

**MASONIC BULLETIN – FALL 2019 EDITION**  
**Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of WV, F. & A.M., Inc.**



OFFICE OF  
Jeffrey Calcote 33°  
MW GRAND MASTER

JURISDICTION OF WEST VIRGINIA  
350 Highland Street  
Huntington, WV 25705  
304-617-8524 [keelonhinton@gmail.com](mailto:keelonhinton@gmail.com)

**Message from MWGM Jeffrey Calcote, Sr. 33°**



Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I am truly honored to be re-elected as Most Worshipful Grand Master for a second year. The first year went extremely fast. As I am entering my 16<sup>th</sup> month as GM, the submission of this article allows me to pause and reflect on this administration's accomplishments and shortfalls. As I've stated previously, my goal is to increase our treasury and our membership. We managed to stop the hemorrhaging of our treasury by renting the former Bannum Place building in Clarksburg. The monthly revenue we receive covers the taxes and insurance costs for the property. We also received one year's rent from the head start school that was leasing our property in Carolina. Unfortunately, the school was unable to renew their grant and had to move out. Currently the property is vacant and we intend to sell it. The Grand Trustees are determining what our asking price should be. There are already several interested parties. We also have a firm offer to purchase the former King Hiram Abiff #25 building in Beckley. I'd like to recognize the Grand Trustees for managing to yield revenue for this Grand Lodge.

I haven't seen the exact numbers, but a few of our Lodges have taken in several new members. We have also granted a new charter to Bluefield Lodge. We continue to pursue the possibility of starting Lodges on college campuses. I've discussed this initiative with a few of our Grand officers as well as Grand Officers I've met from foreign jurisdictions during my travels. I am currently evaluating the pros and cons that may occur.

We now are in the process of planning for the 2020 Mid-Atlantic Conference which we will be hosting in Martinsburg. We have also established the Convention committee for our 143<sup>rd</sup> Grand Communication in Wheeling. I sincerely thank all the committee members for working hard to make both of these events a success.

Once again it is truly an honor and a pleasure to serve as the 57<sup>th</sup> MWGM of this great Jurisdiction. As I and our line officers have traveled, we have established many relationships with other Grand

Officers and I believe they see that Prince Hall Masonry is alive and well in West Virginia.



**MWGM Jeffrey M. Calcote, Sr. 33° Presiding**



**Dias: PGM Harold Stewart; GM Calcote; PGM Leonard Claytor; PGM Phillip Adams; PGM George Childress, Jr. Front: Rev. Carl Johnson, Chaplain**

**Visitors to the 142<sup>nd</sup> MWP HGL of WV, F. & A. M., Inc. Grand Communication**



**PGM Phillip Adams, RWSGW Morgan Va., RWDGM Osborne from MD, GM Calcote, DGM Elmore, MWGM Gant D.C., PGM Murray D.C., PGM David D.C.**



**MWGM Jeffrey Calcote's Visitations**



**MWGM Calcote Visiting the Jurisdiction of Minnesota Grand Session**



**GM Calcote attending 126<sup>th</sup> Imperial Council Session, A.E.A.O.N.M.S., Inc. Session in Maryland**

**Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge  
OF WEST VIRGINIA, F. & A. M., INCORPORATED  
Organized 1877 A.L. 5877**



Kelvin H. Elmore, 32°  
R.W. Deputy Grand Master  
3518 Elm Street  
Weirton, WV 26062

**HON. Jeffrey Calcote, 33°**  
**M.W. Grand Master**  
2 Locust Avenue  
Wheeling, WV 26003

Kenneth L. Hale, Sr., 33°  
R.W. Senior Grand Warden  
P. O. Box 20304  
Charleston, WV 26507

Stephen Holmes 32°  
R.W. Junior Grand Warden  
P. O. Box 569  
Shepherdstown, WV 25443

Ray B. Woods, Jr., 32°  
R.W. Grand Treasurer  
1518 Court Avenue  
St. Albans, WV 25177

Keelon Hinton, 32°  
R.W. Grand Secretary  
350 Highland St.  
Huntington, WV 25705

Leonard L. Claytor, 33°  
WCCFC & Public Relations  
P. O. Box 494  
St. Albans, WV 25177

October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

Tribute to Honorable Elijah Cummings

U.S. Congressman

U.S. House of Representatives

**Whereas**, It has pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to remove from our midst our late brother Elijah Cummings, and

**Whereas**, our well beloved brother, whose name was the synonym of honor, whose heart, the throne of charity, and whose entire life has been radiant with that goodness which emanates only from a soul dedicated to his work, has softly, "fallen asleep" and

**Whereas**, he served the Prince Hall Jurisdiction of Maryland as a U.S. Congressman, and

**Whereas**, his exemplary service was recognized throughout the U.S and the world, and

**Whereas**, it is but just that a fitting recognition of his many virtues should be had: therefore be it

**Resolved**, by the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of West Virginia of Free and Accepted Masons, that, while we bow with humble submission to the will of the Most High, we do not the less mourn for our brother who has been taken from us.

**Resolved**, That, in the death of Bro Elijah Cummings, this Grand Lodge laments the loss of a brother who was an active member of this fraternity, whose utmost endeavors were exerted for its welfare and prosperity; a friend and companion; a citizen whose upright and noble life was a standard of emulation to his brothers.

**Resolved**, That we extend to the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy in this their great sorrow and pray that He who hath so sorely wounded their loving hearts may comfort and sustain and enable them to look beyond the darkness of the tomb and rejoice that their loved one, freed from pain, has entered into the "eternal Sabbath day's rest", for which he had so often yearned. May their hearts be lifted up and may they rejoice in the memories of his life here on earth.

