



M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, F&AM, Inc.

THE BEEHIVE



DECEMBER 2008
ISSUE SEVEN

*The Official Publication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand
Lodge of Virginia, Free and Accepted Masons, Incorporated*



Most Worshipful Grand Master,
Larry D. Christian # 253

"Letting Our Light Shine"

"Letting Our Light Shine" A New Administration Has Arrived



Most Worshipful Grand Master, The Honorable Larry D. Christian #253 (seated, with hat) and the Grand Lodge Officers for 2008-2009 (Photo courtesy of GL Photographer Larry Miller)

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I, M.W.G.M. Larry D. Christian and the family of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, Free and Accepted Masons, Inc., do hereby offer our utmost support to the youth of the Knight of Pythagoras program. Our goal is to assist them personally, spiritually, and financially. I encourage all Master Masons in the jurisdiction of Virginia to support the KOP by joining the J. Luvelle Taylor Council (a State Council organized as a fund-raiser for the KOP) and to become an active member (Senior Advisor) in your local council. I encourage all District Deputy Grand Masters to actively pursue opening a council in your district, if you do not already have one.

Finally, I know that if we invest our time and money into the youth now, not only will we reap the benefits of seeing them develop into an outstanding young man, but the community in which they live will one day gain a "Leader".

FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY



RWGS Isaac Hughes #314

Greetings Brethren,

I hope this communication finds you well and in good health. Our 133rd Annual Communication was well attended and marked the dawning of a new administration. To ensure that you're well informed, below are the highlights and results of our 133rd Annual Communication (2008):

POSITION	NAME	LODGE #
M. W. Grand Master & BOD	Larry D. Christian	253
R. W. Deputy Grand Master & BOD	Herman Eggleston, Jr.	146
R. W. Senior Grand Warden & BOD	Shelton Riddick	323
R. W. Junior Grand Warden	Roger C. Brown	327
R. W. Grand Treasurer & BOD	James E. Watkins, Jr.	44
R. W. Grand Secretary & BOD	Isaac S. Hughes	314
R. W. Senior Grand Deacon	Paige D. Cherry	3
R. W. Junior Grand Deacon	Richard Townes	235
R. W. Grand Lecturer - ED	George T. Cutler	80
R. W. Grand Director	Robert L. Leeper, Jr.	23
R. W. Grand Director	Walter E. Brown	18

Foundation Board	Kenneth Ragland	81
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The Proposed Revised Grand Lodge Constitution was NOT approved.

The constitutional change, that Chapter II, Article XII, Section 4, as amended (Fees) be removed from the constitution was approved.

The constitutional change (Chapter II, Article XIII, Section 3, as amended, to allow the silver chain collar with blue backing to be worn at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication was approved.

Isaac S. Hughes
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary



PGM's William Milton and Gilbert Tyler place Grand Master apron on MWGM Larry Christian during installation of Grand Lodge Officers



MWGM Larry Christian poses with members of Triple River Lodge #253 shortly after being installed as Grand Master



(L to R) PGM's B. Thompson, W. Milton, G. Tyler, F. Lyons, and C. Vaughan at altar during presentation to MWGM L. Christian

Annual Grand Lodge Scholarship Raffle

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia held its Annual Scholarship Raffle drawing on September 13, 2008 at 906 North Thompson Street in Richmond, VA. The results of the drawing are as follows:

- 1st Prize \$5,000 **Mea Jones-Tyler**
Richmond, Virginia
(#19671)

- 2nd Prize \$2,000 **Barbara Franklin**
Warrenton, Virginia
(#31514)

- 3rd Prize \$1000 **Roxie Jones**
Dewitt, Virginia
(#35084)

Congratulations to the winners. The raffle enabled the Grand Lodge to give out 6 \$2,000 scholarships and one continuing scholarship for four years in the amount of \$4,000. The Scholarship Committee would like to thank all of the lodges and brethren who assisted in making this year's effort a huge success!

