The Bee Hive

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

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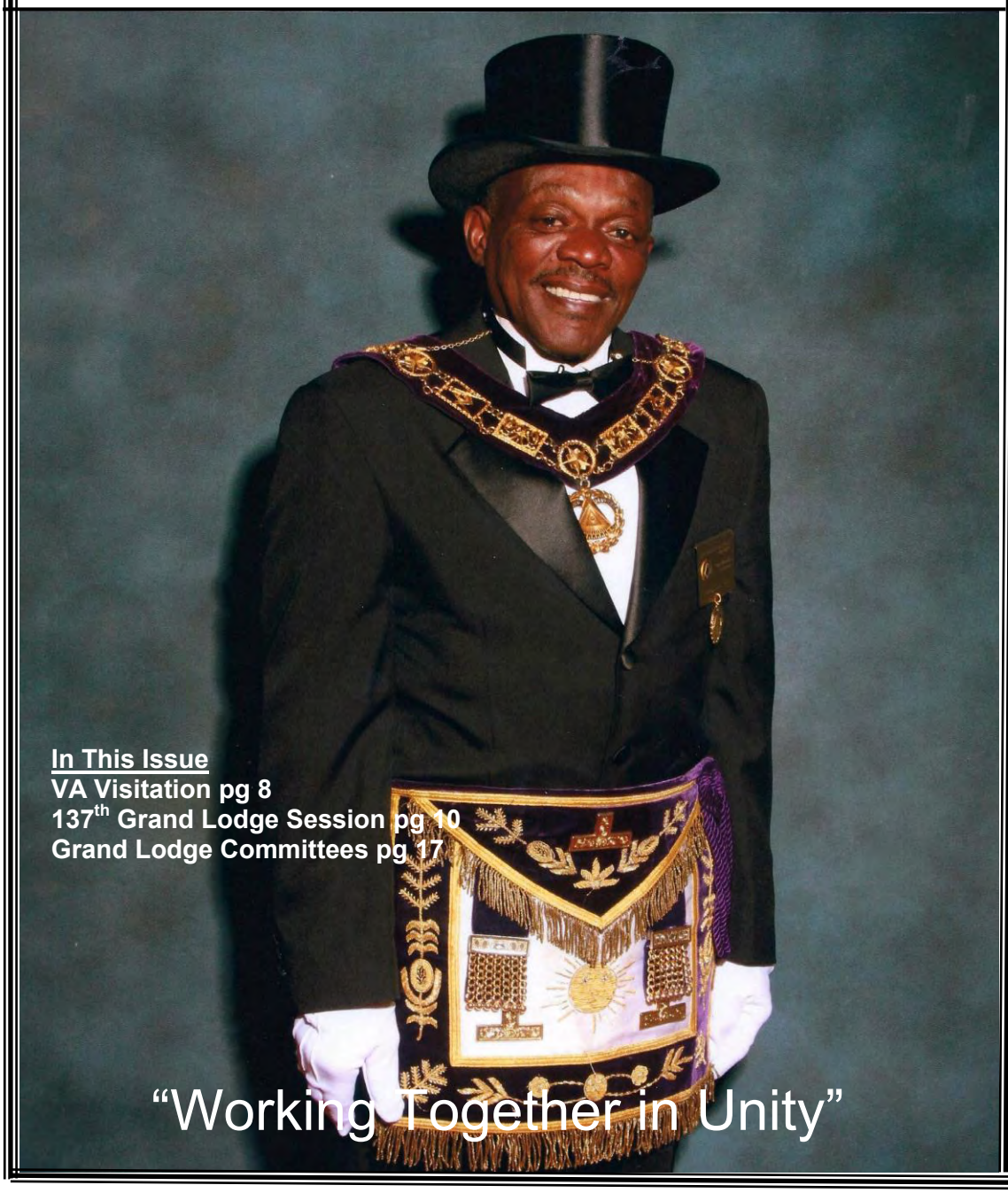

In This Issue

VA Visitation pg 8
137th Grand Lodge Session pg 10
Grand Lodge Committees pg 17

"Working Together in Unity"

Most Worshipful Grand Master Shelton Riddick #323

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2012-2014

"Working Together In Unity"

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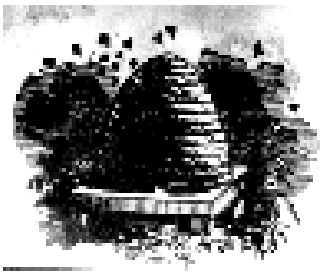

Table Of Contents

4 Most Worshipful Grand Master Shelton Riddick

5 From the Editor

6 Schools of Instruction

8 VA Visitation

10 137th GL Session

12 Scholarships Awarded

13 Masonic Events

17 Grand Lodge Committees

MWPGM Billie Thompson #46 (sitting left) and RW Grand Lecturer Kerry Brown #61 (standing left) listen to Most Worshipful Grand Master Shelton Riddick address the body.

The Bee Hive

Vol. 19 No. 1

THE PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH WE STAND

1. *Forever Loyal to our God.*
2. *Forever Devoted to our Grand Lodge.*
3. *Giving Due Respect to our Fellow Man.*
4. *Living Upright in our Community.*
5. *The Bee Hive Shall Be Non-Partisan and Non-Sectarian.*

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Mission Statement

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, Free and Accepted Masons, Inc. is a fraternal organization dedicated to the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.
Our organization takes good men and develops them to be better men.
We dispense charity, promote family values and are endeavoring to significantly aid in the uplifting of humanity.

The Bee Hive, Vol. 19 Number 1, February 2013. There is no charge for pictures. Please send all articles, ads, and pictures to the Editor at 2417 Osborne Rd. Chester, Virginia 23831 or e-mail at mccoygitlo@verizon.net. The Editor reserves the right to edit pictures, news items, and ads for publication. Please submit only expendable pictures.
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Shelton Riddick #323

NEWLY ELECTED 77TH GRAND MASTER of the MW PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE of VA, F&AM, Inc.

By
New Journal & Guide and
WPM Raymond A. Sutton, III

On September 15, 2012 RW Deputy Grand Master Shelton Riddick became the 77th Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia. MW Grand Master Riddick is a native of Norfolk County, now known as the City of Chesapeake. He is the son of the late Mrs. Ella Mae Riddick, a wonderful and beautiful lady who was both mother and father to him.

God has blessed him with a wonderful wife, Mrs. Shirley D. Riddick, and one son, Rev. Cardell C. Patillo and three adopted daughters who are now married, Madia, Mia, and Gina. MWGM Riddick has one brother, James Riddick; a sister-in-law, Ana Riddick; two sisters, Elezinia Griffin and Gennice Fong; two Godchildren, and several nephews.

MWGM Riddick graduated from Crestwood High School in 1969 where he lettered in track. Afterward, he was drafted into the US Army during the Vietnam War era. After his tour, he worked during the day and attended school at night, receiving his degree in Management and Business Administration, with Certifications in Industrial Management and Air Conditioning/Refrigeration.

A former member of Celestial Baptist Church of Portsmouth, VA, his devotion and present membership is at First Baptist Church, South Hill of Chesapeake. He currently serves there on the Pastor's Aide Committee and the Usher Board under Pastor, Rev. Michael R. Tolliver.

Our Grand Master has owned his own business, Riddick Heating/Air Conditioning Service for over twenty years. He is a member of Brighton Light Chapter, #118 of the Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star of VA, (PHA). He joined Washington Lodge, #323 in Portsmouth VA in 1979 and since that time has received numerous awards and honors. His high honors include that he was the recipient of the Grand Master's Cup, the highest annual award in Virginia Prince Hall Masonry, under MWGM Billie L. Thompson, Sr. MWGM Riddick has served as Past Right Eminent Grand Commander of King Baldwin Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of VA, (PHA) and Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest of King Cyrus Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons (PHA). He is the only known man to have actually been elected to and led both of these Grand Bodies in Virginia as well as the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

MWGM Riddick's theme is "Working Together in Unity is the Best Thing" which he was taught as a much younger man. He believes that if we work together in all phases of life, believe in what you are doing, and most of all, put God first, IT CAN HAPPEN.

He believes that God has blessed all of us with talents, and when given the opportunity, we must always do the best that we can. His favorite Bible verse is Philippians 3, Verses 13-14: 'Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Jesus Christ.'

MWGM Shelton Riddick has stated that, "We must focus more on our young people, both boys and girls, for without them progressing, there is no future.

From the Editor

- L. J. McCoy, Jr. #33

During the 2012 Grand Lodge Session, the Past Grand Masters had raised $3,000 in less than three months to give as scholarships to three deserving high school seniors. At that same Grand Lodge Session, over 45 students were granted at least a $1,000 scholarship by way of the Grand Lodge Scholarship Raffle. The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia has taken a major step in supporting the education of our next generation.

Education is a major key in changing the dynamics of success, and averting mass incarceration. In her book "The New Jim Crow", Michelle Alexander explained in detail the acceleration rate of mass incarceration of African American men. She wrote that in 1991, the Sentencing Project reported that the number of people behind bars in the United States was unprecedented in world history, and that one fourth of young African American men were now under the control of the criminal justice system. She followed up by stating, "Despite the jaw-dropping impact of the "get tough" movement on the African American community, neither the Democrats nor the Republicans revealed any inclination to slow the pace of incarceration.