**Resolved**, that these resolutions be spread upon the records of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of West Virginia, and a copy thereof be transmitted to the family of our deceased brother

Hon. Jeffrey M. Calcote Sr.  
MWGM

Attest: Dr. Keelon Hinton  
RW Grand Secretary

**Services for Congressman Brother Elijah Cummings**



**Grand Masters Attending Testimonial for MWGM Emmanuel Stanley of Maryland**



**MWGM Calcote and PGWM Angelina Calcote Attending MD Testimonial**







# *Hollywood Lodge #92 Amityville*

F. & A.M. Prince Hall Affiliate  
WM Robert Gomez 32, Worshipful Master

## *"Past Masters Gala"*

Saturday, November 9, 2019  
9:00pm-1:00am

### *Royal Palm Banquet Hall*

2143 Boundary Avenue.  
Farmingdale, New York 11735



**Honoree of the Evening**

MW Jeffrey Calcote  
Grand Master of the Most Worshipful  
Prince Hall Grand Lodge of West Virginia

**Black Tie Affair**

**\$100.00 per ticket**

**Featured Entertainment**

**Jeff Foxx Band**



**All Are Invited**

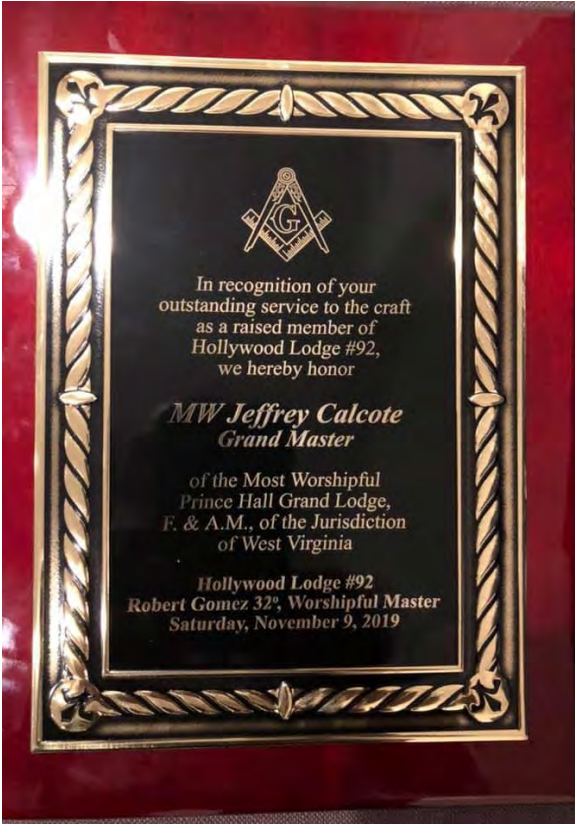
**For information please contact:**

SW Cesar Caro 32, President Blue92 SQ Club  
PM Maurice Evans, Chairperson: 516.473.9080  
PM Jimmy Thomas, Co-Chairperson: 516.450.7550  
Bro. Kevin Booker, Ticket Chairperson: 516.672.6684

**Music By:**

DJ R&B  
Untouchable Krew

Pics from the Annual Past Masters Gala given by Hollywood Lodge # 92 in NY. Great food, Great fellowship Great Music. RWSGW Kenneth Hale and his wife Demetrius travelled with me and my family to attend the event. Thank you RW Hale for your dedication and support.







### **RWDGM Kelvin H. Elmore 32°**

First and foremost in my life, I must always give thanks to our Father who resides in Heaven and to his son Jesus, the Christ Child, who died for the pardoning of our sins. I shall remain a servant and one day hope to sit before him and hear the words; “WELL DONE MY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT.”

Once again, I come to you, the Craft of The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of West Virginia. It is my pleasure to continue as your Duly

Elected Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master and I humbly thank each and every one of you for entrusting these duties to one such as I. I would like to let you know that our Jurisdiction has made progress in some forms, but there is still work that needs to be done. The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of West Virginia is one of the smaller Grand Lodges in this Prince Hall Family, but we are far from the smallest. With that being said, I would like to ask everyone to put on the working gloves, put on the Work boots, put on those work clothes and come out ready, willing and able to promote our Craft. Let me give an example of what is necessary today; Our Grand Master was given and accepted the task of hosting The Mid Atlantic Grand Masters Conference in May 2020. The venue of Martinsburg, WV has been chosen for this event. We will be hosting Washington, D.C., Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. They will all come to enjoy our hospitality and to see our beautiful State. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have each and every one of you on site to aid and assist? We need West Virginia to show up and show out. I made a proposal to contact each and every Past Grand Master to personally get involved and share their great knowledge of attending or hosting this event. I haven't heard back from any of the Brothers or Past Grand Masters yet, but hope is in my heart. Furthermore, on the subject of work, West Virginia Masons must come out of their comfort zones and do a lot more to promote Masonry within our State. There are some young people out here that are looking for "LEADERSHIP" and we can fill that void. If we just sit on our laurels and do nothing, then how are we to grow? We are in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and things have drastically changed in our communities of color and we can make a difference.

Operative Masons Travelled far and wide to build the most beautiful structures in the World. We as Free and Accepted Masons are Speculative and we too travel far and wide, but our task is to build "MEN", men who will therefore go forth and build more men. We have built doctors, Lawyers, corporate businessmen, judges, Senators, and more. Operative Masons had to shape, fashion, and hone their tools on a constant basis. They had to stay on top of their Profession in order for them to attain work and to draw more to their craft. We too as Speculative Masons need to do the same in order to draw men into this "DISTINGUISHED ORGANIZATION." Our path was placed before us more than a Century ago. That path was fought for and attained by Prince Hall and the 14 Noble Men that were with him. We must cling to that "LEGACY" that they left us. Stand, be strong, be knowledgeable, and be true Masons. King Solomon, Hiram the King of Tyre, and King Hiram Abiff set forth to build the Temple in which the Spirit of God could dwell in. We continue that work by making "MEN" into a Temple in which the Holy Ghost could dwell in. Stay true my Brothers unto that oath or obligation that you knelt and repeated. I will end by giving God's blessing upon all who read these words. God is the Creator and he has endowed us with certain strengths in which we should be proud. Keep your eyes towards Heaven where cometh your blessings. God Bless you.