MWPHGL of VA and Grand Chapter of OES Donates to Breast Cancer Society



GWP Michael Hodges; Nadine Mapless-Executive Director of American Cancer Society; Carolyn T. Smith-President of Sisters Network Central VA; Most Worshipful Grand Master Larry D. Christian, Grand Worthy Matron Cecelia R. Irby and Samantha Reed, Publicity Chairperson of Sisters Network Central VA

Recently, the MWPHGL of VA partnered with the Grand Chapter of the OES to donate \$2400.00 to the Breast Cancer Society. The money will be used to educate the public about early detection methods of breast cancer. Breast cancer is one of the leading killers of African American women. Therefore, the MWPHGL of VA and the Grand Chapter of the OES are taking a proactive approach in supporting breast cancer awareness.

Scottish Rite Reaches Out

By Robert H. Myrick

Hampton, VA - The A.A.S.R. Masons, PHA, John W. Kirby Consistory #40 has worked diligently in the Peninsula Community. Their benevolent involvement during fiscal 2008 under the direction of Commander in Chief Kenneth Holley has consisted of donating a brand new microwave oven to the veteran patients housed at the Veterans Administration Medical Center of Hampton, VA and also contributing more than 350 cans of food to the Salvation Army's Food Bank.

Congratulation on Receiving the 33rd Degree!



From left to right front row ADDGM Leonard Johnson, RWDGM Herman Eggleston Jr., MWGM Larry D. Christian, RWSGW Shelton Riddick, RWJGD Paige Cherry, PM Larry Miller. Second row from left to right ADDGM Steven Legette, WM Kenneth Samuels Jr., RWJGS Rufus Jackson, PM George Hundley Jr., PM Paul White, Bro James Fudd, Bro Robert Hanna. (Photo courtesy of GIG Robert Hanna)

By ADDGM Steven Legette

The new 13 GIG's arrived in Tulsa, Okalahoma and made the Prince Hall family of Virginia proud! The class of 2008 was named after Amos T. Hall (1896-1971). The following are some of his significant accomplishments:

- One of Oklahoma's most accomplished lawyers, who led the fight for equal salaries for teachers via the case, "Freeman v. Oklahoma City School Board."
- Appointed Special Prosecutor for the District Court of Tulsa County from 1969 to 1970
- Elected in 1970 as Associate District Judge of Tulsa until his death in 1971.
- First African American to be elected to a county-wide office and judgeship in Oklahoma.
- Grand Master for the State of Oklahoma 1941 to 1971

The class from Virginia 2008 would like to thank all the GIG's who nominated them for their 33rd Degree.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Grand Lodge Visitation Place: S. Carolina Date: Dec. 9, 2008	St. John Evangelist Day Place: Statewide Date: Dec. 14, 2008	School of Instruction Place: Buckingham Date: Jan. 17, 2009	School of Instruction Place: Bealeton Date: Feb. 7, 2009
Grand Lodge Visitation Place: Washington, DC Date: Dec. 10, 2008	Operation Santa Claus Place: Statewide Date: Dec 20, 2008	School of Instruction Place: Tidewater Date: Jan. 24, 2009	School of Instruction Place: Richmond Date: Feb. 28, 2008
Grand Lodge Visitation Place: Massachusetts Date: Dec. 12-13, 2008	School of Instruction Place: Danville Date: Jan. 10, 2009	School of Instruction Place: Lawrenceville Date: Jan. 31, 2009	School of Instruction Place: Petersburg Date: March 7, 2009

King Cyrus Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons (PHA) of Virginia, Inc

By Mike Hodges
Right Excellent Grand Secretary

On 10 October 2008 - King Cyrus Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons (PHA) of Virginia, Inc., held it's 135th Grand Convocation in the city of Portsmouth, Va. - the purpose of the convocation was to discuss and handle any issues pertaining to the state of Holy Royal Arch Masonry in the jurisdiction of Virginia that may be brought before it., also at this convocation, election and appointment of new officers were conducted; which resulted in the following: Most Excellent Grand High Priest Vincent A. Jones #71; Right Excellent Deputy Grand High Priest Shelton Riddick #34; Right Excellent Grand King Rudy A. Baker #9; Right Excellent Grand Scribe Robert Powell #15; Right Excellent Grand Secretary Michael Hodges #34; Right Excellent Grand Treasurer Curtis White #9; Right Excellent Grand Lecture of East John R. McDonald #15; Right Excellent Grand Lecture of West Russell Davis #73; Right Excellent Principle Sojourner Samuel Rivers #74; Right Excellent Grand Captain of the Host Robert Ambrose #14 compose the top Officers of King Cyrus Grand Chapter.