Grand Master Shelton Riddick and this Grand Lodge know they cannot stop this disproportionate incarceration, but we can surely commit to slowing it down. By creating and implementing programs that promote the education of our children is an initial step in reducing this tragedy.

While promoting the Scholarship Raffle at the Victoria School of Instruction, Deputy Grand Master Roger Brown reminded the brothers that 150 years ago it was illegal for African Americans to be taught to read and write. As he held up two dollars to each brother who has a graduating senior, he explained that the relative donation was small, but the fruits of education for our children were imperative.

Finally, our level of aid and assistance to our GL programs must extend beyond our donations for the two dollar raffle tickets, the twenty dollar GL caps sold by MWPGM Christian, or the one dollar candy bars, sodas and water sold by the Knights of Pythagoras – all of which support our youth. We must take a personal interest and continue to encourage our youth toward the enrollment in institutions of higher education that we may significantly reduce the incarceration rate.

MWPHGL of VA Visits the MWPHGL of DC

From left to right MWGM Riddick poses with MWGM Myers, Virginia delegation prepares to enter session, and RWDGM Brown shares some moments with MWGM Riddick before entering session.

Washington DC – Over three buses full of Virginia Prince Hall Masons traveled the I-95 corridor to our nation's capital to help the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of DC celebrate their 164th Grand Lodge Session on December 12, 2012.

Led by Most Worshipful Grand Master Shelton Riddick, 225 brothers which was Virginia's largest representation stood before MWGM MacKinnon W. Myers to be received on the fifth floor at 1000 U St. NW in Washington D.C.

After several Grand Masters addressed the brothers, GM Riddick gave his remarks on his pleasure to have his Deputy Grand Master Roger Brown #327 to be received as an Honorary Member of the Grand Lodge of DC. The session then recessed for high noon refreshments

The Grand Lodge of DC opened its Grand Lodge Memorial Service on Tuesday, received visiting delegations on Wednesday, conducted their business on Wednesday, and had their elections with closing on Thursday.

Golden Rule Chapter #66 Spreads Charity at Christmas

By WPM Raymond A. Sutton III #13 & WM Synthia Wells #66 OES

Yorktown – WM Synthia Wells and WP Donald Livingston of Golden Rule Chapter #66 meet monthly at 819 Goosley Road in Yorktown, Virginia. They have rallied their chapter membership and spread great tidings of love and joy for the Christmas holidays in their area.

Golden Rule Chapter #66 made donations of cleaning and office supplies topped off by many high demand personal items to a battered women's shelter – NATASHA House. This shelter is located in Yorktown and provides needed refuge for battered women and their children from situations of danger and distress. Once self sufficiency is attained and they are able to cope in a new and safe environment, they would transition to their own permanent homes.

Further, this group of Santa's elves donated much required office supplies to the Lackey Free Clinic. This clinic, like the NATASHA house, provides health care to build a bridge of healing for persons that have no health care to maintain or assure a secure and healthy community.

Schools of Instruction

Certificates of Merit were presented by RWSGD Donald Wilson (left), GM Shelton Riddick (center), and RWJGW Richard Townes (right) to the brothers pictured. .

Staunton's School of Instruction

Staunton – "Return the knowledge from the school back to your lodges", was the message that Right Worshipful Jr. Grand Deacon Beverly Morgan gave to first time attendee Brother Xavier Jones #188 at the first School of Instruction held in the Booker T. Washington Community Center.

The Committee on Work closely observed members from Mt. Zion Lodge #18, Jefferson Lodge #20, and Omar Lodge #226 which opened the school on November 10th. Under the direction of Grand Lecturers Kerry R. Brown #61 and Edward Lattimore, III #13, COW members PM Anthony Pride #43 and PM Thomas Jennings #293 explained how the procedure could be better executed.

After the COW comments, Most Worshipful Grand Master Shelton Riddick had Grand Secretary Isaac Hughes #314 to issue copies of the constitutional amendments and explain the changes. Questions about late payments by lodges to Grand Lodge and the new committees came from PGL George Cutler #80, John Chavis #293, Richard Washington #11, Phillip Brown #20, DDGM Larry Moody #7, Asst. Marshall C. J. Jones, and PM George Winfield #23.

While the Grand Master emphasized the importance of our youth in the Knights of Pythagoras, he had Deputy Grand Master Roger Brown #327 address support of the Grand Lodge Raffle and Sr. Grand Deacon Donald Wilson #67 gave highlights on the Grand Ball.

Certificates of Merit were presented to brothers DDGM James Borders #109, Xavier Jones #188, Abraham Kimbraugh #188, John Perkins #188, Reggie Quarles #18, and Christopher Woodson #18. Finally, while the highest percentage of members present was Omar Lodge #226, the lodge with the most members was Mt. Zion Lodge

From left to right the GM challenges three brothers to support the Grand Lodge program for scholarships beyond their first year, the GM agrees with the Grand Lecturers, and Past Grand Master Harris compliment GM Riddick on his programs.

The Tidewater School

Portsmouth – Giving instructions to be clothed and silent your cell phones, WM Clifton Howell #46 opened the November 17th School of Instruction. The elaborate and spacious facilities of St Mark Missionary Baptist Church welcomed over 130 brothers who were attentive to receive Most Worshipful Grand Master Shelton Riddick #323.

GM Riddick could not withhold his pleasure in the attendance within his home district. Asking all first time brothers to stand, Brother William Coleman #80 made statements for the brothers and his experience. Grand Senior Deacon Donald Wilson #67 responded that by improving one's self in Masonry was the goal of the school. The Grand Master then asked another first time attendee, Brother Bruce Williams #132, to give his impressions on improving himself.

In order to address Grand Lodge administrative initiatives, Grand Secretary Isaac Hughes #314 read the constitutional revisions. Concerns about payment periods and new committees were expressed by Brothers Vincent Forbes #80, Alphonso King #56, Thomas Harris #96, and Joseph Staton #67.

Certificates of Merit were presented to several Brothers. The lodge with the highest percentage of brothers was presented along with the largest number of brothers from a lodge.

The Martinsville School

Martinsville – Gently tucked away in the foothills of the Blueridge Mountains, the 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 23rd, and 32nd Masonic Districts held their School of Instruction at the Smith River Missionary Baptist Association Center. Over seventy brothers observed G. P. Watkins Lodge #320 open the school on December 1st.

While Grand Lecture Edward Lattimore #13 gave the criteria on how Grand Lodge awards are granted, Grand Lecturer Kerry Brown #61 entertained challenging questions from brothers Raymond Bishop #35, Alexander Duncan #24, Donell Draper #318, Wyatt Watkins #104, and Melvin Johnson #13 about the procedure. The Grand Lecturers also took the opportunity to discuss granting honorary memberships especially to non-Prince Hall Masons. In recognizing several Masonic Landmarks, Committee on Work member PM Anthony Pride #43 briefly explained some of the prerogatives of the Grand Master and the 16th Landmark.

After the roll call of the lodges present by Grand Secretary Isaac Hughes #314, Most Worshipful Grand Master Shelton Riddick #323 invited Deputy Grand Master Roger Brown #327 to the podium to address the Grand Lodge Raffle which benefits the scholarship program.

GM Riddick was then pleased to award the lodge with the largest percentage of members present to Mt. Pleasant Lodge #31 and the most members present to G. P. Watkins #320. Certificates of Merit were awarded to Brothers Curtis Hairston #217, Rodney Whitten #31, Jacob Mercer #31, Timmie White #204, and Johnnie Lovelace #204.

The Grand Master's closing lecture was intense. Covering the decline in membership, he encouraged the brothers to express more generosity in supporting the Knights of Pythagoras, the Grand Lodge Raffle in promoting scholarships, and the Grand Lodge Golf Tournament.

School in Southside Virginia

Victoria – Travel over the snow-capped landscape of Southside Virginia was the backdrop for the fifth School of Instruction at the Victoria Elementary School on January 19th. Speaking for the other nine first time attendees, Brother Carl Bassfield, Jr. #131 statements were greeted by Jr. Grand Warden Richard Townes #235.

Recovering from a mild cold, Most Worshipful Grand Master Shelton Riddick #323 directed Grand Secretary to address the changes of the constitution which will be acted on at the 2013 Grand Lodge Session.

Grand Lecturer Kerry Brown #61 then asked Committee on Work member PM Anthony Pride #43 and PM Thomas Jennings to discuss improvements during the opening ceremonies by brothers from the 14th & 16th Masonic Districts. Further instructions by the committee included degree work updates, the tiler's duties, and rules of etiquette. Along with GL Brown GL Edward Lattimore #13received questions and responses from Brothers Jerry Taylor #158, James Jennings #131, James Rowe #131, James Perkins #30, Frederick Harrison #108, Thomas Lewis #30, James Jones #146, Edward Henderson #23, and Donald Palmer #57.

As at the previous schools, GM Riddick re-emphized the importance of supporting the Grand Lodge Golf Tournament, the Ball, the Raffle, and the Cook-outs.

Awards were then presented to Victoria-Kenbridge #187 for the greatest number of members and West Lodge #57 for the highest percentage of members present. Brothers who accepted and passed the challenge of the Certificates of Merit were Kyle Johnson #287, Parnell Pesram #203, Kirk Bennett #132, and Marcel Dance #203.