**The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of West Virginia's visitation to Virginia. Brother Calvin Burks, RWDGM Kelvin Elmore, RWJGW Stephen Holmes, RWSGW Kenneth Hale, WG Marshall Robert Holmes.**



## **RWSGW Kenneth L. Hale, Sr. 33°**

### **Blast from the Past**

Brethren, in our deliberations, let us be actuated by the highest and purest motives, so that whatever may be accomplished in the way of legislation for the good of the Craft, will be a credit to all. Let us meet as become Master Masons, invoking the Divine guidance or the Grand Master of the Universe in all we do. Let us act as Master Masons and part as such, so that when we return to those of our brethren who have sent us here, we can do so feeling that we have discharged the duties of our several stations with honesty and fidelity to the trust reposed in us. Let us not be unmindful of the manifold blessings of Almighty God who has saved the lives of so many of us and enabled us to meet here on this important occasion to exchange fraternal greetings and renew our pledges of devotion to the best interest of Free Masonry.

Free Masonry comprehends within its circle ever branch of useful knowledge and learning, and stamps an indelible mark of preeminence on its genuine professors which neither

chance, power, nor fortune can bestow. When its rules are strictly observed, it is a sure foundation of tranquility, amid the various disappointments of life. It is a friend that will deceive a brother, but will comfort and assist in prosperity and adversity; a blessing that will remain with all times, circumstances and places and to which recourse may be had when other earthly comforts sink into disregard.

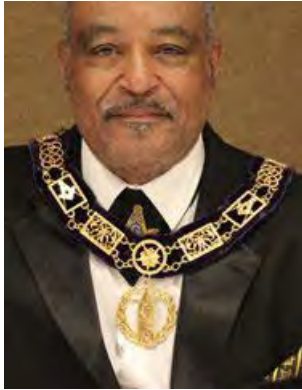
Masonry gives real and intrinsic excellence to man, and renders him fit for the duties of society, it strengthens the mind against the storms of life, paves the way to peace, and promotes domestic happiness, it ameliorates the temper and improves the understanding; it is company in solitude, and gives vivacity, variety and energy to social conversation. In youth, it governs the passion, and employs usefully our most active passions; and in age, when sickness, imbecility and disease have rendered the union of the soul and body almost intolerable, it yields an ample fund of comfort and satisfaction. These are its general advantages; to enumerate them separately would be an endless labor.

It may be sufficient to observe, that he who cultivate this science, and acts agreeably to the character of a Mason, has within himself the spring and support of every social virtue; a subject of contemplation that enlarges the mind and expands all its powers; a theme that is inexhaustible, ever new, and is always interesting.

Brethren, Free Masonry breathes nothing but the spirit of love and charity to all mankind, it cooperates with true religion in regulating the tempers of man; in one hand it holds the olive branch of peace, in the other, the liberal offerings of universal charity. The distinguished characteristic of our institution is charity in its most ample sense. That charity which has been justly described as the chief of all the social virtues, this virtue includes a supreme degree of love to the Great Creator, and unlimited affection to the beings of His creation, of all characters, and of every denomination. This last duty is forcibly inculcated by the example of the Deity Himself, who liberally dispenses His beneficence to unnumbered worlds.

Brethren, you are enjoined every to bear in mind and act upon the dictates of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth; the first rendering us affectionate; the second, generous, and the third, just.

## **RWJGW Stephen Holmes 32°**



Elected to the position of Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden at the 2019 Grand Session.

Appointed by seven MWGMs as the 1st District Deputy, Jurisdiction of West Virginia, serving fourteen consecutive years in this position.

An active member of the Brothers of Harmony Masonic Lodge #42 for 24 years. Have held all offices excluding the positions of secretary and treasurer. Elected as Worshipful Master three consecutive years. Member of the Royal Arch, Knights Templar, and I.M. Carper 192, serving as Commander in Chief three consecutive years.

Brothers of Harmony Lodge #42 was formed in 1978 by a group of men, most of whom resided in Shepherdstown. They were a group of Gospel singers called the called Brothers of Harmony. The first elected officers of BOH #42 were as follows:

WM Clarence Branson  
SW Richard Clark  
JW Dan Weaver  
Treasurer Newton Washington  
Secretary Eugene Roman  
Appointed Officers:  
SD Charles Branson  
JD Ed Kidrick  
Tyler Robert Thomas

\*\* Blessed to be a part of the great organization pertaining to masonry. Have seen many changes during my tenure. The structure of our lodge facility is amazing. I used to go there for dances and functions when I was in Junior High School. At that time, it was only one level, and there were no secondary rooms. The Brothers of Harmony personnel transformed the structure after working their daily jobs. Photos of the transformation will be sent for inclusion on the MWPHGL site. The one-story cinder block building was purchased from a social group called the Fourteen Hundred Club, many of whom were relatives of Brothers of Harmony personnel. Brother Phil Adams had joined the lodge at that time and was elected as Worshipful Master for three consecutive years and spearheaded the progression of the structure with the strong support of the lodge brothers. PGM Adams stated that he believes a lodge is only as strong as its leadership.

According to informational data, MWGM Calcote 33° will be visiting Brothers of Harmony Lodge #42 on November 14, 2019 at 8:00 AM to 5:00PM.

Current BOH #42 Officers: WM Keenan Puller 32°, SW Marty Brown 32°, JW Silas Johnson 32°, Secretary, John Stevenson 32°, Treasurer, PGM Phil Adams 33°, various appointed officers also function.



