayor of Canton.



Former PH Scholarship recipient Juleta Newkirk expounds on the value of the support she received from the Foundation and Hiram Abiff Lodge. She graduated from Case Western Reserve in May 2008, with degrees in Psychology and Chemistry.



MWGM James H. Willis, Sr. was the keynote speaker. He spoke on the subject, "Measuring Our Treasures, To Move Forward."

(Photos by Eric Kidd, #76)

Brotherhood Night in the Cleveland Area

By Carl A. Williams
Grand Lecturer

Members of Forest City Lodge #388 F&AM of the Grand Lodge of Ohio celebrated their 141st Annual Installation of their elected and appointed officers, on November 19, 2008. Invited were 25 members of the MWPH Grand Lodge, along with the Worshipful Masters of the four symbolic lodges of Cleveland.

The celebration was held at the Lyndhurst Masonic Center located in Mayfield Heights, Ohio. Newly elected Worshipful Master Franck T. Kakou and his officers were installed by a very stirring and inspired ceremony performed by their installation team. The highlight of the program was the tribute given by his father, Roger Kakou, PC, a Past Master of a lodge in France. The family of the new Worshipful Master and his relatives and friends from France and Canada were in attendance to enhance the celebration.

A commemorative plaque was presented to our MW Grand Master James H. Willis, Sr., for his attendance and his show of

support with the attendance of the Prince Hall Brethren. A delicious dinner was enjoyed by all.

In attendance were PH Brothers: Rev. James H. Willis Sr. MWGM; Homer L. Jackson RWDGL, Dist. No. 7; Robert L. Jones RWDGM; John D. Covington, RW Chief Adm. Officer; Charles V. Williams, III, RW Gr. Treasurer; Charles Allen, RW Asst. to the MWGM; Gregory S. Snead PGM; RW Gr. Lodge Trustee; Melvin L. Russell RW Adm. Office Dist. No. 7; James Brown, RW Gr. Lodge Trustee-at-Large; Darby Vaughn, RW Security Officer; Embie R. Bostic, PGM, RW Assistant CCFC; Woodrow Riddle, Jr., RW Gr. Lodge Photographer; Leo C. Beavers, RW EDF member; Ival Angel, RW Assistant G.L. Photographer; Christopher Gayles, RW Senior Grand Deacon; Kalvin Brown, WM, Excel-sior Lodge #11; Rev. William F. Crockett, PGM; Mark A. Ledger, SW, Eureka Lodge #52; Charles W. Hales, PGM; William

Boyd, Jr., WM, William T. Boyd Lodge #79; Carl A. Williams, RW Grand Lecturer, #79; Jerry

Ellerson, RW Dep. Grand Lecturer #5; Damon Johnson, WM, Ecclesiastes #120; James Provitt,

RW Dep. Grand Lecturer #6; Glen Johnson, PM Eureka #52.



First row (l. to r.): RW Gary L. McElfresh, RW James O. Easterling, PGM Thomas H. Galyen, MWGM Charles R. Murphy, MWGM James H. Willis, Sr., P/C Roger Kakou of France, father of WM Franck T. Kakou, RWDGM Robert L. Jones, RW James Brown, RW Leo C. Beavers, PGM Charles W. Hales. Second row: RW John D. Covington, PGM Gregory S. Snead, RW Charles Allen, RW James O. Provitt, Bro. Mark Ledger, RW Darby G. Vaughn, RW Arnett Sanders, RW Charles V. Williams, RW Christopher Gales, RW Carl A. Williams. Third row: RW Woodrow Riddle, Jr., unknown, PGWP Ray S. Robinson, RW Jerry Ellerson, RW Homer Jackson, RW Ival Angel, RW Melvin L. Russell, WM Damon Johnson, unknown, WM William Boyd, Jr., WM Carlwin Collins, DDGM Martin Woodworth.

Composite Lodge #108 Distributes Christmas Toys to Toledo Children



Worshipful Master Shawn T. Phelps and Senior Warden William C. Wedley, Composite Lodge #108, stand beside the abundance of gifts donated to the children of The Family House in Toledo, Ohio.

By William C. Wedley
Senior Warden #108

Worshipful Master, Shawn T. Phelps directed the members of Composite Lodge #108 to be a positive force in trying times within the community. In direct response to his request, members of Composite Lodge #108 participated in their first annual Christmas Toy Give-A-Way. Composite Lodge donated over 100 toys to the Family House, which is lo-

cated in the inner city of Toledo. Family House is the second largest shelter in the State of Ohio.

"These toys will assist in making some young child's Christmas much happier this year," says WM Shawn Phelps. Brothers from Composite Lodge #108 spent nearly two months collecting the gifts before their give-away date, inventorying, wrapping and preparing each toy for some child to receive.

Edw. Dugger Military Lodge #123, Ruth Chapter #104, Lincoln Chapter #2, RAM, Honors Their Past Leaders

Members of Edward Dugger, Jr. Military Lodge No. 123, Ruth Chapter No. 104, OES and Lincoln Chapter No. 2, Royal Arch Masons gathered for their annual Leadership Awards Dinner in the Social Hall of Base Chapel No. 3, to honor the leaders of 2008 for their dedicated service. on Sunday, March 29, 2009.

Receiving his Past Master's Apron and Pin was PM Carlton H. Johnston, while the Past Matron's Sash and Pin was presented to PM Karla Goldsby-Jones. The Past High Priest Apron was presented to PHP Edward Thomas and PP Joseph E. Toliver received a spe-

cial love donation as he has already received his Past Patron's Apron for an earlier term of service.

Senior Past Master of #123, PM Richard "Chief" Jones, presents PM Apron to PM Carlton H. Johnston. (PM Johnston was re-elected to serve another term.)

Senior Warden Ron Bellows, Associate Conductress Mary Gene Baldwin and PM Vanetta Bellows, and the rest of the committee ensured that there was plenty of delicious food and they were commended for a job well done.

(Photo r.) PGWP/AP Jay Johnson presents a special donation to PP Joseph E. Toliver, Jr., who was elected to serve another term with the current Worthy Matron V. Nadine Hill.



(Below) Past Matron Karla Goldsby-Jones receives Past Matron's Sash from WM V. Nadine Hill.

PHP Edward Thomas (r.) receives his PHP Apron and a big hug from Excellent High Priest #2, Nathaniel Benn.

(Photos by PM Mancedon Johnson)



Masons on the Move...

Brother James Eddins, Jr. is employed by the State of Ohio, Department of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), as a Benefits and Claims Counselor to veterans, widows of veterans and family members of veterans.

Jim recently attended the Veterans National Certification Training in Phoenix, AZ, and was one of 66 Service Officers out of 75 who successfully passed the examination. He was in the top ten percent of the class.

Brother Eddins is a Past Master of Union Lodge #18, Troy, Ohio, and a Past Patron of Ruth Chapter #104, WPAFB, Ohio.