Before closing, prayers were offered for DDGM James Borders #109 who was in a serious auto accident on the way to the school. Jr. Grand Deacon Beverly Morgan #298 who was at the scene stated that although the BMW was totaled, Brother Borders survived.

School in Northern Virginia

Falls Church – With Lincoln Lodge #11 sitting in their duty stations, WM Keith Williams #11 opened the fourth School of Instruction at the James Lee Community Center. While Grand Lecturer Kerry Brown #61 instructed the brothers on receiving Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Lecturer Edward Lattimore #13 charged Committee on Work member PM Thomas Jennings #293 with critiquing the opening.

The Grand Master then extended a welcome to over 16 first time attendees. Speaking for the new attendees, Brother Konah L. Terry #161 was complimented by Sr. Grand Warden Paige D. Cherry #3.

Addressing the constitutional changes, Grand Secretary Isaac Hughes #314 reminded the brothers that they would be voted upon at the 2013 Grand Lodge Session. Questions and responses were received from Brothers Reggie Clark #292, William B. Jones #161, Larry D. Baker #61, Eron Owens #142, Gary Baker #330, Roy Noel #293, Jeffrey Schons #58, Edward Henderson #23, Roderick French #298, Merrill Simms #292, William White #58, Al-Hadid Rollins #1, Reggie Washington #11, Herbert Walker #11, and James Manning #61.

After having his designates address the Golf Tournament, the Grand Lodge Raffle, and the Grand Ball, GM Riddick awarded the Most Members Present Award to Triangle Lodge #293 and the Highest Member Percentage Award to Metropolitan Lodge #161. Certificates of Merit were presented to Brothers Al-Hadid Rollins #1, Lateef Watson #293, Herbert Walker #11, James Miller #61, Rodrick Ward #61, Eron Owens #142, Derrick McCain #11, Christian Thompson #293, Larry T. Johnson #298, William B. Coleman #80, and Reginald L. Hawkins #293.

The Annual VA Hospital Visitation and Cook-In

By L. J. McCoy

Richmond – On an overcast and chilly Wednesday April 18, 2012, brothers from the surrounding districts took the time and opportunity to honor our veterans who made sacrifices for our liberty. Chairman of the event, PM Charles Jones #81, even assisted the brothers who were grilling burgers and hot dogs at the VA to assure that program would begin promptly at 11:30 AM.

Assisted by the hospital recreation therapist, Ms Constance Maziel, the chairman welcomed the veterans, the brothers, the sisters of the Eastern Star, and hospital staff who enjoyed the meal that was prepared, as well as the fellowship. Ms Maziel kept the event interesting by staging a raffle during the course of the day where lucky ticket holders won small, but inspirational prizes.

The VA Visitation which is in its sixth year now was the creative idea of Past Grand Master Curtis Vaughan, Jr. #67. Enlisting the support from Past District Deputy Grand Master George Ellis #, they designed the affair to coordinate in Hampton, Northern Virginia, Roanoke, and Richmond simultaneously. After serving as co-chair under Brother Ellis, PM Jones served as chair the second year up to present.

Grand Master Herman Eggleston, Jr. would have been proud to recognize the support from RWSGW Roger Brown #327, DDGM James S. Burrell #253, DDGM Edward T. Henderson #23, DDGM Larry Moody #7, ADDGM Joseph Diggs #23, ADDGM Darrin Hill #23, BOD/DDGM Floyd Brown, Sr. #128, Grand Worthy Matron Nettie Burrell-Warner, Grand Senital Charles A. Logan #217, Sister Erma Brown, Sister Carolyn Solomon, and Sons of Solomon Motorcycle Club of Petersburg who were also in attendance.

The spirits of the physically challenged vets elevated to greater levels as one vet show his appreciation by singing the National Anthem which inspired everyone to join in.

MWPHGL of VA's 2012 HAMPTON VA VISITATION

By WPM Raymond A. Sutton, III #13

Hampton – On Wednesday, April 18, 2012, the designated visitation date, "Mother Nature" decided not to cooperate with the best laid plans of DDGM Thomas L. Jefferson, Jr. #94 and WPM Braxton W. Mitchell, Jr. #90, our Hampton VAMC Program Coordinators. They had collaborated with Mrs. Judith Curtis, the Chief of Recreation/Voluntary Services, Ms. Monique Harris and Ms. Monica Adams, Recreation Therapists of the Hampton Veterans Administration Medical Center. The "Plan A" for the day was to cook out, pick-up the non-ambulatory Veteran In-Patients and have lunch at the spacious picnic area alongside the banks of Hampton Roads Waterway along with the VA Staff that could attend.

Mr. Glen Miller, a Recreation Therapist Assistant and our driver had delivered all the necessary supplies and foodstuffs by bus to the outdoor picnic area. Mr. Van Evans, Mr. Freddie Curry, Mr. Roy Johnson and Mr. Curtis Livingston of the VAMC Recreation Staff along with the younger Master Masons and the more agile senior Master Masons unloaded the bus in anticipation of complying with the day's "Plan A".

As the temperature dropped like a rock, DDGM "TJ", WPM Mitchell, Mrs. Curtis and Ms. Harris were convinced that the patients would not be very comfortable outside. Although the sun was shining brightly, the briskness of the morning air had soon turned to a definite chill. The decision to implement "Plan B" and move the picnic indoors to Building 148 was incidental to the last of the equipment off-loaded from the bus being set up. Subsequently, the reload of the bus was in order to relocate and the younger and agile were again pressed into service once again.

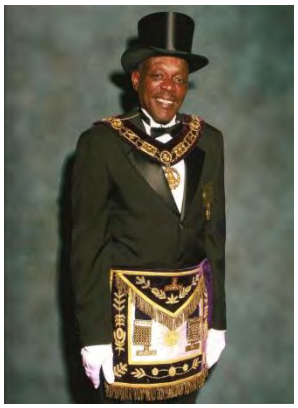
There were a total of sixty-three Brethren present from the Greater Tidewater Area at this gathering paying tribute to our veterans and representing the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, Free and Accepted Masons, Inc. Although many of the older Brethren present could not participate in the "heavy lifting" of this venture, they are most thankful and grateful for those more able bodied Master Masons who came out and performed the laborious tasks of this outing making it a success. They allowed their older Brethren to fraternize with their veteran counterparts who are disabled and hospitalized. WM Jose Ortiz of Lebanon Lodge #34 brought his son and candidate for Masonry, Mr. Trandon Ortiz who performed well with the Master Masons. The aforementioned actions of those able bodied Brethren and Mr. Ortiz's actions enabled us all to be "Masons On The Move".

The MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge of VA was ably represented and under the leadership of RWDGM Shelton Riddick #323, RWJGW Paige D. Cherry #3, RWJGD Donald S. Wilson #67, RWGL(E) George T. Cutler #80, MWPGM Billie L. Thompson, Sr. #46, MWPGM Curtis S. Vaughan, Jr. #67, WGSS Larry D. Spence #67, DDGM Michael D. Brown #106, DDGM Cecil T. Davis, Jr. #66, DDGM Curtis L. Gunn #3, DDGM Raymond A. Sutton, III #13, DDGM Thomas L. Jefferson, Jr. #94, DDGM Curtis M. Holland #256, ADDGM Alton Miles #196, ADDGM Erskine Dawson #132, ADDGM Joe L. Williams #66, ADDGM Isaac L. Curry #79, ADDGM Elbert E. Scott, Jr. #102, ADDGM James H. Johnson, Jr. #94, and PADDGM Robert Garris #80

Worshipful Masters representing their Subordinate Lodges were: WM Willie Morton, Jr. #13, WM Jose Ortiz #34, WM Tito George #54, WM James Craddox #90, WM George Thompson #106, WM Joseph M. Brown #167, WM Roger Bright #189, WM George Milteer #197, WM Mike A. Jenkins #229, WM Curtis M. Holland #256, and WM Emanuel F. Linsey, Sr. #289.

MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA, F&A MASONS, INC.

GRAND CHAPTER ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR OF VIRGINIA, PHA



MWGM Shelton Riddick

Annual Joint Grand Charity Ball

GWM Gracie H. Drake

June 15, 2013 – 7:00 P.M.

Marriott
NEWPORT NEWS AT CITY CENTER

740 Town Center Drive
Newport News, VA 23606

866-329-1758

Room Rate $112+tax Cutoff Date May 21, 2013

AN EVENING OF DINNING AND DANCING

TO CELEBREATE & ACKNOWLEDGE OUR

"GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY"

Tickets $70.00 Each

Ticket Deadline – June 1, 2013

Point of Contact

RWSGD Donald S. Wilson

(757) 499-3736

Attire: Formal Black Tie & Gown Required

The 137th Grand Lodge Session

Roanoke – After receiving administrative opening instructions from RW Grand Lecturer George T. Cutler, Jr. #80, the Committee on Work opened our 137th Annual Grand Lodge Session with WPM Antonio R. Pride #43 as Worshipful Master, WPM Howard Anderson #24 as Sr. Warden, and WPM Thomas Jennings #293 as Jr. Warden. RWGL-W Kerry R. Brown #61 then received, in turn, the attending DDGMs and Appointed Grand Lodge Officers, MW Past Grand Masters, RW Grand Directors and elected Grand Lodge Officers.