PM, PGWP Charles Ferguson 33°, PRWGT John Stevenson 32°, PGM George Rutherford (Star Lodge #1), PGM, PRWGS Harold Stewart 32° (Star Lodge #1), BOH #42 Secretary Emeritus Henry Grantham, MM Clarence Creamer, PM James Taylor 32° (Star Lodge #1), have passed their 80th birthday. Congratulations. Thank you for your service. Star Lodge #1, and Brothers of Harmony Lodge #42 continue to make contributions to their district and immediate communities. During the month of August, these respectful lodges participated in the Annual African American Festival Parade and activities. Photos have been submitted.

Last Saturday the Brothers of Harmony Masonic Lodge #42 participated in the Annual Shepherdstown Fire Department Apple Butter Festival. Photos have been submitted.

Past Grandmaster George Rutherford (Initiation of Prince Hall Masonry in the Jurisdiction of West Virginia), PGM Harold Stewart (History of Star Lodge), PGM Phil Adams (History of Brothers of Harmony Lodge #42) have been requested to speak on the topics listed with their names. PM Charles Ferguson 33° has also been asked to speak about his tenure in MWPHGL F & AM INC., Jurisdiction of West Virginia.

This respectfully concludes the submission of my contribution to the Fall Masonic Bulletin.

**RWG Treasurer Ray B. Woods, Jr. 32°**



**RWG Secretary Keelon Hinton 32°**



**THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
F. AND A. M. INC.**

**ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS 2019 - 2020**

**ELECTED OFFICERS**

**MWGM** Jeffrey Calcote - 2 Locust Avenue; Wheeling, WV 26003  
Ph: 304-312-9301

**RWDGM** Kelvin H. Elmore - 3518 Elm Street; Weirton, WV 26062  
Ph: 304-748-1393

**RWSGW** Kenneth L. Hale Sr. - P. O. Box 20304; Charleston, WV 25362  
Ph: 304-542-5898

**RWJGW** Stephen Holmes - P.O. Box 569; Shepherdstown, WV 25443  
Ph: 304-268-6151

**RWG Treasurer** HPGM Ray B. Woods, Jr. - 1518 Court Avenue; St. Albans, WV 25177  
Ph: 304-722-3076

**RWG Secretary** Keelon Hinton - 350 Highland Street; Huntington, WV 25705  
Ph: 304-617-8524

**RWG Trustee** Demetrius Lathon - E. Paxton Avenue; Wheeling, WV 26003  
Ph: 304-312-1950

**RWG Trustee** Michael W. Branson - 112 Gauguin; Martinsburg, WV. 25403  
Ph:304-279-2090

**RWG Trustee** Steven E. Hill - 59 Tottenham Circle; Martinsburg, WV 25404  
Ph: 301-706-6917

**RWG Trustee** John Collier - P. O. Box 475; Kimball, WV 24853  
Ph. 304-585-7066

**RWG Trustee** Thaddeus L. Law II - 451 Brooke Avenue; Morgantown, WV 26505  
Ph: 304-685-3020

**RWG Trustee** Christopher L. Brown - 272 Jefferson Terr. Rd, Charles Town, WV 25414  
Ph: 304-433-6725

**RWG Trustee Emeritus** Raymond P. Smith - 8077 Cost Avenue; Stonewood, WV 26301  
Ph: 304-622-4256

**WORSHIPFUL APPOINTED OFFICERS**

**WG Assist Sec'y** Vacant

**WGS Deacon** John Birckhead - 4716 Greenspring, Ave. Apt. T4; Baltimore, MD 21215  
Ph: 304-596-1946

**WGJ Deacon** James W. Ivy, Jr. - 1402 Lee St., East, Apt. 1; Charleston, WV 25301  
Ph: 304-444-4088

**WG Chaplain** Rev. Carl Johnson - 174 Eagle Terrace Blvd; Harold, KY 41635  
Ph: 606-794-2270

**WGS Steward** Curtis McGhee, Sr. - 67473 Willow Street; Bridgeport, OH 43912  
Ph: 740-633-2533

**WGJ Steward** Johnny W. Johnson, Jr. - 321 Boyd Avenue; Martinsburg, WV 25401  
Ph: 304-267-2588

**WG Lecturer** Phillip Forrest - 1201 Grosscup Avenue. Unit 5; Dunbar, WV 25064  
Ph: 334-296-3911

**WCCFC/PR** PGM Leonard L. Claytor - P. O. Box 494; St. Albans, WV 25177  
Ph: 304-541-0167

**WG Marshal** Robert Holmes - 480 Hughes Road; Charles Town, WV 25414  
Ph: 304-620-0028

**WG Comm of Ed** Rod Lee - 1123 Lind Street; Wheeling, WV 26003  
Ph: 304-280-9960

**Director of Youth/  
Pythagoreans** Keenan Puller - 106 Byrd Drive; Martinsburg, WV 25401  
Ph: 304-616-2519

**W Ed of Masonic  
Bulletin** HPGM Ray B. Woods, Jr. - 1518 Court Avenue; St. Albans, WV, 25177  
Ph: 304-722-3076

**WG Historian** Vacant

**License Plate  
Coordinator** HPGM Ray B. Woods, Jr. - 1518 Court Avenue; St. Albans, WV, 25177  
Ph: 304-722-3076

**WG Convention  
Chairman** Michael Lee - P. O. Box 6072; Wheeling, WV 26003

**WG Tyler** Charles Kidrick - P. O. Box 177; Shepherdstown, WV 25443  
Ph: 304-876-2693

**Director of  
Communication** Paul Rosario - 244 Starkeys Landing; Shepherdstown, WV 25443  
Ph: 304-261-0282

#### **DISTRICT DEPUTIES OF THE GRAND MASTER**

**First District** Bernard Fennell - Baron Drive; Martinsburg, WV 25405  
Ph: 304-262-8962

**Third District** Maurice Clemmons- 24 Helen Kelly Five; Logan, WV 25601

**Fifth District** Thomas Conner III - 6 Parkwood Road; Huntington, WV 25705  
Ph: 304-989-3312

**Sixth District** Michael Lee - P. O. Box 6072; Wheeling, WV 26003  
Ph: 304-238-8105

**DDGM At-Large** William Curenton - 328 Steel Blvd; Weirton, WV 26062  
Ph: 304-479-6875

**PGM's Council** PGM Phillip R. Adams – 384Bernice Avenue; Martinsburg, WV 25401  
Ph: 304-262-3861

**Long Range  
Planning Cmte** Ray B. Woods, Jr. - 1518 Court Ave., St. Albans, WV, 25177, Ph: 304-  