A highlight of one of our Companions: Companion Andrew C. Person Jr #34, has a daughter - Ms Andrea R.N. Person, at the age of 13, she has completed the 8th grade and will go to the 9th - while in Middle school, she received all "A's" in every subject in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades - thus rendering her a 4.0. GPA, and as a result, Ms Person has been invited to attend the upcoming Presidential Inauguration in Washington DC in January 2009-CONGRATULATIONS! The Officers and Companions of King Cyrus Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons (PHA) of Virginia, Inc., encourage every Prince Hall Master Mason in Virginia to become a Royal Arch Companion - for information on becoming one - contact any Grand Chapter Officer - for information on starting a Royal Arch Chapter in your area, if one is not near contact the Grand Secretary Michael Hodges at: michael.hodges1@worldnet.att.net. - Come join the Holy Royal Arch Masons (PHA) of Virginia - Discover the REAL WORD in Masonry!!

ADDGM Steven Legette Receives Military Award



ADDGM Steven Legette (on right) receives the Officer of Year Award

Assistant District Deputy Steven "Shah" Legette of the 29th Masonic District was recently awarded the 2007-2008 Navy Plans, Operations, Medical and Intelligence Officer of the Year.

His specific achievements while deployed as the Health Care Operations Officer in support of Global war on Terrorism-Afghanistan are:

- Demonstrated strong diplomatic skills, he fostered a trusting relationship between the ANP Office of the Surgeon General and the Ministry of Public Health that resulted in unprecedented sharing of medical resources.
- He planned and managed 61 medical facility projects totaling over \$334M for infrastructure, equipment and sustainment.
- Having no background in health care facility planning, he researched and designed 10 Community healthcare Clinics valued over \$11.7M and the first ever Medical Depot valued at \$1.4M.
- He developed a distribution plan for 297 ambulances valued over \$43.5M for the ANP health care system, ultimately modernizing casualty evacuation capabilities for ANP.
- He was instrumental in the success of the Trauma Assistance Program School opening and development of the training plan for 509 medics, which will greatly decrease the died-of-wounds rate on the battlefield.

Morning Star Master Mason Selected as Sailor of the Quarter

By C. L. Gunn, DDGM



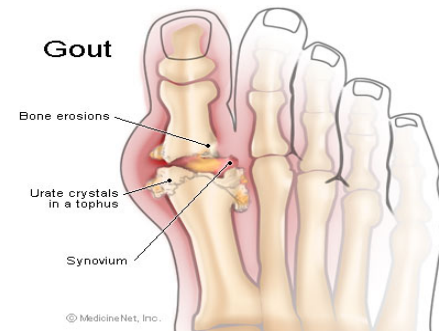
Brother Tony Cooper pictured being promoted to Master-At-Arms First Class

Tony Cooper of Morning Star Lodge #3 has been recognized at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, Norfolk, Virginia for his professional achievement in the superior performance of his duties as Evening Shift Leading Petty Officer at the Base for the quarter. Cooper was cited by his Commanding Officer, W. W. Crow for his consistent, exemplary, and highly professional manner in the performance of his demanding duties. Throughout the period covering the citation, Brother Cooper has demonstrated his leadership and participation in the overall functions, missions, and accomplishments of his command. Cooper has dedicated numerous hours of his off-duty time to coaching Peewee Football for Little Creek Elementary School, assisting in restoring homes for Habitat for Humanity, and delivering meals to the elderly in the local community. KUDOS to this Master Mason, who like others in our craft, continue to embody the tenets of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, Free and Accepted Masons' mission statement..