MW Grand Master Herman Eggleston, Jr. #146 was then properly received and seated in the East with the proclamation read by RWSGD Richard Townes #235. A partial Credentials Report identified that lodges #67, #13, #11, #46, and #204 were present by the Chairman of the Credentials Committee, DDGM John C. Harrison #142 who also reported that the session could legally open.

More than 30 brothers were recognized for their first time attendance to an Annual Grand Lodge Session. Brother Irvin Wood, III #314 spoke on their behalf and received a welcome from RWJGD Donald S. Wilson #67 and RWJGW Paige D. Cherry #3 responded to the welcome.

MWPGM Robert E. Harris #34 along with the other MW Past Grand Masters had managed a three-day scholarship fund raising raffle. The MW Past Grand Masters reported they had awarded three scholarships. Ms. Dante' D. Parker #208, Ms. Shantel R. Jones #142, and Ms. Raven A. Randall #177 were the recipients.

RW Deputy Grand Master Shelton Riddick #323 gave expressions before formally introducing MW Grand Master Herman Eggleston, Jr. who then gave his Annual Address. After highlighting issues on leadership, necrology, the state of the nation & craft, the KOP, and his official acts, MWGM Eggleston made two recommendations. Those recommendations included 1) Allowing membership at 18 years of age and 2) the number of directors shall be fixed by the Constitution and elected annually.

The Grand Lecturers then gave the dates of the 2012-13 Schools of Instructions which included November 10th – Staunton, November 17th – Tidewater, December 1st – Martinsville, January 12th – Alexandria, January 19th – Victoria, January 26th – Petersburg/Suffolk, and February 2nd Richmond.

RW Grand Secretary Isaac S. Hughes #314 and RW Grand Treasurer James E. Watkins, Jr. #44 gave their financial reports and included information for the applications for Subordinate Lodge Secretary and Treasurer of the Year.

Following the Board of Director's report given by RWGD Floyd M. Brown, Sr. #128, the RW Grand Secretary read the proposed Constitutional changes that were laid on the table to be voted on at the 2013 Grand Lodge Session. Briefly they included a lodge three months in the arrears could not vote at the Grand Lodge Session, the joining/rejoining fees would increase, the Assistant DDGM job would be defined, assessments would be paid within a 30-day window, and the establishment of several committees.

MWGM Eggleston yielded to MWPGM Harris who conducted the nominations of officers. Making a motion to advance and seat all present line officers was made by MWPGM Billie L. Thompson, Sr. #46 which was then properly seconded and the motion was carried. Nominations for Right Worshipful Jr. Grand Deacon included RWPGL-W Beverly W. Morgan, Jr. and RWGL-E George T. Cutler, Jr. It was moved by DDGM Michael D. Brown #189 that the RW Grand Secretary and RW Grand Treasurer succeed themselves. The motion was seconded and passed. Nominations for RWGL-East were closed on the singular name of WPM Edward E. Lattimore, III #13. Nominations for RWGL-West included RWGL-W Kerry R. Brown #61 and WPM Arthur W. Deane #109. Nominations for Grand Directors included MWPGM Billie L. Thompson, Sr. #46, RWGD Floyd M. Brown, Sr. #128, and MWGM Herman Eggleston, Jr. #146.

The election results were disclosed on Saturday, September 14, 2012 with the following: MWGM Shelton Riddick #323, RWDGM Roger C. Brown #327, RWSGW Paige D. Cherry #3, RWJGW Richard Townes #235, RW Grand Treasurer James E. Watkins, Jr. #44, RW Grand Secretary Isaac S. Hughes #314, RWSGD Donald S. Wilson #67 and RWJGD Beverly W. Morgan, Jr. #262. WPM Edward E. Lattimore, III #13 was elected to RWGL-East, RWGL-W Kerry R. Brown #61 was re-elected as RWGL-West, and incumbent RWGD Floyd M. Brown, Sr. #128, and MWGM Herman Eggleston, Jr. were elected to the Board of Directors

MWGM-Elect Riddick, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Charity Raffle Committee announced that winners of the raffle were 1st Place, Jay Travis of Richmond; 2nd Place, Tim Winters of Chantilly and 3rd Place, Christina Harrison of Richmond.

The Grand Lodge received the visiting Jurisdiction from Washington DC represented by RWDGM MacKinnon W. Myers.

The Grand Lodge Session closed on Saturday with the installation of the elected Grand Lodge Officers and our new Most Worshipful Grand Master Shelton Riddick of Washington Lodge #323.

137th Annual Banquet

By WPM L. J. McCoy #33

Roanoke – It was Ladies' Night at the September 14, 2012 Annual Banquet where then Most Worshipful Grand Master Herman Eggleston, Jr. #146 presented each lady in attendance with a special gift for, "Just Being a Lady."

When formally introduced by the RWDGM Shelton Riddick #323, MWGM Eggleston stepped aside to allow MWPGM Lionell Spruill, Sr. #189 an opportunity to give expressions on the importance of the November 6th elections. The Grand Master then presented special honors to WPM Frank O. Johnson #109 at 83 and WPM Lewis W. Perry at 91 who have a total of 120 years of Masonry between them.

MWPGM Robert E. Harris, Sr. # 34, on behalf of all Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters, then presented three $100.00 scholarships to Ms. Raven A. Randall, Ms. Shantel R. Jones, and Ms. Dante' D. Parker.

Reclaiming the spotlight, MWGM Eggleston then presented distinguished Service Awards to WPM Douglas Gregory #183, WPM Walter Davis #295, WPM Linwood A. Carter #28, WPM Aaron L. Edmendson #146, WPM Edward T. Henderson #23, WPM Woodrow R. Wilson #28, WPM William Crews #203, WPM Kenneth R. Byrd #253, WPM Ricky A. Dews #204, WPM James Jones #146, WPM Curtis L. Gunn #3, and WPM Raymond A. Sutton III #13.

- Certificate of Appreciation to the 14th & 16th Masonic District,
- Secretary of the Year, S. E. Staton,
- Treasurer of the Year, Ernest Brent, Sr.,
- 3rd Place in the Jewel Contest, Mt. Gilead Alpha & Omega Lodge #46,
- 2nd Place in the Jewel Contest, Mt. Nebo Lodge #43,
- 1st Place in the Jewel Contest, Long Mountain Lodge #204,
- Past Master of the Year, Charles James #11,
- Co-Past Master of the Year, John Roster #280,
- Master Mason of the Year, Frank Stokes #146,
- Co-Master Mason of the Year, Howard Green #13,
- Small Lodge of the Year, Piedmont Lodge #75,
- Co-Small Lodge of the Year, Mt. Pleasant #31,
- Worshipful Master of the Year of Small Lodge, William Savage #75
- Co-Worshipful Master of the Year of Small Lodge, Gregory Reshar #31,
- Co-District of the Year-Small, 18th & 19th Districts,
- District of the Year-Small, 30th District,
- District Deputy Grand Master of the Year-Small, John C. Harrison #142,
- Co- District Deputy Grand Master of the Year-Small, Danny Plummer #31,
- Lodge of the Year of Large District, Lincoln Lodge #11,
- Co-Lodge of the Year of Large District, Sheba Lodge #17,
- Worshipful Master of the Year of Large District, Keith Williams's #11,
- Co- Worshipful Master of the Year of Large District, Lawrence Sorden,
- District of the Year-Large, 14th & 16th Districts,
- Co- District of the Year-Large, 12th District,
- Co- District of the Year-Large, 31st District,
- Co-District Deputy Grand Master-Large, Larry Moody #7,
- Co- District Deputy Grand Master-Large, Leonard C. Johnson #293,
- District Deputy Grand Master-Large, Wilbert Jones #235, and
- Grand Master's Cup, Isaac S. Hughes #314

MW Grand Master Eggleston concluded all presentations and awards by honoring his most ardent supporter, his wife, Mrs. Claudette Eggleston, with a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

Pictured left to right Brother Frank O. Johnson with GM Eggleston, GS Hughes receives Grand Master's Cup from GM Eggleston, and Brother Lewis W. Perry with GM Eggleston

47 Grand Lodge Scholarships Awarded

The Grand Lodge Education Committee evaluated 55 Scholarship Applications for 2012 and 47 met the committee's qualification standards. Based on a point system established by the committee, the applications were ranked.

Scholarships were presented to Jevon W. Baskerville, David L. Bland, Thomas R. Blount, Torrey J. Branch, Zhane Brown, Brianna N. Buffin, Korinth R. Carr, Daniele M. Childress, Jade L. Clark, Alvester E. Coleman, Alexis D. Crenshaw, Dionrri' D. Evans-Picot, Bryan C. Finney, Kierston T. Gillette-Pierce, Camara K. Glover, Jamila J. Glover, Debani T. Gordon, Debani T. Gordon, Brianna S. Gray, Olivia A. Green, RaShawn F. Hairston, Kayla N. Hinton, Andrea B. Holtz, Briana A. Jacobs, Da'Quan O. Johnson, Shantel R. Jones, Senora A. Joyner, Tiera J. Landford, Khaleed S. Legette, Delonte' D. Moseley, Kaya S. Nixon, Carlos W. Norwood, Bria L. O'Neal, Dante'D. Parker, Taizhe A. Parson, Andrea R. Person, Nia N. Prunty, Raven A. Randall, Christopher M. Rather, Janlisa L. Seward, Christopher C. Smith, Landis E. Smith, Whitney C. Spruill, Gerald E. Stone, Justin J. Wellons, Niegel L. Williams, Victoria A. Willis, and Ashanti A. Wright.