Ph: 304-722-3076

**Membership** James (JT) Thomas - P. O. Box 677; Morgantown, WV 26507  
Ph: 304-598-3730

**Budget** PGM Harold E. Stewart - 9029 Charlestown Road; Charles Town, WV  
25414 Ph: 304-725-7164

**WG Photographer** Ronald Sinclair - 151 Elcrest Dr; Wheeling, WV 26003 Ph: 304-280-1269

### **JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE**

Stephen Holmes – P. O. Box 569; Shepherdstown, WV 25443. Ph: 304-268-6151

Kenneth Hale - P.O. Box 20304; Charleston, WV 26507. Ph: 304-542-5898

Thomas Conner III - 6 Parkwood Road; Huntington, WV 25705. Ph: 304-989-3312

PGM Phillip R. Adams - 384 Bernice Avenue; Martinsburg, WV 25401. Ph: 304-262-3861

John Stevenson - 4514 Morgan Road; Morningside, MD 20746

### **GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS**

PGM Paul Mitchell - 624 Walnut Street; Monongah, WV 26554. Ph: 304-534-3420

PGM Leonard Claytor - P. O. Box 494; St. Albans, WV 25177. Ph: 304-541-0167

PGM George C. Childress, Jr. - 399 Zebulon Heights; Pikeville, KY 41501 Ph: 859-361-1779

**Brothers preparing for the 142nd Annual Grand Session of the MWPHGL of WV, F. & A. M., Inc**



**DDGM At Large William "Ox" Cureton, Most Eminent Grand Commander Ed Green and MW Grand Master Jeff M. Calcote, Sr during the 142<sup>nd</sup> Annual Grand Session of the MWPHGL of WV, F & A M, Inc.**

**RWG Treasurer Ray B. Woods, Jr.; GM Calcote; RWDGM Kelvin Elmore & MEGC Ed Green**



**Brothers of Harmony #42, F. & A. M.**





**PM Calvin H. Woods #4 & SW Samuel Hudson #4**



**PM J T Thomas #11**

**PGM Harold E. Stewart**



**Mr. James E. Griffin 2019 Keynote Banquet Speaker**



**PM Michael Antonio Williams and GM Calcote**

**Gift from King Solomon #5**



**MWHPGM/GWP Raleigh L. Collins, Sr. with  
PGWM Lilly Collins. GWP Collins was  
Designated as a Most Worshipful Honorary  
Past Grand Master by MWGM Jeffrey Calcote  
at the Annual Banquet.**



**PM William Curenton; WGJD Curtis McGhee; RWDGM Kelvin Elmore**



**Brothers of Harmony Lodge #42, F. & A. M. recognized by GM Calcote as the “Best Lodge” in the Jurisdiction**



**MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND WORTHY MATRON  
ANGELIA RUSSELL**



I would like to thank all of you for electing me as the Grand Worthy Matron of Electa Prince Hall Grand Chapter, O.E.S, P.H.A Jurisdiction of West Virginia for the ensuing year 2019-2020.

I especially would like to thank the participants that made my charity (Parkinson’s Disease) a success for 2019. The ensuing year we want to work just as hard for my charity which will be Diabetes.

Once again, I am honored to be elected as your Grand Worthy Matron of Electa Prince Hall Grand Chapter, O.E.S, P.H.A, Jurisdiction of West Virginia and having everyone working towards the common goal to make our Order a success.

*“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understand. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy path.” Proverbs 3: 5-6*

**MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND WORTHY PATRON  
RALEIGH L. COLLINS, SR. 32°**



First giving honor to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who is the head of my life. I am indeed honored to have been elected as the Grand Worthy Patron of the Electa Prince Hall Grand Chapter, O.E.S., P.H.A. of West Virginia for 2019-2020.

It is my desire that we not only strengthen the bonds between our existing chapters, but also strive to increase our membership.

We as Grand Chapter Officers, Elected and Appointed must be committed to our office(s) as outlined by our O.E.S. Ritual in order for peace and harmony to prevail throughout the jurisdiction.

**Visitors to the EPHGC, OES/PHA 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Session in Charleston, WV**





### **Electa Prince Hall Grand Chapter, OES/PHA Elected Officers 2019 - 2020**

Grand Worthy Matron  
Grand Worthy Patron  
Grand Associate Matron  
Grand Associate Patron  
Grand Conductress  
Grand Associate Conductress  
Grand Treasurer  
Grand Secretary  
Grand Trustee - 3 year  
Grand Trustee - 2 year  
Grand Trustee - 1 year

Angelia Russell  
Raleigh L. Collins, Sr. 32°  
Sheila McGhee  
Hughlen L. Jones, Jr. 32°  
Annette Jones  
Dionne Brown  
Sinette Reynolds  
PGWM Angelina Calcote  
Lydia Joyce  
Suzanne Washington-Smith  
PGWM Jacqueline Hornbuckle

**FIRST DISTRICT**

**Bernard Fennell 1<sup>st</sup> DDGM  
Gail Rhodes 1<sup>st</sup> DDGWM**



**Brothers of Star Lodge #1, F. & A. M.**



**5<sup>th</sup> DDGM Thomas Conner III  
visiting with Brothers of Harmony  
#42**



**Johnny's Boy sports bar owner Curtis Johnson, Sr. left and brother and bar manager Jay Johnson, right joined by father Johnny Johnson, (Brothers of Harmony #42, F. & A. M.), of the new family run business**

MARTINSBURG, W.Va. — Johnny Johnson likes that his name is on the door of Johnny's Boy sports bar that his sons are opening in downtown Martinsburg.