JAMES EDDINS, JR.

Next
Deadline
For
The Lamp
November
30, 2009

Sworn in as Trotwood, Ohio Mayor...



Darrel D. Davis, a member of Equity Lodge #121, was sworn in as the new Mayor of the City of Trotwood, Ohio, on January 6, 2009. (L. to r.) Members of Equity Lodge present at the inaugural ceremony were: Gerald L. Townes, PM; Fred Conway, Jr., PM; Mayor Davis; Marvin J. Johnson, PM; Melbert R. Liverman, WM; Brother William Bush, III; Brother David R. Webb (Union Lodge #18); Homer L. Buchanan, MWPGM; Brother George A. Caldwell; Brother Kenneth Oglesby (not pictured).

1st District Youth Hold Pythagorean Day



The 1st District Youth, Order of Pythagorean Chapters (Prince Hall, Mack Wallace and Star David), held and performed their "Annual Eucharistic" Pythagorean Day Ceremonies on April 19, 2009, at Pride of the Valley Lodge #95, in Lockland, Ohio.

On this special occasion, RW Director of Youth Activities, Ben Moore, Jr., and RW Deputy Grand Master Robert L. Jones, Sr., presented 1st District Supervisor, Walter V. Sydnor, the honoree, a plaque for his service of ten years with the Order of Pythagorans.

In attendance were elected and appointed Grand Lodge officers, Worshipful Masters and Wardens, Advisors (brothers and sisters), Companions (local and out-of-town), Girls Assembly Princess, and a host of parents, who showed their support for the youth.

Guest speaker for the occasion was RW Junior Grand Warden, Darryl R. Smith, Sr., whose presentation had a very inspirational subject "Black Wall Street" (Tulsa, OK), in the late 20's and early 30's.

This event was capped off with refreshments for the repast. There were about 65-75 in attendance.

The Prince Hall Housing Foundation Is Seeking Workers

The Prince Hall Housing Foundation of Avondale is an affiliated 501 C-3 organization of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio. Commencing in 1971 during the administration of Past Most Worshipful Grand Master Samuel Brogdon this organization is dedicated to providing affordable housing to moderate and low-income persons. Through the years it has owned and managed several properties throughout Ohio in the cities of Cleveland, Springfield, Xenia and Cincinnati. At this present time its only property is the Cleveland Plaza apartments located in the community of Avondale in Cincinnati.

In these difficult economic times the Board of Directors which consists of your Grand Lodge Trustees, would like to expand this program into each one of the seven areas of our jurisdiction designated as a "Masonic District." However, in order to accomplish this we need the help of at least one person in each one of these Districts who will work under the direction of the Executive Director (Robert B. Lane, PM #106, of Cincinnati is the Director at this writing) to facilitate the efforts in his respective area. Also, we are in dire need of those who possess grant procurement (grant writing) and grant management skills; we have engaged Dr. Stanley E. Broadnax, PM #3, of Cincinnati who has volunteered to manage this portion of the program.

It is a plus for those volunteering Brothers in possession of such expertise, however, don't let a lack of them deter you from presenting yourself as a worker in this program; Brother Lane and Brother Broadnax are willing to equip you through training to fulfill the duties of the position. We definitely need Brothers who are familiar with their communities and the workings of your municipality, county village or township and the knowledge of who the proper contact persons are.

Brothers, the vision that we have for this organization is multifaceted in that we will:

- Be of service to the community by providing affordable and decent housing to moderate and low income persons.
- Economically empower members of the Order who own businesses and possess certified trade skills.
- Contribute to the development of the work force by providing jobs through the awarding of contracts for construction and maintenance at the various properties
- Increasing our exposure in the community.

Brothers, the opportunities are unlimited. Won't you come on

board and help shape the future and write this chapter of history of our beloved Grand Lodge? Are you willing to be a change agent? If you are so willing, please contact any Board Member (Grand Lodge Trustee) or Brother Lane who will follow through with the process.

Officers of Unity Lodge #115 Display Unity by Joining Unity Chapter #95, OES

By **Blese A. Richardson, III**

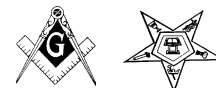
A rare moment in Masonic History occurred on Monday, March 16, 2009, at 2531 Germantown St. in Dayton, Ohio, when seven brothers from Unity Lodge #115 were initiated into the Order of Eastern Stars by Unity Chapter #95. Worthy Patron Ronald A.

Ogletree, who is also Treasurer of Unity Lodge, conferred the Eastern Star degrees on Brothers Robert Small, Senior Warden; Quinn Moorman II, Junior Warden; Vernon Brown, Senior Deacon; Eric Means, Junior Deacon; Gordon Amegboh, Senior Steward; Byron Hill, Junior Steward;

and Bro. Roderick Sterling.

With Past Patrons, Blese A Richardson III, Worshipful Master of Unity Lodge #115; Marvin Anderson, Secretary; George King, Asst. Secretary; and Benjamin Speare-Hardy II, Past Master, in attendance, this marked one of the rare times in Masonic history that the top ten officers of a Prince Hall Lodge were present in an open Eastern Star Chapter meeting, showing Brotherly love and support for their Sisters.

The members of Unity Lodge #115 and Unity Chapter #95, are proud to have had this experience, and hope that other Lodges around the state show the same Brotherly love and support for their adopted Eastern Star Chapters.



2009 REGISTRATION FORM
160TH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
OF THE
MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF OHIO, INC.
122ND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
OF THE
AMARANTH GRAND CHAPTER, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR, INC.



August 1-4, 2009

Renaissance Hotel
 50 North 3rd Street
 Columbus, Ohio 43215
 1-614-228-5050

Room Rate: \$107.00 + Tax

NAME _____ TITLE _____

JURISDICTION (FOR VISITORS) _____

LODGE _____ CHAPTER _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____ EMAIL _____

Registration Fee: Deadline for advance registration is July 21, 2009 (\$90.00 after July 21, 2009)

Advance/Banquet	Meal Alternate Choices Fish ___ Vegetarian ___	\$70.00 = \$ _____
OES Brothers Registration		\$5.00 = \$ _____
Non- Voting Member Registration (meal not included)	\$45.00 x _____	= \$ _____
Banquet Ticket (extra)	\$45.00 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:
 Ms. Brenda Ledbetter-Ross
 5000 Folger Drive
 Columbus, OH 43227

MWGM James H. Willis, Sr. Keynote Speaker
Black History Luncheon at WPAFB

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, Rev. James H. Willis, Sr. was the keynote speaker for the Annual Black History Luncheon sponsored by the Air Force Security Assistance Center on February 18, 2009. The committee, co-chaired by Past Grand Deputy Kimberley Hardnick of Ruth Chapter No. 104, extended him the invitation.



MWGM Rev. James H. Willis, Sr.



GWM Kay F. Anderson sings "Yesterday," by Mary, Mary.