The 2012 Treasurer/Secretary School

Roanoke – What's the difference between a reinstated member and a rejoined member? What are the fees, if a reinstated member returns to the lodge within the year or greater than a year? Does getting a demit cause a break in your service for getting a Fifty Year Pin? These were some of the questions and situations the RWGS Isaac S. Hughes #314 and RWGT James E. Watkins, Jr. #44 entertained at the Treasurer/Secretary School on September 12, 2012. More than 90 Secretaries, Treasurers, and brothers received instructions on administrative duties and procedures for their Subordinate Lodges.

While Brother Raymond Bishop #35 suggested that everyone shouldn't be penalized for a demit breaking service, Brother Vincent Forbes #80 suggested that there should be a standard written 'healing' procedure for Non-Prince Hall Masons who wish to become Prince Hall Masons. MWPGM Robert E. Harris, Sr. #34 responded to a question on the method by which a brother who has been convicted of a felony may rejoin the Lodge. MWPGM Harris recommended that the Lodge's Investigation Committee complete an investigation and report back to the Lodge which would then vote on receiving or rejecting the brother.

RWGS Hughes also took the opportunity to discuss 25 & 50 Year Awards, Activity Reports, life & honorary memberships, and awards for the Outstanding Treasurer and Secretary of the Year.

RWGT Watkins focused on the importance of Lodges filing their Federal Tax Forms 990 or 990N. He stated, "While it is easy to file the 990N to keep your exempt status, he stated it is very hard to regain this status once lost". He also reminded us that when ordering your Prince Hall vehicle license plate from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, members must ask specifically for the Prince Hall Masonic plates to prevent your purchase of a Masonic plate from some other Grand Lodge. Our plates have a unique design.

Finally, a member eligible for 'reinstatement' is one who has been suspended by the Lodge and requests to return to the Lodge within a year of that suspension. A member whose suspension has been in effect for more than one year and requests to return to the Lodge rolls must apply to 'rejoin'. Further, when one receives a demit, at present, it is considered a break in your service time to your Subordinate Lodge as well as a break of tenure toward receiving a Fifty Year Pin from your Grand Lodge. The Fifty Year Pin is awarded only for fifty consecutive years, without break or suspension, of verified service.

Joint Prince Hall Day and Lodge of Sorrow

Roanoke – At the Annual Grand Lodge Communication, public services are conducted in order to recognize 'from whence we came' and to memorialize our deceased Brethren. Worshipful Grand Musician Nathaniel M. Boyd #297 sung "I'm a Living Testimony" as the Joint Prince Hall Day & Lodge of Sorrow Service was opened at 7:00PM at the Sheraton Roanoke Hotel and Conference Center on Wednesday, September 12, 2012.

As MC, RW Grand Lecturer George T. Cutler, Jr. #80 introduced RWGL Kerry R. Brown #61; Grand Chaplain, Rev. Waverly Brown #284; DDGM James O. Borders #109 and RW Senior Grand Deacon Richard Townes #235. RW Grand Secretary Isaac S. Hughes #314 was then called upon to introduce the various Masonic Houses represented and distinguished guests. In presenting the history of the MWPGM Prince Hall, RWGL Kerry R. Brown also delivered the purpose of the event.

The program's course then unfolded into the Lodge of Sorrow Service. Holding a symbolic token of our deceased Brethren, WPM Arthur W. Deane #120 acting as the Worshipful Master preformed the ceremony of the Lodge of Sorrow with assistance from WPM James Smith #109 as Sr. Warden and PM Roger Redd #109 as Jr. Warden. The ceremony was representative of the 'home going' of all Brothers who had passed since our last Grand Lodge Session.

After the ritualistic opening and service, WGC Rev. Waverly E. Brown #284 gave an inspirational sermon entitled "Rewards for the Haves". The Grand Chaplain molded his presentation from his youthful days as a baseball short-stop and the confidence he expressed in making difficult decisions while running the bases.

NAACP Voter Registration Drive

By PM James Manning III

Fredericksburg - On August 7, 2012, during America's Night Out Against Crime, Prince Hall Lodge #61 assisted the Stafford Branch of the NAACP during their Voter's Registration Drive by giving out 100 FREE hot dogs to the first 100 patrons who signed-in during this event.

In attendance were WM Larry Baker, SW Timothy Yates, JW Warren Mann, SS Milton Bratton, JS Ronald Slade, PM James Manning III, and PM Keith Jones Sr.

Arlington Lodge Helps Homeless

By JW Julius D. Spain, Sr. #58

Arlington - On Saturday, October 13, 2012, members of Arlington Lodge No. 58 F&AM and the Bee Hive Club Inc. participated in a community service project donating over $250.00 of "Health and Comfort" items to the A-SPAN Shelter located in Arlington, Virginia.

Arlington Lodge and the Bee Hive club Inc. have committed to partnering and volunteering with the A-SPAN staff to provide assistance when needed during the winter months.

While the mission of A-SPAIN is to secure permanent housing for Arlington's most vulnerable populations through outreach and relationships built on trust and respect, A-SPAN provides life-sustaining services for Arlington street homeless.

50 Year Masons in Emporia

By PM Christopher Hines #101

Emporia - Emporia Lodge #101 recognized Brothers Alfred Simmons, Stephen High, PM Hartwell High, Eugene High, PM Alexander Grant, and not pictured PM John Brown for recently receiving their 50 year pins and certificates as members of Emporia Lodge #101.

Grooming Tomorrow's Leaders

By PM Richard Spence #317

Petersburg - On Sunday, September 28, 2012 between 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm, the brothers from the 12th Masonic District conducted their third annual Grooming Tomorrow's Leaders Event. The program which usually is held in the Spring, was held in September this year in order to prepare the young men for upcoming school year.

This highly anticipated yearly event designed to expose and provide young boys with free haircuts, proper hygiene and grooming tips, dressing for success, mentoring opportunities, and information on the Knights of Pythagoras. The District Deputy of the 12th Masonic District Larry Moody was present and shared greetings and on behalf of the Most Worshipful Grand Master Herman Eggleston. The event was attended by Petersburg's Mayor Brian Moore and city officials from the Petersburg Police and Fire Department inspired and offered words of encouragement. This event was headed by past ADDGM Darrin Hill, who served as a moderator and organizer of the event.

Men about Progress Step Team also participated in the event by doing what they do best; stepping for all who were present. All of the young men in attendance left the event equipped with the fundamental skills needed to make a good first impression. The young men left with school supplies, fresh haircuts, and the wise council necessary for a successful school year. Congrats to the 12th Masonic District for another successful program.

Prince Hall #61 Helps Food Bank

PM James Manning III

Fredericksburg – On August 4, 2012, Prince Hall Lodge #61 assisted in preparing 1,772 boxes of food which provided sustenance for Senior Citizens and Low Income Families. This was reported to be the largest amount ever completed and in a record time of 2hrs.

In attendance were WM Larry Baker, SW Timothy Yates, SD Andre McDonald, Bro. Rodrick Ward, PM James Manning III, Bro. George Smith III, Mr. Steven Campbell, and Mr. James Gregory.

SC Legislators Honor JW Spain #58

On January 16, 2013, JW Julius D. Spain Sr. #58, a native of South Carolina, received a Concurrent Resolution by the 120th Session of the South Carolina General Assembly for his years of military service.

The members of the South Carolina General Assembly recognized and honored Master Gunnery Sergeant Julius Spain, Sr., of the United States Marines on earning an honorable mention for the 2012 *Military Times* Marine of the Year award.

St. John's Day in the 31st MD

By JW Julius D. Spain, Sr. #58

Arlington – The Most Worshipful Grand Master, The Honorable Shelton Riddick #323, proclaimed that Sunday, December 16, 2012 be observed as St. John the Evangelist Day.

As directed, an estimated 40 Master Masons from the 31st Masonic District attended worship services at Mount Olive Baptist Church, 1601 S.13th Road Arlington VA 22204. Reverend Dr. James E. Victor provided the following biblical context Sermon, "Give Me My Flowers". The reference text came from Matthew 2: 1-12. After the services we thank everyone for their attendance and donations.

Shiloh's Widow Breakfast

By WPM L. J. McCoy #33

Hopewell – With a hint of hesitation, Widower Dr. Valeria McCoy-Jones said, "The first date I had with the late PM Daniel Jones, Jr. #33 was in that booth right over there." As several members of Shiloh Lodge #33 have done for many years, we shared conversation about our members, the lodge, and the community.

WM Avon Miles, Sr. was pleased with committee chairs JW Michael Kidd #33 and PM L. J. McCoy #33 who planned the event at the Shoney's Restaurant on December 7th. One third of the 15 widows were present to enjoy breakfast, a gift bag, and a small financial token.

The WM had closing remarks that we will continue to honor those brothers who contributed so much to the foundation of this Prince Hall Lodge of Masons.

The 16th District OES Honors GDDO Shelia Cox

By WM Tonya H. Goode & L. J. McCoy

Pictured left to right PDDGM George Ellis, ADDGO Magnolia Rivers, ADDGM Joseph Diggs, DDGO Shelia Cox, WM Tonya Goode, & PDDGM Carroll Meekins.