Johnson's son and bar owner, Curtis Johnson Sr., wouldn't have it any other way.

"He's been a hero to myself and the likes of a lot of younger folk that came through. He kind of paved the way at Martinsburg High School," Curtis said of his father's barrier-breaking accomplishments as a four-sport letterman in the 1960s.

Joining Curtis in helping run the business is his brother, Jay, who is the manager.

A soft opening for the new establishment at 127 E. King St. is set for Thursday.

Months in the making, the family-run establishment is opening in the former Station Grill property. The primary entrance to the establishment is from the city's East Burke Street parking lot.

Some furnishings of the previous establishment remain, including tables, chairs and the custom bar, which seats about 30 people.

Johnson said he plans to put a plaque on the side of the bar recognizing the late Peter “Pete” Perri, who built it.

“This is the staple of this space,” Johnson said.

A scoreboard has been mounted on the wall to help keep patrons updated on the scores of local sporting events, such as Martinsburg High School football games.

“Of course, there may be a little time delay with us (updating the score),” Johnson said with a smile.

In addition to restroom and kitchen improvements and general refurbishment throughout the building, the new bar features include 21 televisions, including a 150-inch 4K TV, and a “Varsity Section” of 13 red, theater-style chairs available to patrons for an additional cost.

Patrons in the special seating area will be able to view as many as four different channels at one time. The chairs, which can recline, also can be outfitted with food trays and are equipped with USB ports for cellphones.

A second, smaller bar in the back of the establishment is set up as a VIP-style lounge area with 50-inch, 65-inch and 75-inch television screens.

If companies wish to reserve the space, they would have their own server, bar and other amenities, Johnson said

If companies wish to reserve the space, they would have their own server, bar and other amenities, Johnson said.

Though primarily catering to sports fans, Johnson also anticipates holding karaoke and comedy night activities.

The bar’s total capacity is 200 people.

Banners representing area high schools, Shepherd University and West Virginia University also will be displayed, Johnson said.

While admittedly partial to the hometown team, Johnson said they want everybody to feel welcome.

Johnson has said he aims to offer patrons a different kind of sports-bar experience, and expressed optimism in the future of Martinsburg’s historic downtown business district.

“We just want to grow with the community,” Johnson said in an interview in May.

The family-owned business purchased the property from Blasto Properties LLC for \$329,500, according to deed records.



**Visitation by Deputy of the Orient J. C. Kelly for Scottish Rite Meeting  
I. M. Carper Consistory #192**

**THIRD DISTRICT**

**Maurice Clemmons 3<sup>rd</sup> DDGM  
Cora Hairston 3<sup>rd</sup> DDGWM**





**3<sup>rd</sup> District Meeting**



**FIFTH DISTRICT**

**Thomas Conner III 5<sup>th</sup> DDGM  
PGWM Jaqueline Hornbuckle 5<sup>th</sup> DDGWM North  
Lydia Joyce 5<sup>th</sup> DDGWM South**



**MWGM Calcote and Grand Officers visiting with Brothers at Washington Lodge #4, F. & A. M.**

Washington Lodge #4, F. & A. M. held its Annual Prince Hall Day Banquet on September 28, 2019 at West Virginia State University. The catered event was well attended. Our guest speaker, Attorney David M. Fryson delivered an interesting address on “Black Men in the Community.”

This year’s Honoree was Brother James P. Estes, Sr. with more than 64 years as a member of the Prince Hall Family. He was recognized by WM James W. Ivy, Jr. and the Brothers of Washington Lodge #4, F. & A. M. with a Certificate; A Certificate of Recognition from the Honorable Governor of the State of West Virginia, Jim Justice, was presented by 5<sup>th</sup> DDGM Thomas Conner III 32°; A Certificate was presented on behalf of 2<sup>nd</sup> District Congressman Alex J. Mooney, by his Regional Representative; Ms. Teri Berkley, granddaughter of MWPGM Richard Walker and Field Representative for Senator Joe Manchin, presented a Certificate of Recognition; 5<sup>th</sup> DDGM Conner presented a Certificate of Recognition from Senator Shelly Moore Capito; and finally, the Honorable MWGM Jeffrey M. Calcote, Sr. 33° presented Brother Estes with a Certificate for his years of service.



**GM Calcote & WM J. Ivy**

**Bro. James P. Estes & WM Ivy**

**PWM A. & PM S. Smith**



**GM Calcote; PGWM Angelina Calcote; Dr. Joyce Estes, Ph.D.; Bro. James P. Estes**



**Attorney David Fryson; Mrs. Joy Fryson; WM #20 Suzanne Washington-Smith; WM James Ivy**



**Banquet Attendees**



**Members of Electa Prince Hall Grand Chapter, PHA/OES attended the Banquet**



**Brothers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A. M., Inc. who attended Banquet**



**Sister Thelma Blanks and PWM Annabelle Smith of Nazarene Chapter #20, OES donate supplies to Sojourner's Women's and Children's Shelter**



**Pics of the Fifth District cook-out held in Huntington, WV. RWSGW Kenneth L. Hale, Sr. cookin' hot bologna**

**Best Buds posing for the camera**







**District Cook-Out in Bluefield, WV**





**5<sup>th</sup> DDGM Thomas Conner III with PM Lee Jones (Guyan Valley #21, F. & A. M.), Executive Director of the WV Human Rights Commission at a high school event.**

**Brother Ture' Johnson was Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on October 4, 2019, at Washington Lodge #4, F. & A. M.**

**He was very proficient in all Degrees. The Lodge is looking forward to great things from this Brother.**



**November 5, 2019** – A public forum was held today to discuss a “Use of Force” investigation into the beating of a woman with mental health issues. A police dash cam showed a female officer on the woman’s back, trying to apply handcuffs. A male officer rushes from his cruiser, and strikes the woman in the head four (4) times with his fist. The two officers were placed on paid administrative leave during an internal investigation. The officers were later cleared of the charges and returned to work.