The MWGM spoke on the subject - "Hope That We Can Believe In - Being Born Again to Win," with his text coming from the book of Titus 2: 13-14.

Also on the program was the Grand Worthy Matron, Kay F. Anderson who sang "Yesterday" by Mary, Mary. She is also a former employee of the AFSAC.



MWGM Willis, PGD Kimberley Hardnick, #104, and Colonel Lang, Vice Commander, AFSAC.

(Photos by Villiani J. Thomas)

The Grand Master was made to feel right at home, even though this was not a Masonic function, as the audience was heavily sprinkled with members of the Prince Hall Family, including RW JGW Darryl R. Smith; RW EDF Trustee Arlin Jackson; RW DGL 4th Masonic District Keith A. Perkins; Grand Deputy, 5th OES District Barbara Hudson-Banner; RW Editor of the Lamp Jay Johnson; RW Admin Officer, 4th District, Arper Tentman (also GRA); GPC M. Francine Washington; GTIM, R&SM / EGC Knights Templar William Parker; PGHP George W. King; Grand

Treasurer AGC Patricia Perry-Taylor; PSGLLR Barbara A. King; PSGLLR Alma M. Long and PSGLLR Martha A. Moss, and most of the Worshipful Masters and Worthy Matrons /

Associate Matrons of the subordinate lodges and chapters and many other sisters and brothers of the Prince Hall Family.

The program was in a word - AWESOME!

MV Grand Chapter Order of Pythagorans
Grand Advisory Council Workshop



PROCLAMATION
FROM THE OFFICE OF
THE MOST VALIANT
GRAND MASTER COUNSELOR



WHEREAS, sixty-four years ago, in the State of Massachusetts, the Order of Pythagorans was established as a club for boys, emphasizing programs for their Educational, Social, Vocational, and Moral development; and,

WHEREAS, sixty-four years ago on April 11, 1945, the Order was named after the great Greek mathematician and Philosopher, PYTHAGORAS; and,

WHEREAS, the Order is sponsored by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio; and,

WHEREAS, the Chapters of B.A. Mitchell, Brotherhood, Coley Adams, Eleven Letters, H.G. Emerson, Henry Sims, L.W. Clark, Lake Erie, George E. Webster, Oliver V. Crisp, Mack Wallace, Prince Hall, Samos, Star of David, Comazon and William T. Crossland, respectively come together; and,

WHEREAS, the culmination of all Pythagorean Chapters and individual efforts and programs come together in mass; and,

WHEREAS, awards are presented to individuals and Chapters for participation in its yearly programs and various contests such as: Oratorical, Talent, Athletics, Science, Black History, Companion of the Year, and Chapter of the Year; and

WHEREAS, during this time, the Valiant Companions participate in the election of new officers, a banquet, a coronation ball, workshops, divine services; and,

WHEREAS, sixty-four years ago, a more concrete program for a joint annual grand session with the Grand Girls Assembly was enacted; and,

WHEREAS, the Most Venerable Grand Chapter, the official state-wide governing body of the Order, comprised of elected and appointed officers, delegates and members from Chapters, convene; and,

WHEREAS, the Grand Advisory Council Officers, Grand Advisors, District Youth Supervisors, Chapter Presidents, and Advisors convene; and,

WHEREAS, our Order continuously assists in molding better sons to become better men and upright citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Patrick Stewart**, MOST VALIANT GRAND MASTER COUNSELOR OF THE STATE OF OHIO, do hereby RESOLVE and PROCLAIM the period of July 9th thru July 12th, 2009, as

GRAND SESSION 2009

at The Central State University, in Wilberforce, Ohio, and urges the participants of our Order to faithfully and diligently work for a harmonious session.

IN WITNESS, THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the private seal of The MOST VENERABLE GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF PYTHAGORANS to be hereto affixed this 9th day of July, 2008.

Patrick Stewart,
MOST VALIANT GRAND MASTER COUNSELOR

A Grand Advisory Council Workshop was held March 7, 2009 for Pythagorean Chapter President, Advisors, Worshipful Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens. Over sixty participants were in attendance which consisted of Grand Lodge officers, Grand Advisory Council officers and Advisors from the jurisdiction of West Virginia.

Brother Melvin L. Russell, Ernest D. FARRIER and Curtis Campbell conducted the information workshop which included the use of power point presentations.

The workshop was under the direction of RW Director of Youth



Activities Ben Moore, Jr. MWGM Rev. James H. Willis, Sr. addressed those in attendance at the Pythagorean Advisors' workshop. Accompanying him were Grand Lodge Trustees, RW Darryl R. Smith, Junior Grand Warden; PGM Gregory S. Snead; RW Robert L. Jones, Deputy Grand Master; and RW James Brown, Grand Trustee-at-Large.

Submitted by Melvin L. Russell
 Photos by Eric Kidd, Sr.

Pythagorean Day and Awards Banquet Celebrated in Toledo



Companions Gregory Head, Jr., Samos Chapter; Daniel Brandon, Comazon Chapter; Mikel Willis Lake Erie Chapter; and Robert Laing, Order of DeMolay, received certificates honoring their respective chapters. Looking on is MVGMC Patrick Stewart, Master of Ceremonies.

Pythagorean Day 2009 for the Northern Pythagorean District was celebrated in Toledo on April 18, 2009, and was hosted by Comazon Chapter Order of Pythagorans. The DeMolay Chapters of Toledo were special guests. The Most Valiant Grand Master Counselor Patrick Stewart served as the Master of Ceremonies. The chapters in attendance were Comazon Chapter of Toledo, Samos Chapter of Akron, Lake Erie Chapter of Cleveland, Brotherhood Chapter of Warren and Order of DeMolay Chapters; Fallen Timbers Chapter, Ottawa Chapter and Van Wert Chapter of Toledo.

Our own Past Right Valiant Grand Senior Counselor, Rodney Blount was the featured highlight speaker. Brother Rodney Blount recently graduated from the University of Indianapolis and is currently the Senior Warden of Samaritan Lodge in Columbus, Ohio. His speech gave much motivation to those Pythagorans, Advisors and guests who were in attendance. It centered on how his experiences in the Order of Pythagorans has positively affected his life even today.

The program was officiated by Brother Melvin L. Russell and MVGMC Patrick Stewart.

The highlight of the affair was the awarding of certificates to those Pythagorans who have excelled in their school, church, Chapter and other activities. Brother Wilbert Thompson and the advisors of Comazon Chapter did a superb job planning this fun-filled and food filled banquet.

*Submitted by Melvin L. Russell
Photos by Woodrow Riddle, Jr.*



Pythagorans who received certificates for their achievements this year. First row (l. to r.) Bros. Melvin L. Russell, Ray S. Robinson, RVGJC Gregory Head, Jr., RWADYA Curtis Campbell, MWGM Rev. James H. Willis, Sr., MVGMC Patrick Stewart, Bros. Theodore Korn, Wilbert Thompson and Roderick Blount. Back row (standing l.) Bro. Gregory Head, Sr.