HEALTH COMMITTEE

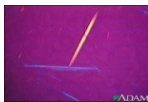
Harold Jones III, MD #114

Gouty Arthritis



Gouty arthritis or “the gout” as referred by many people, is one of the profound disabling arthritides. Gout is a painful type of arthritis that involves the buildup of uric acid crystals in and around the joint; this may involve the toe, ankle, knee, elbow, fingers, etc. Over a number of years, the deposits of uric acid at the joint site may disfigure the joint. The deposit of uric acid is called tophi. Gout during the time of Hippocrates who is also known as the “father of medicine” was referred to as the “disease of kings” due to the association of rich food and the consumption of alcohol. Uric acid is produced by a biochemical reaction in the body. The production of uric acid depends on the foods that are high in purines ingested by an individual. The foods that are high in purines such as asparagus, herring, gravy, liver, mackerel, sardines, scallops, dried beans and peas, beef kidney, mushrooms, and game meats should be avoided. The uric acid may also be produced by the rapid turnover of cells in the body and ingestion of certain medications such as diuretics or “fluid pills”, aspirin, and those related to cancer treatment.

Gout occurs more often in men than women. The age group varies from 40-50 and older, but young children do not develop gout. The diagnosis of gout involves the microscopic examination of fluid taken from the joint. One looks for the collection of uric acid crystals.



The doctor may also obtain blood and determine the uric acid level in the body. A high uric acid level does not make the diagnosis of gout. The high uric acid level may signal the acute flare up of gout. For those who have suffered with attacks of gout, you will quickly comment on the intensity of the pain. Most people say the discomfort is so severe that you cannot allow a sheet or blanket to touch the foot or joint that is involved.

The treatment of gout consists of a combination of therapies. The goal is to prevent future attacks, the formation of tophi, and reduce the pain associated with the attack. Initially your doctor may give you a medicine referred as a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) such as Motrin, Naprosyn, or Indocin. After the acute flare-up has resolved, you may be started on another medicine called allopurinol. This medication will prevent the excess production of uric acid in the body. Another drug named probenecid is used to remove excess uric acid from the body in the urine. Of course, foods high in purines should also be avoided.

More information www.niams.nih.gov/health/gout
www.umm.edu/ency/article
hjonesiii@msn.com



Ms. Cecelia R. Irby #178
Grand Worthy Matron



**GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF EASTERN STAR OF VIRGINIA, P.H.A.
2008 – 2009 Grand Chapter Elected & Appointed Officers**

Grand Worthy Matron	Cecelia R. Irby
Grand Worthy Patron	Michael Hodges
Grand Associate Matron	Nettie Burrell-Warner
Grand Associate Patron	Floyd Brown Jr.
Grand Treasurer	Lula Lang-Jeter
Grand Secretary	Aliceteen Brickhouse
Grand Conductress	Gracie Drake
Grand Associate Conductress	Lois B. Morris
Grand Warder	Evelyn Whittler
Grand Lecturer	Synthia Martin
Grand Chaplain	Johnathan Franklin
Grand Musician	Clarence Miller
Grand CCFC	Cassandra Barnes
Grand Sentinel	John C. Royster
Grand Adah	Ivery Knight
Grand Ruth	G. Sylvia Jackson
Grand Esther	Sandra Wilson
Grand Martha	Jacqueline Sutton
Grand Electa	Louberta Petty
Grand Marshal	Gwendolyn Davis
Grand Christian Flag Bearer	Mary Nobles Jackson
Grand OES Flag Bearer	Cynthia Pegram
Grand US Fag Bearer	Ulanda Walker
Grand State Youth Director	Saundra Mason

Executive Board

Vivian Chadwick
Martha Rose
Johnnie Wiggins
Constance Upton
Estherine Harding

Endowment Board

Opelene Davis
Robin Brown
Elvah Taylor
Roberta Lyle

Foundation Board

Jacqueline Sutton Grace Livingston Betty Odom

GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF EASTERN STAR OF VIRGINIA, P.H.A.

The Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star of Virginia P.H.A. is a 107 year old philanthropic organization which was founded in 1901 as an affiliate of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, Free and Accepted Masons Incorporated. Through charitable acts of kindness and giving, the Grand Chapter delivers direct aid, help and relief to the disenfranchised and underprivileged. The membership is well over 5,100 who work collectively to develop and promote community presence throughout the jurisdiction of Virginia.

With a vested interest in national and state aid foundations, the Grand Chapter has awarded donations totaling over \$26,000.00 to the Sisters Network Incorporated, the American Cancer Society, the United Negro College Fund, the American Diabetes Association, the March of Dimes, MCV Cancer Research Foundation, the Estherine J. Harding Scholarship Fund which is sponsored by Norfolk State University, and another local scholarship fund titled, the W.E. Bradley Road A Head Center.