Rev. Roberta Smith, President of the Charleston Black Ministerial Alliance (CBMA), presided over the public meeting between the City of Charleston Mayor, Amy Goodwin, Chief of Police Opie Smith; NAACP Charleston Branch #3226; State NAACP; and the Community. State NAACP President Owens Brown (King Solomon Lodge #5, F. & A. M.) and RW Senior Grand Warden Kenneth L. Hale, Sr. (Washington Lodge #4, F. & A. M.) addressed the standing room



only crowd. Also present were Sister Carol Cyrus-Johnson (Nazarene Chapter #20, O. E. S.); PM Larry Moore and HPGM Ray B. Woods, Jr., both of Washington Lodge #4, F. & A. M.

A diverse group of thirty (30) Ministers demanded Mayor Goodwin to: (1) Refer the matter to the Kanawha County Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for an independent investigation of the officer's conduct; (2) Review all policies with community input. According to the police department, there is no simple excessive force policy. It exists only as part of a continuum of overall policies; (3) Officers receive sensitivity, diversity and community training; (4) Establish a Citizens Review Board, and finally: (5) Establish a meeting with the Mayor and Chief of Police within 60 days to determine how to move forward. The 'Demands' were hand delivered to Mayor Goodwin.



F. BRIAN FERGUSON | Gazette-Mail photo

West Virginia NAACP President Owens Brown (above) speaks at Tuesday evening's community forum on police use of force at Emmanuel Baptist Church, on Charleston's West Side. The goal of the forum was to allow residents to offer feedback to police after a use-of-force incident and for police to share their experiences.



**WM James W. Ivy, Jr. #4, continues to expand his knowledge of technology.**

## FEATURE ARTICLE

*(The following article appeared in the Daily Mail WV on November 8, 2019 and refers to a by-gone era in Charleston, WV. It features comments from Brother Anthony Kinzer of Washington Lodge #4, F. & A. M., who is trying to preserve a disappearing history. After reading the article, I asked myself, “Did we lose with integration?” - RBW, Jr.).*

### **A Walk around The Block**

#### **Community keeps memory of historic African-American district alive**

By Stan Bumgardner For Daily Mail WV

In the downtown Charleston of today, it may seem hard to believe, but there was once a thriving business district on the north side of Washington Street.

A few exceptions still exist, such as the Preston Funeral Home and Charleston Bread. The Chow Thai restaurant is located on Shrewsbury Street in the Anderson Brown Building, built and named for a prominent African-American realtor. And a few cultural reminders remain: First Baptist Church, Simpson United Methodist Church and Garnet Career Center.

Before public places started becoming racially integrated in the 1950s, though, this area was bustling with restaurants, stores and hotels — run by African-Americans for African-Americans. It was referred to as “The Block” because it was centered around a square block bounded by Washington, Shrewsbury, Lewis (now John Norman Street), and Broad Streets (now Leon Sullivan Way, renamed for a minister and a business and civil rights trailblazer who grew up and attended schools there, and went on to become the first African-American board member in General Motors’ history).

That section of town began to develop right after the Civil War, when newly freed slaves arrived from the South, primarily Virginia. Some may have relocated only 10 miles — migrating from the salt furnaces in Malden to Charleston a relatively small city of about 2,000 at the time. While no longer enslaved, they still lived in a different world, forced by our state constitution to attend separate schools from whites and restricted by our city codes and deeds from living in certain neighborhoods.

Despite this discrimination, or perhaps because of it, Charleston’s African-Americans established their own separate identity on the north end of today’s downtown. Those pioneers of modern Charleston organized social groups and congregations, such as the churches mentioned above. Boyd Elementary and Junior High Schools and Garnet High School would produce some of America’s great talents of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, including heart-surgery pioneer John Norman Jr., journalist Tony Brown, artist Della Brown Taylor Hardman and Dr. Sullivan.

#### **A thriving business district**

The people who lived in The Block formed personal bonds that seem almost nonexistent in today's technologically connected but interpersonally disconnected world. Former Charleston police officer Richard L. James once told me, "Everybody was watching out for everyone else. When I was a kid, if you did something wrong, your mother knew about it by the time you got home."

The Block developed its own society and business community out of necessity. It helped that a new railroad, the Kanawha & Michigan, would cut right through the area in 1884, giving business owners an easy way to receive and ship merchandise.

By the mid-20th century, business in and around The Block was booming. There were barber and beauty shops, dentists and doctors, Smoot Construction, and Robin's Grocery. Anderson Brown's son, Willard, was a much sought-after attorney. Eateries included the West Virginia Restaurant; the Harlem Cafe; the White Front Inn, where boxing champ Joe Louis once ate; The Palace, known for its barbecues; and "Doc" Gravely and Pat Hawkins' Gem Pharmacy, where young folks rushed after school for chocolate sodas.

When talking to former residents, one restaurant always comes up: the M&S Pharmacy at the corner of Washington and Shrewsbury. It was operated by doctors Leo Solomon and Thomas Mitchell, who apparently knew how to make the best hot dogs around. In the early 2000s Chlorine Grisby-Carter opened a restaurant, Clo's Uptown Eatery, on Washington Street. She made great soul food — delicious fried fish, barbecued ribs, collard greens, and some of the best hot dogs I've ever had. A few years back, I asked her about those hot dogs. She told me she reached back into her childhood memories from The Block and tried to "make my sauce as close to the M&S as I could."