After this magnificent speech, the Pythagorans, Advisors, DeMolay and guests partook of the four elements of purification; bread, wine, water and salt. This is the Pythagorean Eucharistia ceremony which is a mandatory yearly Pythagorean function. This part

MV Grand Master Patrick Stewart and MWGM Rev. James H. Willis, Sr., enjoying the excerpts from guest speaker Rodney Blount.



The Pythagorean Companions and Advisors of Comazon Chapter of Toledo, who were hosts for the occasion. Shown are Brother Donald Scott, JW of Amazon Lodge #4, Brother Wilbert Thompson, Northern Area Advisor, the Compions of Comazon Chapter, and Brother Roderick Tatum.



DeMolay members in attendance: (l. to r.) Chris Gorsuch, Chapter Advisor, Ottawa Chapter; Dustin Cashen, Master Counselor-elect, Ottawa; Garrett Barboza, Master Counselor, Fallen Timers Chapter; Nick Olmstead, State Chairman for Membership, Ohio DeMolay State Council; Robert Caing, Chairman, 1st District, Northwest Ohio; Theodore B. Korn, District Governor, Northwest Ohio; Steven Cassity, State Jr. Deacon; Ricky Staler, Senior Counselor-elect, Ottawa; Sam Wilburn, Past Master Counselor, Ottawa; Dr. Kevin Laing, Chapter Advisor, Van Wert Chapter.

Akron Past Masters' Council Show Support for Youth Groups

The Akron Prince Hall Masonic Lodges' Past Masters' Council presented several donations of \$200.00 each to the local affiliated

youth groups in Akron. These donations were presented to Samos Chapter Order of Pythagorans, Mahalia Jackson Girls Assembly

#17, Christina Powers Girls Assembly, and Al Kaf Youth Group. Chairman Dwight Morton, PM, spoke on the im-

portance of supporting our youth. Each youth group had a spokesperson give remarks while receiving the donation. Final comments

were given by Bro. Jerry Ellerson, RW Deputy Grand Lecturer, #5, along with RW Trustee-at-Large, James R. Brown.



Past Masters, Advisors and youth in attendance.

Article and photo submitted by Eric Kidd, Sr., #76

4th District Girls Assembly Holds 49th District Meeting



District #4 Girls Assembly members, Mother Advisors, and Amaranth Grand Chapter officers.

By Georgetta Fountain-Harris
GADYA, District #4

Girls Assembly District #4 held its 49th Annual District Meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, at Windham Hall, on Sunday, April 19, 2009.

Over 100 were registered and 92 in attendance. Princesses from Pride of the Valley #7, Sheba #18, Margaret P. Grayson #44 and Bethune/Wright #49 and Grand Girls Assembly officers, along with members of the Order of Eastern Star were present.

After taking care of official business, a talent and oratorical competition was held. The girls were divided into three groups for each category: Youth, Junior and Senior Division. The judges had a tough time with all the great talent. One of the judges was one of Cincinnati's shining stars in jazz, Ms. Kathy Wade. She was a member of Girls Assembly #18 in the 70's (this was before there were names for the assemblies).

Afterwards, food and fellowship together was enjoyed.

Special thanks to all the prin-



Front row (l. to r.) Jacqueline E. Harris, Grand Associate Conductress/Grand Girls Assembly Liaison; Marion E. Fountain, PM; Georgetta Fountain-Harris, PM, GADYA District #4; Kay F. Anderson, Grand Worthy Matron; Maggie F. Moon, PGWM. Back row: Margaret Farrier, Grand Asst. to the GDYA; Lakeitha Johnson, PM, GADYA, District #3; Carla Sykes, PM, GADYA, District #2; and Lisa Hunt, PM, GADYA, District #1.

cesses of District #4; the Mother Advisors and their Associate Advisors; Grand Girls Assembly officers, present and past; the Youth Advisory Board; the Grand Worthy Matron, Kay F. Anderson and to the beautiful ladies of the Order of Eastern Star who came out from near and far to support the young princesses.

Sheba Assembly #18 Contributes to Ronald McDonald House



Sheba Girls Assembly #18, Cincinnati, Ohio, visited the Ronald McDonald House, on March 21, 2009, to make a donation of eighty pounds of Pop Tabs, which came to 108,962 tabs to the Ronald McDonald House. The pop tabs are recyclable, and even though small, are a charitable source for the McDonald House. All donations add up to make a heartfelt impact to provide families a home away from home while their children are receiving medical treatment. Present were (first row l. to r.): Chase Pope, Bre' Asya Carpenter, Saalihah Kenny, Anitra Davis Cook, Kesara Carpenter, and Tina. Second row: Associate Advisor Loretta Gray, Viola Macklin, Micah Macklin, Mother Advisor Willa Sanders, Associate Advisor Marion Carpenter and Michael Maclin.

Charter Member Sis. Staggs Celebrates 99th Birthday



SIS. MARGIE STAGGS

Members of Wesley Smith Chapter #90, Cincinnati, Ohio, visited with Sis. Margie Staggs, to celebrate her birthday. She received a vase of assorted flowers and dinner.

Sis. Staggs was truly blessed by God to celebrate her 99th birthday on Saturday, May 16, 2009.

She was honored with a banquet along with all the Past Worthy Matrons and Past Worthy Patrons of Wesley Smith Chapter #90. This was the chapter's annual anniversary event, which was held Sunday, October 19, 2008, at the Verdin Bell & Event Centre, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Grand Worthy Matron Sis. Kay F. Anderson and Grand Worthy Patron Gerald S. Friason were in attendance with other members of the Grand Body. GWM Anderson was speaker for this beautiful event.

As we visited with Sis. Staggs, she reminisced on her life... "I've always believed and always had faith in the Lord, but I didn't know He would bring me this far!"

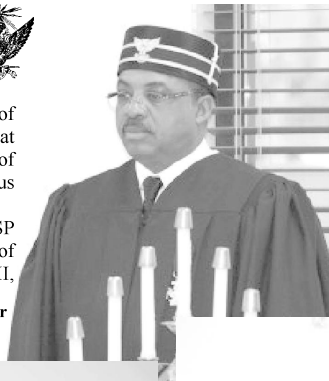
Miami Consistory Celebrates Ceremony of Remembrance



The fraters of Miami Consistory #26 and Loyal Ladies of Miami Assembly #22, came together on March 19, 2009, at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church to perform the Ceremony of Remembrance to honor the deceased fraters from the previous year.

Under the leadership of Most Wise & Perfect Master, SP Gurley Ramey, the ceremony was conducted. The Rector of St. Margaret's, Father (GIG) Benjamin E.K. Speare-Hardy, II, gave the memorial message.

Most Wise & Perfect Master SP Gurley Ramey.