GILGAL GRAND COURT HEROINES OF JERICHO OF VIRGINIA, PHA



“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.” Isa. 40:31 KJV

2009 Elected and Appointed Officers

Catherine F. Allen, *Most Ancient Grand Matron*
 Diane Corbin, *Grand Vice Ancient Matron*
 Cynthia A. Hodges, *Worthy Grand Treasurer*
 Rebecca A. Graves, *Grand Senior Attendant*

Tony Ward, *Worthy Grand Joshua*
 Alvin Lewis, *Deputy Grand Joshua*
 Alden G. Vaughan, *Worthy Grand Secretary*
 Mary Mallory, *Grand Junior Attendant*

Court Directors: Russell Martin
 Ernest Hamlette, Jr.
 Charlie Alexander

Trustees: Marion Martin
 Nancy Brooks
 Madeline Barnes

Ark Bearers: Wenona Jefferson
 Tulia Cuffie

Ark Bearers: Annie Steele
 Elaine Harrison

Rachel Gee, *Chaplain*
 Artie Sizemore, *Marshal – East*
 Erma Harris, *Grand Recorder*
 Betty Watson, *Inner Gate Keeper*

PMAGM Sally Goodley, *Grand Lecturer*
 Jacqueline Artis, *Marshal - West*
 Cassandra Barnes, *CCFC*
 Carol Hundley, *Outer Gate Keeper*

PMAGM Addie T. Howard, *Deputy*
 General Conference of Grand Courts Heroines of Jericho

**Most Royal Grand Court Order of Cyrene
 Virginia Jurisdiction
 Prince Hall Affiliation**

**An Adopted Body of King Baldwin Grand Commandery
 Knights Templar, PHA**



Madeline Barnes
Royal Grand Commandress



The Most Royal Grand Court of Cyrene Virginia Jurisdiction was founded on December 3, 1983 in Petersburg, VA. It was formed under the authority of The Most Royal Grand Court of Pennsylvania with its founder Past Grand Commander Braxton Mitchell, Jr. in conjunction with the Grand Commander Stuart C. Williams. The first Royal Grand Commandress was Alethia B. Martin and the first Royal Grand Chief Engineer was Braxton W. Mitchell, Jr.

The Order of Cyrene is a charitable organization. Our emblem is the cross and crown with truth, charity, and love as our motto. The bible, cross, crown, and sword are the altar emblems. They makeup the Holy Gospel of God, who is our maker.

Membership is composed of wives, daughters, mothers, sisters, and widows of Knights Templar Prince Hall Masons.

The present elected officers are: Royal Grand Commandress, Madeline Barnes; Royal Grand Chief Engineer, Ernest Hamlett; Royal Grand Martha, Wenona Jefferson; Deputy Grand Chief Engineer in the West, Tony Ward; Royal Grand Magdalene, Alden Vaughan; Royal Grand Deputy Engineer in the South, Charlie Alexander; Royal Grand Financial Secretary, Addie Howard; Royal Grand Treasurer, Tiny Higgs; Royal Grand Trustees, Carol Hundley, Arlene Page, and Elizabeth Nelson.

King Baldwin Grand Commandery of Knights Templar
By Eminent Grand Recorder Tommy E. Campbell JR, HPGEC



The Officers and Sir Knights of King Baldwin Grand Commandery extend our warmest greetings to all the Masonic bodies in the Jurisdiction of Virginia.

At King Baldwin's 134th Annual Grand Conclave held in Portsmouth, Virginia, the following officers were elected:

Right Eminent Grand Commander – SK Shelton Riddick, #7
Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander – SK Albert Ruffin, #2
Eminent Grand Generalissimo – SK Russell E. Martin, #1
Eminent Grand Captain General – SK Jeremiah Fitz, #18
Eminent Grand Prelate – SK John R. McDonald SR, #10
Eminent Grand Senior Warden – SK Ronald D. Johnson, #3
Eminent Grand Junior Warden – SK Robert Ambrose, #4

The following officers were re-elected to their offices:

Eminent Grand Treasurer – SK Adrian Varner, HPEGC, #3
Eminent Grand Recorder – SK Tommy E. Campbell JR, HPEGC, #1