Petersburg – The expressions throughout the district was, "Words cannot begin to describe the person of our own Grand District Deputy Organizer Shelia Cox."On December 2nd, the sisters, brothers and the community honored this member of Sunbeam Poplar Grove #130 in Southerland, Virginia who has served as Past Matron and current treasurer.

Sister Cox was appointed to a grand office by the late Past Grand Worthy Matron Dorothy Roberts. Having served as Flag Barer and on the Past Matrons Council, she was then appointed as Grand District Deputy Organizer for the 16th District.

As a devoted member of Rocky Branch Baptist Church in Southerland, she faithfully served as an usher and adult choir member. She has devoted her life to the care and development of children by teaching Vacation Bible School and working at the Children's Home of Virginia Baptist for over 25 years.

The program shared tributes and awards from WP Clarence Williams, WP Joseph Diggs, WM Ethel Ringer-White, District Chair PM Pearlie Brown, AGDDO Magnolia Rivers, her high school Class of 1969, and Hawkins Blow Youth Council #15.

Closing remarks by Sister Cox extended praises to God who without his grace and mercy no OSE scholarships, nor OES food banks, nor OES children programs would have been possible.

Beautification Day at Widewater Elementary

By PM James Manning III

Fredericksburg – On 19 August 2012, we assisted the Widewater Elementary School PTO members with their beautification initiative. WES is one of the two schools we adopted this year. The PTO President was extremely appreciative of our support.

In attendance were WM Larry Baker, Bro. Rodrick Ward, Bro. James Miller, Mr. Tony Walker, and Mr. Steven Campbell.

12th Masonic District Awards Banquet

By L. J. McCoy

Petersburg - It was a steamy 86 degrees outside on Halifax St., but a comfortably cool atmosphere of brotherly love on the inside of the Petersburg Masonic Temple. Over 180 brothers and guest celebrated with the 12th Masonic District, during their Annual Awards program on September 7, 2012.

As Master of Ceremonies, WM Lawrence Sorden #17 introduced program participants WM Clarence Williams #247, WM Avon Miles #33, and WM Cedric Lawrence #10; everyone was entertained by the gospel selections by Ms. Charlotte King-Reaves. Visiting Brothers Past MWGM Larry D. Christian #253, RWGJD Donald Wilson #67, Past RWGL Beverly "Butch" Morgan #298, and RWGL Kerry Brown #61 also enjoyed the fellowship.

After dinner, awards were presented by each of the ten lodges by the Worshipful Masters of the lodge or his designate. Pocahontas' WM Anthony Price recognized Joe M. Moore, Brother Taylor, Joseph A. Kemp, William H. Steele, and Willie E. Griffin; Abram's WM Cedric Lawrence recognized Thomas E. Taylor, Dave Liggins, Jr., and George Barnes; Eureka's WM Wilbert Bland, Jr. recognized Julius Harris and James Booker; Jerusalem's PM Robert Ferguson recognized Past DDGM Carroll Mickens; Sheba's WM Lawrence Sorden recognized Moses Williams, Terry L. Webster, Darryl Brown, and Hosa Bagley, Sr.; Shiloh's WM Avon Miles recognized Taylor L. Jones and L. J. McCoy, Jr.; Mt. Nebo's WM Gregory Whitted recognized James Crocker, ADDGM Joseph Diggs, ADDGM Darrin Hill, Antonio R. Pride, Gregory L. Goode, and Mark Campbell; St. Stephens' WM Clarence Williams recognized Sister Shelia Cox as DDGO; Moses/Gravel Run's WM Kevin Dillard recognized Robert Burrow, Franklin Steward, and Mrs. Rachel Dillard; and C. V. Wilson's WM James Spence recognized John Reid, Dominic Rakes, and Terrance Jones.

Assistance DDGM's also honored DDGM Larry Moody for his hard work and Mt. Nebo #43 honored PGM Larry Christian with a Mt. Nebo #43 evening jacket.

Before closing DDGM Moody made his own presentations to PM Terry Webster ##17, Past DDGM George Ellis #7, and the Honorable Rosalyn Dance for the Resolution she made to Prince Hall Masonry at the General Assembly.

ADDGM Joseph Diggs and Brother Terry Taylor present PGM Larry Christian a Masonic evening jacket.

Past Grand Master Franklin Delanor Roosevelt Lyons, Sr. departed this life October 27, 2012. He was well known among the citizenry of the Commonwealth of Virginia and other states. He was born March 20, 1937 in Nash County, North Carolina and at a young age, moved with his family to Richmond, Virginia. He received his education in the Richmond Public Schools and was a graduate of Maggie L. Walker High School where he received many awards and letters in football.

He was employed by Phillip Morris, Inc. and in November 1959 was one of the first black employees to enter the cigarette making department. He was also among the first group of blacks to be accepted as a Cigarette Making Machine Mechanic. After 34 years of service at Phillip Morris, Franklin retired in 1993.

Franklin was a member of Triumphant Baptist Church in Richmond where he was a past member of the Finance Committee and the Trustee Board serving as Chairman of this board from 1997 to 1999. He resided in Henrico County for over 30 years where he served as President of the Montezuma Garden/Oak Hill Civic Leagues. He was the past Chairman of the Transportation Safety Commission, member of the Recreation and Parks, member NAACP, and past member of the Richmond Urban League and Astoria Beneficial Club. He was also a candidate for Fairfield District Supervisor in 1995.

His Fraternal affiliations included Past Master Edward Jones Lodge #324, where he held the office of Assistant Secretary, Past High Priest Haggi Chapter #18, Holy Royal Arch Masons, Mt. Olivet Commandery #2 Knights Templar, East End Chapter #79 Order Eastern Star of VA PHA, Mocha Temple #7 A.E.A.O.N.M.S., Inc., Past Potentate Richmond Consistory #22, 33rd Degree Mason, and Sir Knight of Knights of Pythagoras.

His Grand Lodge affiliations included Chairman MWPHGL Convention 1986-90, Past Chairman of Club Virginia, Grand Lodge Ball Committee & Past Chairman, Assistant District Deputy Grand Master 1980-86, District Deputy Grand Master 1986-92 (awarded DDGM of the Year 1988-99), elected Right Worshipful Jr. Grand Deacon in 1992, and elected Most Worshipful Grand Master in 2002. He was instrumental in the Compact Signing of the Grand Lodge of the A.F. & A. M of Virginia and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, F. & A.M., Inc.

Our charismatic and devoted Past Grand Master Franklin Delanor Roosevelt Lyons, Sr. will be missed.

A Modern Masonic Family

By WPM Howard Green, Jr. #13 and WPM Raymond A. Sutton, III, #13

Hampton – Our Masonic Families are not immune to the tragedies, separations and/or divorces that assault the unions of a man and a woman outside of the realm of Masonry. We are but a microcosm of our overall society and when separations of any sort come along, we struggle to make our lives as normal as possible.

Brother Howard Green, Jr. became a member of Eastern Star Lodge, #13 in 1981, progressed through each of places and stations of his Lodge to become its Worshipful Master in 1987. In 1985, Howard formed the "B-square Masonic Bowling League". The league continued for the next twenty-four years and he served as the Secretary/Treasurer for nearly fifteen of those years.

His daughter Marjorie was born in 1991 and instantly won his heart.. In 1996 Marjorie joined the Grand Chapter's youth group, Naomi Assembly #40, at the early age of five. The 'bug' for the Masonic Family was planted as she traveled to many different benefit Prayer Breakfasts, Luncheons, Banquets and programs with her Dad. St. Johns Day Programs and Whitsunday Programs were very high on their lists. WPM Green served as his Lodge's Marshal from 1997 until 2011.

WPM Green and his daughter received spiritual nurturing, education and guidance from Gray's Missionary Baptist Church in Hampton, VA.

In 2009, as a graduating high school senior, Marjorie applied for a scholarship from the MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge of VA, F&AM, Inc. and she was honored to receive the top scholarship award from the Scholarship Committee. It was presented to her at Bethel High School's awards program by DDGM R. Sutton. At 18 years of age Marjorie joined Tidewater-Prince Hall, Chapter #24, OES where her Dad was the Worthy Patron. In 2011, she became Associate Conductress of her Eastern Star Chapter. She presently serves as the Conductress of her Tidewater-Prince Hall, Chapter #24. Each succeeding year, while at NSU, she has received added donations from the Grand Lodge Scholarship Fund.

These modern Masonic family members are still working today in their respective places in their OES Chapter, Blue Lodge, and Consistory serving as the Conductress, Associate Patron, Junior Warden, and Sentinel. They are still hanging-out together promoting the principals they've learned from their teachings.

Georgia State Delegate is Past Director's Daughter

Atlanta – On July 31, 2012, Ms. Karen Leeper Bennett won the democratic primary to serve the Georgia House of Representatives. Delegate Bennett is the daughter of Past Grand Director Robert and Past Matron Gracie Leeper from Richmond and is a member of Elizabeth Harris Chapter #86 OES PHA. Ms. Bennett won over three other challengers with 63% of the vote.

She has no republican challenger for her first term as State Representative to the Georgia 94th House District and will be sworn in into office in January.

As pastor to New Hope AME Church in Georgia, Delegate Bennett is owner of the Metro Therapy Providers Inc., a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., and a member of 100 Black Women.