The Loyal Ladies of Miami Assembly #22 (l. to r.) LL Barbara Winston, LL Deborah Nolcox, LL Associate Ruler A. Jean Johnson, LL Ruler Vanetta L. Bellows, PSGLLR Barbara A. King, LL Priestess Vivian L. White, and LL Madie Tillman.



The Ceremony of Remembrance Team (l. to r.) GIG Ronald A. Ogletree, SP Howard Isley, SP Gurley Ramey, GIG Maurice Winston, Commander-in-chief, GIG Charles V. Williams, III, SP Willie Chattman, and GIG Benjamin E.K. Speare-Hardy, II. (Photos by Villani J. Thomas)

Assemblies Working in the Communities Order of the Golden Circle

Auxiliary of the AASR, Freemasonry, PHA, NJ, Orient of Ohio

Bezaleel Assembly #19, Cleveland: "We Care" committee along with Loyal Lady Ruler Ollie Evans (2008) visited "Laura's Home," a Ministry of the City Mission of Cleveland, and presented two dozen blankets to the staff. Laura's is a safe shelter for homeless women and their children. The program includes life skill classes, Chapel, Bible study, work assignments, and computer lab. It also provides Christian discipleship to guide the spiritual well-being, skill training for successful independent living job readiness and Christian guidance. There are currently about 50 women and their children. Laura's Home has a capacity of 150 total residents. Last fiscal year the home served 657 women and 389 children.

Miami Assembly #22, Dayton - "Community Involvement" committee along with Loyal Lady Ruler Maggie J. Parks (2008) visited the Mercy Manor facility. The

facility assists women at risk providing programs to gain self sufficiency into Society. Business suits, hats, coats, shoes and casual clothing were donated.

Dove Assembly #34, Cincinnati - "Tools for Schools in the Inner City" committee, along with Loyal Lady Ruler Mary F. Dickson (2008) presented to the Rothenberg Preparatory Academy their needed supplies. They were able to provide everything requested. They are also involved with the "Breakfast with Santa" program. King Solomon Consistory #20 Cincinnati holds the annual "Breakfast with Santa" each year, along with the Renfro/Berry Commanders of the Rite and Sinai Shrine Temple #59. They hosted approximately 90-100 children from a pre-selected community in Cincinnati. Santa is played each year by GIG Otis Elam, Sr., Commander-in-Chief (2009). Breakfast is served and each child received a bag of toys and along

with a few bikes.

La Paz Assembly #35, Toledo - "Community Involvement" committee along with Loyal Lady Ruler Myrna Banks (2008) made its annual donation of "pop tabs," two cases of paper plates, and five hundred napkins to the Ronald McDonald House. Also, a presentation was made to the Beach House Shelter, where clothing, shoes, and toiletries were donated. The Beach House and its 85-year mission provide shelter, food, clothing, counseling and assistance to homeless women, single parents with children and families.

These community projects, in addition to others will continue during this 2009 year. Loyal Lady Rulers for 2009 are: L.L. Janice M. Bostic #19; L.L. Vanetta Bellows #22; L.L. Mabel E. Lewis #34; L.L. Claudia Roberts # 35 and L.L. Thelma Thomas #36.

Office of the S.G.I.G. Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr. 33°; Deputy for Ohio United Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, P.H.A., Northern Jurisdiction

One of the goals of Sovereign Grand Commander Solomon Wallace, 33° is: *Saving the African American Male: "From the Cradle to College."*

Ohio was chosen to be one of the Orients of the United Supreme Council, to provide "Templates" for communication to the School Districts.

He strongly emphasized *"Our Children Deserve Better than Silence of Good People."* We have been guilty of allowing some of our most vulnerable young people fall through the cracks. With the increase of single parenthood households, the lack of male role models, and the need to continue education, be addressed.

Our challenge is to be a bridge for young men in need of support by providing mentoring services to school districts in a caring, competent, and professional manner and to help him to be all that he can be academically, socially, and behaviorally.

Our success will be measured by the number of members volunteering and by the number of hours of service given to our youth through our partnership with school districts.

Ohio Council of Deliberation will be celebrating its 100th Year Anniversary and the 38th Ohio Grand Assembly, Order of the Golden Circle at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Cincinnati October 24-25, 2009.



St. Matthews Consistory Holds Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal

A ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal was held on March 19, 2009, at the Octagon Hall, in Toledo, Ohio.

Most Wise and Perfect Master, Sublime Prince Donald Scott, 32°, and his degree team performed the ceremony, which was held in memoriam of four departed Fraters of the Consistory during the past year.

The memorial address was de-

livered by Sovereign Grand Commander Clarence J. Walker, Jr., 33°, who delivered an outstanding message on the lives of the departed Fraters and their relationship with God. A delicious repast was prepared and enjoyed by all.

In attendance were Loyal Lady Ruler Claudine Roberts, her court of officers and members of La Paz Assembly #35, family members of the departed Fraters, officers,

members and friends of St. Matthews Consistory, also Daughter Charlesena Smith of the Imperial Court Daughters of Isis.

Remarks were made by Commander-In-Chief, Sublime Prince Clarence Jones, 32°, and WM Grand Master Rev. James H. Willis, Sr.

*Submitted by SP Roderick Tatum
Photos by SP Kermit Phillips*



Orient of Ohio Elevates 20 New GIGs

By GIG Jay Johnson
Gr. Asst. Secretary, OGD

Congratulations to the following Sublime Princes who were coroneted as Grand Inspectors General of the 33rd and last degree of Freemasonry during the weekend of May 22-26, 2009, at Rochester, New York. They are members of the Brian T. Abrams Class.

(Editor's Note: SGIG Brian T. Abrams was the Deputy of the Orient of Illinois when he was called to his eternal rest in 2008. His brother, GIG Milton Abrams is a member of Miami Consistory #26, Dayton, OH)

Bezaleel Consistory # 15 - Cleveland, OH

Carlos Artagos, IV, Calvin Brown, Gregory F. Clifford, H. Herbert

Hardy, Henry E. Henderson, Edward W. Miles, Frederick F. Perkins, Tazzerall K. Pitts, Allen Stacey, Andrew D. White, Sterling A. Williams
King Solomon Consistory #20 - Cincinnati, OH

Frank H. Bowen, Jr., Robert H. Carpenter, Ollie W. Scott
L.D. Easton Consistory #21 - Columbus, OH

Gary M. Hairston, Sr., William C. Terry

St. Matthews Consistory #24 - Toledo, OH

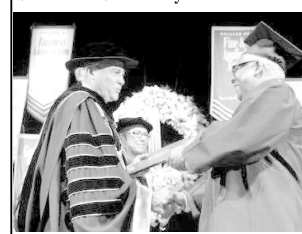
Christopher Gayle
Miami Consistory #26 - Dayton, OH

Thomas J. Golden, Eldred J. Jones, Frank J. Smith

DEGREE OF PROMISE

A Dream No Longer Deferred Man, 72, Fulfills Vow to Late Wife

Thomas Jones always kept the promises he made to his wife. The first one he made when he married Alma "Betty" Nash 50 years ago "to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish until death do us part." And the final promise days before she died. "That was to finish my degree," said Jones, who turned 72 on May 9. Jones kept that promise. The Akron man graduated Saturday at the University of Akron's E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall with an associate's degree in criminal justice. Jones re-enrolled at the university a few months after his wife's death on May 11, 2007. He remains active in his church, Mount Zion Baptist, where he has been a member for 65 years and church treasurer for 30 years and counting.