Right Eminent Grand Commander Shelton Riddick appointed the following:

Eminent Grand C.C.F.C. – SK Ronald E. Blakely, #1
Eminent Grand Standard Bearer – SK Robert L. Powell, 10
Eminent Grand Sword Bearer – SK Vernon L. Thompson, #1
Eminent Grand Warder – SK Learmon Moore, #2
Eminent Grand Inside Sentinel – SK Ernest Jackson, #4
Eminent Grand Outside Sentinel – SK Benjamin Harrison JR, #1

Divisional Commander #1/39	- SK Thomas Mullins, HPEGC, #1
Assistant Divisional Commander #1/39	- SK Berkley Jackson, HPEGC, 39
Divisional Commander #2	- SK Isaac Taylor JR, HPEGC, #2
Assistant Divisional Commander #2	- SK Starling King, #2
Divisional Commander #3	- SK Milton Montgomery, #3
Divisional Commander #4	- SK Herbert King, #4
Assistant Divisional Commander #4	- SK Lorne Dennis, #4
Divisional Commander #7	- SK Michael Hodges, #7
Divisional Commander #10	- SK Kevin Nelms, #10
Divisional Commander #18	- SK Charles Jones, #18
Divisional Commander #24	- SK Everington Howell, #24
Divisional Commander #30	- SK Samuel Rushing, #30



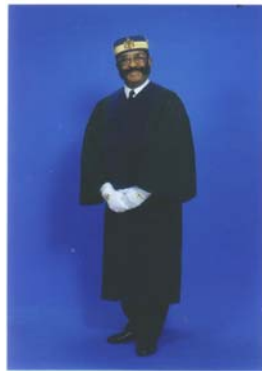
United Supreme Council, 33^o
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry
Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., Prince Hall Affiliation
804-732-0161

Ills. George M. Ellis, Jr. 33^o
Deputy for Orient Virginia

18 Edmond Avenue
Petersburg, Virginia 23803

Congratulations and Best Wishes
To the
Honorable Larry D. Christian #253
Most Worshipful Grand Master

From



SGIG George M. Ellis, Jr.
Deputy for Orient of Virginia

Virginia Council of Deliberation Officers

GIG Kensey Lewis, 1st Lieutenant Commander
GIG Henry Phillips, 2nd Lieutenant Commander
GIG James C. Taylor, Minister of State/Grand Orator
GIG Robert Patton, Grand Prior
GIG Robert Myrick, Grand Chancellor
GIG Alan Thornton, Grand Secretary
GIG James Lockhart, Grand Treasurer
GIG Oliver Price, Grand Hospitaler
GIG Ernest Hardy, Grand Master of Ceremonies
GIG Tom Robinson, Grand Standard Bearer
GIG David Wilson, Grand Captain of the Guard
GIG Milton Montgomery, Grand Sentinel
GIG Andre Samuels, Asst. Grand Secretary

Active/Active Emeritus Members

SGIG Gilbert Reddings, Treasurer General – H.E.
SGIG Michael Parris, Overseer of the Work - Virginia
SGIG Richard Jones, Deputy Emeritus - Virginia

**Beehive Publication
Committee**

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be obtained at:

<http://www.mwphgl-va.org>

MESSAGE FROM THE BEEHIVE EDITOR

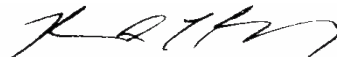


Greetings Prince Hall Family,

First and foremost, the Publication Committee would like to take this opportunity to congratulate MWGM Larry D. Christian #253 on his elevation to the pinnacle of our Order. His theme of, "Letting our Light Shine" are profound words in these uncertain times. However, despite the difficulties we all face as Americans, it's times such as these when people band together in unity to create a brighter future. On November 4, 2008, a light shined on America and particularly every African American, as our country elected its first African American President. Therefore, as we eagerly anticipate the positive changing of America's social fabricate, it will take each of us to "let our light shine" in order to move our nation, our personal condition, and our beloved fraternity forward! **Finally, the Publication Committee would like to wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable holiday season!**

May peace and brotherly love prevail.

Fraternally yours,



PM Kenneth L. Ragland #81
Editor
Beehive Publication Committee

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