As Sister Bennett has stated, "My top goal is to bring jobs to our district and promote economic development and education in Georgia."

WM Hamilton's Son Excels

By JW Julius D. Spain Sr.,

Quantico – WM Johnie Hamilton , of Triangle Lodge #293 and also a retired United States Marine Corps Chief Warrant Officer has volunteered countless hours of his personal time, not only in the local community, but also coaching and mentoring Marines aboard Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia.

Worshipful Master Hamilton states that, "Letting young men know how teamwork will help them excel in life, sports, and especially within the Marine Corps, they will travel further as a team than alone". WM Hamilton is also the proud parent of Mountain View High School senior wide receiver DaeSean Hamilton who has orally committed to play at Penn State University.

Hamilton received scholarship offers from 12 Division I programs. He chose the Nittany Lions after an official visit to State College, Pa. Hamilton amassed 64 receptions for 1,073 yards and 10 touchdowns this season. He helped lead the Wildcats (8-5) to the Northwest Region, Division 5 championship game, but wasn't able to play in that contest. He suffered a broken collarbone the week prior toward the end of a 14-13 victory over Potomac. Hamilton (6', 182 lb.) was a 2011 Free Lance-Star All-Area performer.

He was named the Commonwealth District Offensive Player of the Year and first-team all-Northwest Region this season. He chose the Nittany Lions over Virginia, Virginia Tech, Duke, Wake Forest, Illinois and Miami. Hamilton was a first-team All-Area performer in 2011. He was the Commonwealth District Offensive Player of the Year for the 2012 season.

Tidewater Youth Golf Association Completes 23 Years of Instruction

By DDGM C. L. Gunn #3

Portsmouth – Established in 1989 under the organization, direction and guidance of MWPGM Billie Thompson and PM Alton Hatton, the Tidewater Youth Golf Association, Inc. on Saturday, August 11, 2012 completed its 23rd year of providing golf instructions, golf etiquette and mentorship to several youths during the summer. PM Hatton, unable to continue to serve as a direction due to health reasons, turned the reigns over to MWPGM Thompson as Director with the assistance of Prince Hall Masons, DDGM Curtis Gunn and ADDGM Ike Curry as instructors and other adult and former student leaders. Each registered student was fitted and provided with a set up clubs by Mr. Warren Turner, instructor and Golf Equipment Manager. The summer's program began on June 16 with basic instructions and play at the City Park Golf Course conducted weekly, Monday through Thursday. Basic instructions included an introduction to the game of golf; different grips; putting; chipping; half, three quarter and full swing; and golf course skills, etiquette, and procedures when on the greens. Morning sessions were conducted from 9 to 12 noon and afternoon sessions on the golf course were conducted from 1 PM to 3 PM with individual and extra instructions provided as needed by Thompson and the instructors. The Association held its season ending tournament on August 11 where participation awards and individual flight trophies were presented during its banquet. The Association and its Board of Directors also presented a $300.00 scholarship to one of its graduating seniors scheduled to pursue his education at Radford University in the fall.

Shiloh Lodge #33 has 9th Gospel Extravaganza

By PM L. J. McCoy

Hopewell – On a beautiful autumn day, Shiloh Lodge #33 hosted the 12th Masonic District's Divine Sunday with its Ninth Annual Gospel Extravaganza. The September 30th event was held at Friendship Baptist Church in Hopewell. The program was under the direction of Master of Ceremonies PM Edward Odell Williams #33 where the welcome was extended by PM James Patterson #33 and a prayer followed by Rev. Dr. Rudolph Dunbar #33.

Under the leadership of DDGM Larry Moody #7, Asst. DDGM Joseph Diggs #43, and Asst. DDGM Darryl Hill #43, the program entertained the ten lodges from Dinwiddie, Hopewell, and Petersburg, as well as the surrounding community.

The chair of the program, PM Taylor L. Jones #33 (left), solicited men's choirs from First Baptist Church City Point, Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, and Friendship Baptist Church to entertain at the service. Taking advance of an opportunity to support our youth, the lodge presented three scholarships to Miss Aaliyah Parker, Mr. Shelton Winfield, and Mr. Darius Jefferson.

DDGM Moody #7 spoke on behalf of MWGM Shelton Riddick #323 that the program was beneficial for the community and paved a promising future for three of our future leaders.

Left to right PM Jones, WM Miles, parents of scholarship recipients, and DDGM Moody

Head of Houses

Deputy for the Orient	**Michael A. Parris**	Eminant Grand Recorder	**Tommy E. Campbell, Jr.**	Grand Worthy Matron	**Gracie H. Drake**
WGJ	**Ernest J. Hamilette, Jr.**	Royal Grand Chief Engineer	**Morris H. Mitchell**	Grand Worthy Patron	**Donnell Freeman, Jr.**
RGPM-LOCOP	**Marion H. Martin**	Most Royal Grand Commandress	**Alden G. Vaughan**	Grand Associate Patron	**Robert L. Chadwick**
RGTIM-Royal/Select Master	**Reginald V. Tolbert**	Most Ancient Grand Matron	**Rebecca A. Graves**	Grand Associate Matron	**Lois B. Morris**
Deputy Grand High Priest	**Samuel L. Rivers, Jr.**	State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler	**Ruth L. Horn**	Most Excellent Grand High Priest	**Rudy Baker**

LINE OFFICERS left to right DGM Roger Brown #327, SGW Paige Cherry #3, JGW Richard Townes #235, SGD Donald Wilson #67, and JGD Beverly Morgan #298

Grand Lodge Committees

Budget Committee
MWGM Shelton Riddick #323
RWDGM Roger Brown #327
RWGT James Watkins #44
RWGS Isaac Hughes #314
Chair Richard Dotson #107
Glen E. Motley #128
Elbert E. Scott, Jr. #102
Ronald T. Vernon #15

Charity
Isaac Hughes #314
PGM George H. Clemons #120
Ronald Berkley #25
Dwight R. Hagans #44
Joseph A. Staton, Sr. #67

Committee on Work
RWGL-WD Kerry Brown #61
RWGL-ED Edward Lattimore #13
Thomas Jennings #293
Antonio Pride #43
Roger Redd #109
James Spence #317
Shawn Howard #4 Consultant
Donald Wilson #67 Consultant
George Cutler #80 Consultant
Irving Spencer #80 Consultant
James Williams #44 Consultant

Community Relations
Edward T. Henderson #23
James O. Borders, Sr. #109

Convention Planning
RWGS Isaac Hughes #314
RWDGM Roger Brown #327
Chair Curtis Gunn #3
Co-chair Cecil Davis, Jr. #3
Joe Williams #66
Michael Brown #106
Alton Miles #196
Erskine Dawson #132
Isaac Curry #79
Elbert E. Scott, Jr. #102
John Amos #167
Shawn Wilson #229
Thomas L. Jefferson #94
James H. Johnson, Jr. #94
Curtis M. Holland #256
Woodard R. Wilson #288
Burton A. Staples #93
Kevin Murray #69
RWGL-WD Kerry Brown #61
RWGL-ED Edward Lattimore #13

Constitution
PGM Herman Eggleton, Jr. # 146
PGM Robert G. Davis #124
PGM Gilbert Tyler #27
RWGS Isaac Hughes #314
RWDGM Roger Brown #327
RWJGW Richard Townes #235
Walter E. Brown #18
George Cutler #80
Charles A. Jones #81
Leander L. Burnett, Sr. #61

Credentials
RWGS Isaac Hughes #314
Floyd M. Brown, Jr. #128
Raymond E. Redd, Sr. #81
Edward Patrick #290
Raymond Sutton, III #13
Clifton Johnson #80

Education
John Harrison #142
RWJGD Beverly W. Morgan #298
David Mosley #204
Henry Easton #249
Frederick A. Harrison #108
Keith R. Brown #128
Willie L. Wright, Jr. #3
Charles D. Marlow #327
Keith Williams #11

Founder's Day
Larry Moody #7
RWGL-WD Kerry Brown #61
RWGL-ED Edward Lattimore #13
RWGS Isaac Hughes #314
Joseph Diggs #43
Cedric Lawrence #10

Grand Ball
RWSGD Donald Wilson #67
RWDGM Roger Brown #327
Leonard Johnson #293
Curtis Gunn #3
Edward Henderson #23

Grand Master's Advisory Board
PGM Robert E. Harris, Sr. #34
PGM Robert G. Davis #124
PGM Billie L. Thomas, Sr. #46
PGM Lionell Spruill, Sr. #189
PGM Gilbert Tyler #27
PGM George H. Clemons #120
PGM Curtis S. Vaughan, Jr. #67
PGM Larry D. Christian #253
PGM Herman Eggleston, Jr. #146

Health/Medical
Harold Jones, III #114
Steven S. Legettee #121
Melvin Johnson #13
Antonio Adams #293
David E. Simmons, Jr. #20

History & Research
PGM Robert G. Davis #124
John Vaughan #324
Danny Lambooths, Jr. #11
Larry Haskins #188
Ronald A. Sherrill #237
Carroll L. Meekins, Sr. #16

Internal Audit
Steven S. Legette #121
David A. Williams #81
Robert S. Ashton, Jr. #314