He has been on the church's board of trustees almost as long. Jones also is a Past Master of Mount Calvary Lodge No. 76, The Ed Davis Seniors Group of Akron and is a lifetime member of Al Kaf Shrine Temple No. 109.

By Jewell Cardwell, Beacon Journal staff writer; Photo courtesy of Mike Carlew, Akron Beacon Journal

Bezaleel Assembly #19 Assists Providence House



Natalie Leek-Nelson, CEO and President of Providence House accepts donation presented by LLR Janice M. Bostic, LL Sarah Holland, LL Beverly Beavers, LL Cynthia Hunt, LL Deborah Willis Russell. (Photo by Melvin L. Russell)

Embracing Loyal Lady Ruler Janice M. Bostic's theme of "Love and Kindness," Bezaleel Assembly #19, Order of the Golden Circle, is undertaking three community service projects this year.



ALLR W. Ruth Dean and LLR Janice M. Bostic opening gifts at "baby shower" held for Providence House.

On May 3, 2009, the Assembly hosted a Baby Shower at El Hasa Temple #28 for the benefit of the children of Providence House. Providence House is a nonprofit crisis nursery located on Cleveland's Westside. Ninety-eight percent of the organization's funding comes from donations. The nursery provides a safe nurturing environment for children ages five and younger whose primary caregivers are unable to care for them due to illness, domestic violence, homelessness and other life circumstances. Family members are asked to visit the child at least three times each week during the child's stay. Parent education and follow up services are provided when the child returns home. All services are provided free of charge.

Over 50 Assembly members, their family, and friends attended the baby shower. In a theme decorated room, with "baby related" background music, guests received table favors, played games, won prizes and enjoyed refreshments, all donated by Assembly members. Loyal Lady

Ruler, Janice M. Bostic and Associate Loyal Lady Ruler W. Ruth Dean, opened each gift and thanked everyone for their contributions.

On May 4, 2009, the Assembly accompanied by members of Bezaleel Consistory #15, family and friends filled three vans to transport the donations. The group was warmly greeted by Natalie Leek-Nelson, CEO and President, and Meghan Moroney, Marketing & Event Manager, who lead the group on a tour of the two building facility.

In a final accounting, the Assembly collected over \$2,200 in tangible items. Friends unable to attend the event supported the Assembly's efforts through an additional donation of \$325 in cash and gift cards, bringing the Assembly's total donation to over \$2,500.

With the support of its members, the Assembly looks forward to supporting its local schools through the collection of school supplies in the fall and fellowship with members in nursing facilities in the winter.

(By Embie R. Bostic)



LL Sarah Holland, LL Deborah Willis Russell, LLR Janice M. Bostic, LL Beverly Beavers, LL Cynthia Hunt, and friends Joyce Haqq and Mattie D. Watson on tour of Providence House.



LL Beverly Beavers and 1st Lt. Melvin Russell, unloading gifts from van.

142nd Grand Convocation of the MEPH Grand Chapter, RAMS Convenes in Dayton, OH

By RE Jay Johnson, PHP Chair, Public Relations

The MEPHGC of Ohio, Royal Arch Masons convened the 142nd Annual Convocation at the Holiday Inn North, Dayton, Ohio, on Saturday, April 24, 2009. After a spirited devotion led by Grand Associate Chaplain Reverend Melvyn Hughley and assisted by PHP Jerry D. Springer, the Grand Chapter Officers assumed their stations to open Grand Chapter.

Everyone was simply elated to see Deputy Grand High Priest Emerson D. Ballard walk into the room, take his station, and proceed to open the Grand Convocation, since everyone knew that he had suffered a major stroke and had been recuperating for the past several months.

After the ritualistic opening, the MEGHP Charles V. Williams, III, was escorted into the room by the Excellent Grand Marshal, PGHP William K. Harvey, where he was received and given Private Grand Honors in the East.

Visitors this year from the Grand Chapter of Ohio included the MEGHP Robert J. Draye, Donald Losasso - Grand King, Steve Oliver - Grand Scribe and Reverend F. Raymond Sharritts, Grand Necrologist. As has been the tradition for the last several years, the MEGHP Draye was made an Honorary Past Grand High Priest of the MEPHGC of Ohio and presented his Certificate appertaining thereto.

Other VIP guests included seventeen Past Grand High Priests including PGHP Harold Truss, Deputy for the Midwest for the General Grand Conference, USA and the Bahamas.

Grand Lodge Officers present included DGM Robert L. Jones, representing the MWGM, James H. Willis, Sr., Johnny O. Pitts, Senior Grand Warden, Charles V. Williams, III, Grand Treasurer, Arlin Jackson and Leo Beavers, GLEDF Committee, Sidney Broadnax, Jr., PGM, GCCFC and Kenneth Lewis, PGM, Asst GCCFC.

The Past Grand High Priesthood was awarded to DGHP Emerson D. Ballard and Grand King Arper Tentman, Jr. for their

GHP Robert J. Draye receives Honorary membership from MEGHP Williams.



many faithful years of dedicated service as they advanced through the line, but now needed to step back due to serious illnesses that both had experienced.

Also honored with the Past Grand High Priesthood were RE Joseph E. Toliver, Jr. who has served as REDGL for the 2nd District and four years as Chief Administrative Officer to the MEGHP and RE Jimmie E. Johnson who served as REDGL, District #2 for five years, two years as Grand Lecturer and four years as Grand Chairman of Publicity and Public Relations.

Each year, the youngest and the oldest Companions are recognized by refunding their registration fees. This year, the youngest Companion was Douglas Jefferies of St. Luke Chapter #33, Canton, OH, and the oldest was PGHP Leo C. Beavers of Cuyahoga Chapter #36, Cleveland, OH.



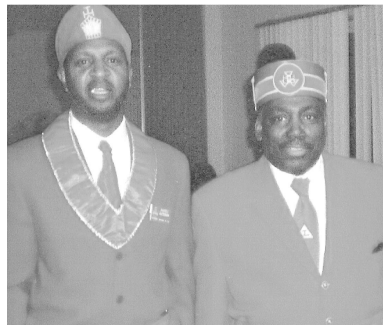
Newly made PGHPs Emerson D. Ballard (l.) and Arper Tentman, Jr. (r.).