Investment Review
RWGD Walter E. Brown #18
James E. Watkins, Jr. #44
Isaac Hughes #314
RWSGW Paige Cherry #3

IT/Process Improvement
Isaac Hughes #314
James E. Watkins #44
Floyd M. Brown, Jr. #128
Aaron V. Allen #106
Thomas E. Harris #92
Ruperto A. Williams #4
Brandon Gardner #23

Jurisprudence
MWGM Shelton Riddick #323
PGM Robert E. Harris, Sr. #34
PGM Billie L. Thompson, Sr. #46
PGM Lionell Spruill, Sr. #189
RWSGW Paige Cherry #3
RWSGD Donald Wilson #67
Beverly W. Morgan, Jr. #298
Irving Spencer #80

KOP – Youth
Calvin Ingram #187
William Crews #263
Daquan Reinhardt #237
Alexander Grant #
Stevon Green #142
Garry S. Waller #81
Edgar Green #324
Carl Albritton #298

PH Family Day Outings
RWGD Maurice Holland #133
RWSGW Paige Cherry #3
Committee On Work

Recreation
PGM Larry D. Christian #253
Thomas L. Jefferson #94
Michael D. Brown #106
John Amos #167
Michael Christian #253
Clyde A. Boyd #208
Robert A. Scott #11
Edward L. Ruffin #288
Byron Lawrence #256

Registration
RWGS Isaac Hughes #314
John C. Royster #280
Ronald Carter #92
Richard Dotson #107
Glen Motley #

Scholarship Raffle
RWDGM Roger Brown #327
RWGS Isaac Hughes #314
All DDGM's & ADDGM's

Social Action
George Winfield #25
Edward Mock #18
Clinton Gordon, Jr. #10
James Ward, Sr. 94
Benjamin F. Harrison #293
L. Demonds Stokes #10
RWSGD Donald Wilson #67

Strategic Planning
MWGM, RWDGM, & RWSGW, & RWJGW
RWGS Isaac Hughes #314
James E. Watkins, Jr. #44
RWSGD Donald Wilson #67
RWJGD Beverly W. Morgan #298
RWGL-WD Kerry Brown #61
RWGL-ED Edward Lattimore #13

VA Hospitality/Visitation
Charles A. Jones #81
Thomas L. Jefferson #94
John Amos #167
James O. Borders #109
James J. Johnson #94
Anthony Wallace #109
Larry A. Moody #7
Leonard Johnson #293
Rodger S. Hall #163
Matt Botts #330
Henry E. Badgett, Jr. #268

MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS, INCORPORATED

Roger C. Brown #327
R.W. Deputy Grand Master

Paige D. Cherry #3
R.W. Senior Grand Warden

Richard Townes #235
R.W. Junior Grand Warden

Gilbert Tyler #27
M.W.P.G.M. - **C.C.F.C.**

James E. Watkins, Jr. #44
R.W. Grand Treasurer

Isaac S. Hughes #314
R.W. Grand Secretary

Donald S. Wilson #67
R.W. Senior Grand Deacon

Beverly W. Morgan, Jr. #298
R.W. Junior Grand Deacon

SHELTON RIDDICK #323
Most Worshipful Grand Master
"Working Together In Unity"

$25.00 Facility Maintenance Fund

February 14, 2013
Worshipful Master, Wardens, Past Masters, Brethren of the Craft:
This letter is to inform you of a new initiative taken by the MWPHGL of Virginia Board of Directors.
A detail study of the facilities maintenance needs and requirements, both in Richmond and Kilmarnock, have been completed and presented below.

Richmond Building & Property
The BOD discussed the current and future use of the Richmond property. After much discussion the following items, in priority order, were established as requirements/actions for the Richmond property:

1) Replacement of all windows and repair the front door
2) Pressure wash the building and paint the exterior
3) Replace the wall paneling with dry-wall and paint the complete interior
4) Replace all carpet
5) Replace conference rooms and offices furnishing - tables, desks, and chairs
6) Update office equipment (computers/docking stations)
7) Landscaping

MWGM Shelton Riddick assigned RWGD Charles A. Jones as Chairman of a Committee to establish details, including cost, on how and when the above actions can be implemented.

Kilmarnock Building & Property
The BOD discussed the current and future use of the Kilmarnock property. After much discussion the following items, in priority order, were established as requirements/actions for the Kilmarnock property:
1) Establish parking lot
2) Purchase additional property
3) Replace all kitchen appliances and equipment
4) Add proper signage to clearly identify building
5) Add sound systems and overhead projection systems
6) Pressure wash, seal and paint exterior
7) Sheet-rock and paint interior
8) Establish recreation fields with proper equipment
9) Establish nature trails
10) Establish suitable housing for our KOP boys

MWGM Shelton Riddick assigned RWGD Walter E. Brown as Chairman of a Committee to establish details, including cost, on how and when the above actions can be implemented.
Both committee chairmen have completed their assignments and have issued preliminary reports. RWGD Charles A. Jones report shows a total cost of $92,000.00 to complete the items listed (above) under Richmond building and property. RWGD Walter E. Brown report shows a total cost of $249,468.00 to complete the items listed (above) under Kilmarnock building and property (excluding purchase additional property - #2). The total cost is estimated to be $341,468.00.

To pay for these projects, MWGM Shelton Riddick will ask the Craft, in September 2013, to approve a **$25.00 per man – per year Facility Maintenance fee** that will, if approved, become effective October 2014.

Attest:

Shelton Riddick
Shelton Riddick
Most Worshipful Grand Master

I S Hughes
Isaac S. Hughes
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary

"MASONS on the MOVE"
The Honorable Herman Eggleston, Jr..
Most Worshipful Grand Master
WISDOM
STRENGTH
BEAUTY
"UNITY"
WISDOM

Grand Master's Calendar of Events for 2013

JANUARY 5, Board of Director's meeting
12, School of Instruction in Northern VA
19, School of Instruction in Victoria
26, School of Instruction in Suffolk

FEBRUARY 2, School of Instruction in Richmond
16, District & Queen's Contest
23, Grand Worthy Matron Youth Day

MARCH 2, Board of Director's meeting,
15 – 17, Council of Deliberation in Fredericksburg
22 – 24, Mid-Atlantic Conference in Washington DC
30, SOI MRGC Cyrene's
31, Easter Sunday

APRIL 6, SOI - Heroines of Jericho
6, Grand Lodge Deputy Workshop
17, State-wide Veteran Visitation Richmond, Hampton, Northern VA
21, Veteran Visitation in Salem
29, Divine Worship Services

MAY 19, MWPHGL Golf Tournament, Williamsburg, VA
20, Founder's Day, Petersburg, VA
20, Order of the Eastern Star Whit Sunday

JUNE 1, Grand Master's Annual Golf Tournament
9, St. John the Baptist Day
15, Grand Lodge Charity Ball, Newport News Marriott Center City
30, Divine Worship Services

JULY 21 -24, Grand Session OES – Richmond
27, Grand Lodge Cook-out in the West
29, Divine Worship Services

AUGUST 11, Grand Lodge Cook-out in the East

SEPTEMBER
12th – 14th, 138th Grand Lodge Session – 725 Woodlake Dr. Chesapeake, VA

The Grand Master's Annual Golf Tournament

Saturday, June 1, 2013 at The KISKIACK Golf Club, 8104 Club Dr., Williamsburg, Virginia 23188
$320 per team or $85 per player, Registration 7 AM – Shotgun Start 8 AM
Awards for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd places, also Longest Drive, Closest to pin, $5000 for Hole in One, & a Putting Contest.
Make checks payable to **MWPHGL of VA** and mail to PGM Larry D. Christian, 241 Reflection Dr, Williamsburg, VA 23188 email Grand Secretary at rwgsmwphglva@aol.com

Contacts

PM Leonard Hawkins	ADDGM John Amos	DDGM Curtis Gunn	PM Edward Lattimore III	DDGM Michael Brown	PGM Larry Christian
804 271-7136	757 251-7971	757 593-4913	757 274-8211	757 547-6576	757 566-2066

Pre-Registration Deadline May 11, 2013

Grand Lodge Officers sitting left to right GS Isaac Hughes, SGW Paige Cherry, MWGM Shelton Riddick, DGM Roger Brown, JGW Richard Townes, and GT James Watkins. Standing left to right SGD Donald Wilson, GM James Brown, GD Maurice Holland, GL Edward Lattimore, GL Kerry Brown, Clifton Pierce, Ray Fisher, and JGD Beverly Morgan

A Tribute to Our Sisters of the Order of the Eastern Star

Sister Phillis Wheatly has been presented as a leader of Black thought of her time. Her poems were deeply religious and have been used to indoctrinate young Black minds. Wheatley's writing was widely acclaimed in her time and one poem even praised slavemaster George Washington on his appointment to the presidency. *Benjamin Quarles from The Hidden History of Washington, DC*

We encourage you to continue to furnish the ***Bee Hive*** with PERTINENT and RELEVANT information regarding your lodge and district activities. ALL INFORMATION for PUBLICATION and questions relative to the ***Bee Hive*** should be addressed to: ***Editor, Bee Hive Magazine, 2417 Osborne Rd. Chester, VA 23831 or e-mail to*** mccoygitlo@verizon.net.

The Most Worshipful
Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia,
F. & A. M., Inc.
P.O. Box 14646
Richmond, VA 23221-4646