Joseph E. Toliver, Jr. (c.) and Jay Johnson (r.) receive their PGHPs. (Photos by Sam Crosby)



Male Heads of Houses (l. to r.): SGIG Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr., Deputy of the Orient; EP Keith D. Clark, Sr., Alpha Priory, #1; MWGJ Rufus Duhart; GTIM/EGC William C. Parker; and Grand Royal Advisor Arper Tentman, Jr.

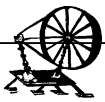


Cuyahoga Chapter #36 Recognizes Past Leader...



The newly elected Excellent High Priest, Darrell Patterson of Cuyahoga Chapter #36, Royal Arch Masons, presents the PHP Apron and Crown to PHP Melvin L. Russell. Companion Russell served as Excellent High Priest for the year 2008. This completed his task of heading all of the York Rite Houses of Cleveland, Ohio and he is looking forward to receiving the coveted York Rite Cross of Honour this year.

(Photo by Mark A. Ledger)



MAPHGC Heroines of Jericho Convocation

By M. Francine Washington
Grand Reporter

The Most Ancient Grand Court Heroines of Jericho held its 35th Annual Convocation on April 25-26, 2009 in Dayton, OH.

The Convocation opened in ritualistic manner on Sunday, April 26, 2009. The Most Ancient Grand Matron warmly greeted everyone.

Visitors to the Grand Convocation were Most Excellent Grand High Priest Charles V. Williams, III; Grand Worthy Matron Kay F. Anderson; Right Eminent Grand Commander and Grand Thrice Illustrious Master William C. Parker; Grand Princess Captain M. Francine Washington; Grand Royal Advisor Arper Tentman Jr; Deputy of the Orient, Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr.; Grand Loyal Lady Associate Ruler; Loyal Lady Jamesetta Royster, Grand Royal Queen of Grand Girls Assembly, Princess Tierney Allen. Also in attendance was the General Grand Conference Most Ancient Grand Matron Heroine Billie E. Peoples. Accompanying her was Her. Kay F. Anderson, GGC Special Deputy; Her. Jeannie Elam, GGC Deputy of Ohio; Her. Cheryl Cokely-Benn, GGC Chairman of Arrangements; Her. Betty Bell, GGC Grand CCFC; Her. Rachel T. Smith, GGC Floral Committee; Her. Ellen Bonn, GGC MAGM Personal Assistant; Her. Charletta

Williams, GGC MAGM Administrative Assistant. Her Rachel T. Smith also brought greetings from her office as Grand Princess Captain for the State of Kentucky.

The Most Ancient Grand Court Heroines of Jericho Queen for 2009 was Her. Crystal Conway, El Zerrubabel Court #5. She was crowned, given a bouquet of roses and escorted around the room by PMWGJ James Brown. The Convocation was closed in due form as members began to prepare for the General Grand Conference in July in Dallas, TX.

Queen for 2009: Heroines Crystal Conway, El Zerrubabel Court #5



General Grand Conference Most Ancient Grand Matron Billie E. Peoples and her traveling companions. (Photos by Samuel Crosby)

Sinai Court #35 Extends Day of Caring

By Dt. M. Darlene Logan
Sinai Court No. 35 sponsored by the Imperial Court, Daughters

of Isis, has extended the Day of Caring to year around efforts in the City of Cincinnati. The Court plans to serve the needs of their shut-in members, adoption of a family, community friends and not-for-profit organizations with events scheduled on a monthly basis.

The Jewel Rogers Lang Benevolent Fund was established in 1995 in honor of Dt. Lang (who served the Imperial Court as an Actual Past Imperial Commandress) to coordinate benevolent and charity needs for the year. Under the leadership of Dt. Mary F. Dickson, Illustrious Commandress who noted, that, "The Court has planned monthly charity events and or donations to help all we can."

Over the past months the members have donated cell phones so the troops overseas can call home



Yellow Ribbon Support Center: (l. to r.) Dt. Mary F. Dickson, Ill. Commandress; Mr. Keith Maupin; Dt. Deborah Brown and Dt. Theresa Martin.

Brookins/Duhart Banquet...

(Continued from page 1)



MAGM Brookins and MWGJ Duhart with PMAGMs and PMWGJs of the Grand Court.



The family of MWGJ Rufus T. Duhart.



The family of MAGM Mary Louise Brookins.



Grand Heads of Houses (l. to r.): Grand Royal Queen Tierney Allen; DGM Robert L. Jones; GWM Kay F. Anderson; the Honorees; MEGHP Charles V. Williams, III; Gr. Assoc. LLR Jamesetta Royster, Gr. Princess Capt. M. Francine Washington. Standing: GTIM/EGC William C. Parker; GIG Clamion Marshall, Pres. Commanders of the Rite; EP Keith D. Clark, Sr.; SGIG Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr.; Gr. Royal Advisor Arper Tentman, Jr.

to loved ones. Keith "Matt" Maupin was missing in Baghdad for over four years and his remains were found in March 2008. His parents started the

Yellow Ribbon Support Center. Members also donated to the Ronald McDonald House, Pop Tab Collection Program to support families from out-of-town, who are staying with ill children. Also, the members have adopted a mother and three children, the third floor of the Lincoln Crawford Nursing Home with attention to a young totally disabled resident providing visitations and donations throughout the year.

This year's Day of Caring chairperson is Dt. Theresa Martin and co-chair, Dt. Deborah Brown and Adopt-A-Family chairperson is Dt. Tanya Elam. Together they note that, "Everyone wins when visitations are made to the sick and shut-in, a few members are in their nineties."

2009 CALENDAR

AUGUST

July 31-Aug. 4 - 160th MWPH Grand Lodge & 122nd Amaranth Grand Chapter Communications, Columbus, OH

14-20 - 116th Imperial Session AEAONMS & Daughters of Isis, Atlanta, GA.

SEPTEMBER

5 - Past Potentates of Sinai Temple Annual Banquet, Cincinnati

12 - Sinai Court #35 Commandress Ball, Cincinnati, OH

12 - El Hasa #28 Temple Potentate Ball, Cleveland, OH

13 - Prince Hall Americanism Day, Statewide

19 - Amer Court #65 Commandress Ball, Dayton, OH

19 - MAPHGC H of J Prayer Breakfast, Southern District, Dayton, OH

26 - A1 LaLim Temple #223 Potentate Ball, Elyria, OH

TBA - Alla Baba Court #75, Columbus, OH

26 - Heads of Houses Calendar Meeting, Columbus, OH GLHQ

OCTOBER

3 - Grand Guild Annual Workshop, Cleveland, OH

10 - William T. Boyd Lodge #79 Past Master's Ball, Cleveland, OH

10 - Mecca Court #73 Commandress Ball, Toledo, OH

10 - Nobles Fall Desert Conference, Toledo, OH

16 - King Solomon #87 Banquet, Warren, OH

17 - Heroines of Jericho School of Instruction, Dayton, OH

17 - Harmony Lodge #77 Master's Ball, Dayton, OH

17 - Al Kaf Court #144 Commandress Ball, Akron, OH

24-25 - Ohio Council of Deliberation & Order of the Golden Circle, SGLLR Banquet (Oct. 24), Cincinnati, OH; Crown Plaza, Pfeiffer Rd.

NOVEMBER

TBA - MWGM Testimonial Banquet, Cincinnati, OH

21 - Brotherhood Night, Cincinnati, OH;

21 - Amer Temple #107 Potentate's Ball, Dayton, OH

28 - Most Illustrious Grand Council R&SM Workshop, TBA

DECEMBER

5 - El Hasa Court #47 Commandress Ball, Cleveland, OH

20 - St. John Evangelist Day, Statewide

25 - Knights Templar Christmas Observance, Worldwide



Alpha Priory #1 Holds Election and Hosts ME Grand Master General

The Hope Hotel & Conference Center, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio, was the site of the 22nd Annual Conclave of Alpha Priory #1, Knights York Cross of Honour (KYCH) PHA, on Saturday, June 13, 2009. In attendance was the highest ranking officer of all York Rite Priors in the USA, Most Excellent Grand Master General Raymond T. Tucker of Chicago, IL.

The 22nd Annual Conclave began with a devotional service led by Prelate Michael H. Jordan (MI). The session was opened by E. Prior Keith D. Clark, Sr. The ME Grand Master General Raymond T. Tucker was escorted into the assembly by the Past Eminent Priors of Alpha Priory #1, where he was welcomed by Kt. Clark, escorted to the East and accorded Grand Honors.

The normal order of business was followed until an "all-you-can-eat" buffet was served with an official photo session following.

The Conclave resumed with the conclusion of all reports. Special recognition was given by E. Prior Clark to two faithful Knights, Arper Tentman, Jr. and Jerry D. Springer, for their substandard outstanding service to the Priory in multiple tasks they have performed over the years. The Ways and Means Committee recommendation to meet at the Hope Hotel for 2010, 2011 and 2012 was approved by the membership.

All nine new petitions for membership were voted on and the elected and appointed officers performed the "Ceremony of Investiture." The MEGMG, Kt.

Tucker gave them praise for their work and personally greeted each candidate.

Kt. Tucker brought greetings from his office and the officers and members of the Covent General USA (KYCH), PHA, currently consisting of eleven active Priors across the states and one state, Georgia, UD. Other states have requested consideration for UD status. The MEGMG invited all KYCH members to attend the 6th Annual Convent General USA Conclave in September 2009 at Albany, NY. Contact your Priory registrar for specific information and registration forms.

The MEGMG congratulated the members of Alpha Priory #1 for its leadership as the first Prince Hall Priory established in 1988. The Ohio jurisdiction provided the Covent General USA, its first ME Grand Master General, RE Grand Treasurer and current RE Grand Registrar General.

The Necrology Ceremony was led by Kt. Michael H. Jordan, Prelate, in memory of two deceased Knights, PEP Curtis C. McKinney and PEP John A. Woods, Sr., both of Cincinnati.

The election was conducted by PEP Ray S. Robinson. The elected officers for 2009-10 are: Knights Rufus T. Duhart, Eminent Prior (Cinn. OH); Eston Lucky Wilson, Deputy Prior (Dayton, OH); Michael H. Jordan, Warder (Detroit, MI); Kennedy C. McCall, Prelate (Chillicothe, OH). All elected and appointed officers were installed by MEGMG Tucker. The annual Conclave was closed in due form.



KT. RUFUS T. DUHART (KYCH)
Eminent Prior 2009-2010
2130 Burnet Ave., Cinn. OH 45219



50 Hamilton Park
Columbus, OH 43203

PREST-STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 375
DAYTON, OH

Adoniram Court #6, LOCOP



History was made when Adoniram Court (UD) Ladies of the Circle of Perfection, Cleveland, Ohio, ritualistically opened the Workshop for the Ladies of the Circle of Perfection on May 17, 2009 in Dayton, Ohio. During this workshop, the two year journey for Adoniram Court (UD) from their formation and initiation, culminated in their reception of a Charter and they are now redesignated as Adoniram Court #6, Ladies of the Circle of Perfection of Cleveland, Ohio. Royal Perfect Matron Annie Patrick and Royal Chief Advisor Ray S. Robinson accepted the Charter on behalf of the Court from the Grand Thrice Illustrious Master William C. Parker and



Adoniram Court #6, Ladies of the Circle of Perfection, Cleveland, Ohio.

Grand Coordinator Jerry D. Springer PGTIM. Adoniram Court #6 is the fourth chartered court in the Ohio jurisdiction and hopefully more will follow. The Ohio Jurisdiction of LOCOP will be looking forward to obtaining more growth and strength and eventually forming their own Grand Court.



GTIM William C. Parker, Royal Perfect Matron Annie Patrick, and Royal Chief Advisor Ray S. Robinson, display their new charter.

Four Royal Perfect Matrons of the Ohio Jurisdiction, receive fruit baskets from GTIM Parker. (L. to r.) Emmajaan Hines, Queen Vashiti Court #4 (Indianapolis, IN); Margaret Bohanon, Colour Purple Court #4 (Dayton, OH); Marion E. Fountain, Eyes of Wisdom Court #3 (Cincinnati, OH); and Annie Patraick, Adoniram Court #6, (Cleveland, OH).



Article By Melvin L. Russell

Photos by Samuel Crosby



Article/photos
By Eston Lucky
Wilson, Chair
Publicity

MEGMG Raymond T. Tucker, (MI) accepts special gifts from Kt. Keith D. Clark, Sr., Eminent Prior, Alpha Priory #1, (OH) 2008-09.

The Curtis C. McKinney, Sr. Class of 2009 (KYCH)



Seated (l. to r.):
Daryle L. Cobb,
Melvin L. Russell,
MEGMG Raymond
T. Tucker, RE Keith
D. Clark, Sr.,
Eminent Prior 2008-
09, Thomas G.
Graham. Standing:
William McElya,
William H. Dungey,
Herman Jiles, Jr.,
Timothy Baggett,
Allen M. Roberts,
and Gurley M.
Ramey.

King Solomon #20 Celebrates 100th Anniversary

King Solomon Consistory #20, Cincinnati, Ohio, celebrated its 100th Anniversary on Saturday, April 4, 2009, at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Blue Ash, OH.

SGIG Sidney D. Broadnax, Jr., Illustrious Deputy of the Orient and GIG Reverend James H. Willis, Sr., Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ohio were in attendance.

All present enjoyed the event, especially the entertainment provided by Fo Mo Brothers Quartet.

Dove Assembly #34, Order of the Golden Circle was well represented, including the State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler Ruby J. McDaniel.

The Ohio Council of Deliberation will also celebrate 100 years at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Pfeiffer Rd., Blue Ash, Oh, during its session October 24-25, 2009.