### **Ferguson Hotel**

The centerpiece of The Block was the Ferguson Hotel. Gurnett "Cap" Ferguson, a Fayette County native, was a black officer in World War I and founded West Virginia's first black American Legion post. He opened an opulent hotel in 1922 at the corner of today's Leon Sullivan Way and Washington Street. It cost \$200,000 (nearly \$3.4 million in 2019 money) and included 72 rooms. It was designed by our state's first African- American licensed architect, John C. Norman Sr., who drew up plans for many houses on the West Side as well as the old Staats Hospital, now being renovated in the Elk City district. The Ferguson Hotel included a theater, ballroom, restaurant and poolroom, as well as shops and business offices. Over the years, the Ferguson attracted some of the century's greatest entertainers, such as Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Count Basie, Duke Ellington and Nat King Cole. (You can read more about Cap Ferguson and his hotel in the Spring 2017 issue of Goldenseal magazine).

The area in and around The Block also had a less glamorous business aspect. Fry's Alley was Charleston's best-known red-light district, frequented by African- Americans and Charleston's white community. Some nightclubs in that area became the only places to go for jazz and blues music as well as to buy bottles of liquor (under the counter) in the days when liquor could be legally purchased only by the glass in bars. One such place had what amounted to an early drive-thru window where you could, somewhat discreetly, acquire bottles served in brown paper bags.

## **Integration & urban renewal**

So what happened to the African- American section of town? If you go there today, you'll see a few structures but mostly empty parking lots. The decline started, ironically enough, with integration. When African-Americans could begin shopping and eating at historically white establishments on Capitol Street, such as The Diamond (the last of Charleston's big businesses to integrate its lunch counter), black-owned businesses suffered. In talking to folks who lived through this transition, I've heard various versions of the same story. In essence, the downtown shops had more variety and were generally cheaper.

But many businesses remained open until the late 1960s. That's when Charleston's city leaders followed the lead of larger cities and implemented urban renewal. The stated goal was to clean up the city's more blighted areas and reinvigorate the economy. Some downtown firetraps were demolished, but the policy all but wiped out Charleston's historic African- American section.

Urban renewal took out nearly the entire Triangle District, which extended east for several blocks and west to Elk River, forming a triangular shape. Historically, "The Triangle" had been home to blacks, immigrants (many from Eastern Europe and the Middle East) and Jews, who also had been restricted from living in other sections of town.

Even Cap Ferguson was pressured to sell his once luxurious hotel property, which would make way for the Heart O' Town Motor Inn. Looking back at the areas targeted by urban renewal, it doesn't take long to recognize that the policy discriminated heavily against poorer residents and African-Americans, in particular.

Urban renewal was instituted relatively quickly, at least in government terms, and the new interstate system did in most of the remaining structures. The moves came so quickly that many residents had nowhere to turn. Old deed restrictions still banned African-Americans from living in certain neighborhoods. As a result of the Civil Rights Movement and the necessity for housing, those barriers began to fall.

The city's African-American population began shifting toward Charleston's East End and West Side. At the same time, many white residents in those sections of town began moving to the suburbs that were popping up around the exits on I-64, I-77, and I-79.

## **Raising awareness**

The Block was largely forgotten over the years, except in the memories of its onetime residents. Then, in 1989, James D. Randall and Anna E. Gilmer published a book of photos and stories called "Black Past." While it didn't get the public notice it deserved at the time, it did attract the attention of Anthony Kinzer. Inspired by all the brilliant minds who emerged from Garnet High, Kinzer formed the West Virginia Center for African-American Art & Culture to raise awareness about black heritage in our state in general, and specifically about The Block. Kinzer organized tours of Kanawha Valley sites related to African-American heritage and called upon people who used to live in The Block to guide that portion of the tour. Through their memories, those businesses, torn down long ago, came back to life right in front of your eyes.

He also led an effort to have The Block recognized as a historic district. Due to the mass demolition of Urban Renewal, there wasn't enough of The Block left to include the district in the National Register of Historic Places; although, five individual buildings are listed on their own: Garnet High, the Elizabeth Harden Gilmore House, the Mattie V. Lee House, the Simpson United Methodist Church, and the Samuel Starks House.

In addition, Kinzer worked with the West Virginia State Archives to install historical markers at the site of the former Hotel Ferguson and by the Methodist church, and he led an effort to place commemorative bricks at the Ferguson site, First Baptist Church and Anderson Brown Building. I recently asked Kinzer what's driven him for so long. He attributes his commitment to the cause to the "lifelong bond" he's seen "among the families who lived within The Block, during good and difficult times. They drew strength from one another, and for those still living, that bond still exists today."

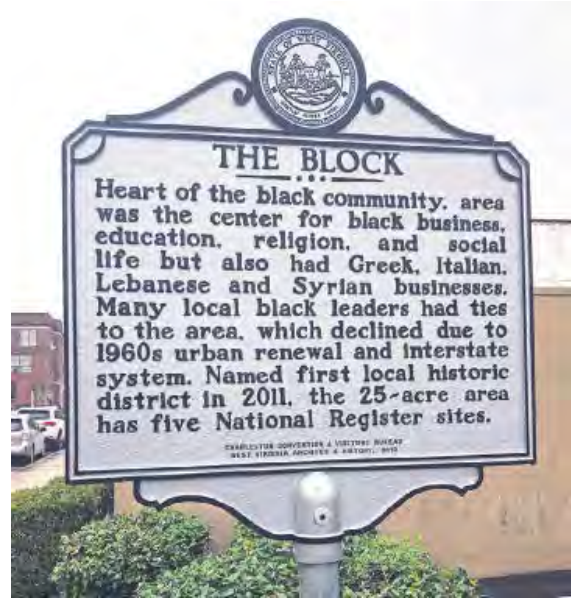
He underscored what Officer James said to me years ago, "The common denominator in The Block was a disciplined atmosphere at home and in the social arena. The lessons those people learned from their parents, grandparents, and community members were passed along to the next generation, and that it is the real cultural heritage of The Block."

Kinzer's goal is to erect additional signage commemorating the five sites listed in the National Register. Anyone who would like to contribute to the signage project can contact Kinzer at 304-346-6339. Stan Bumgardner is the editor of Goldenseal magazine and author of "Charleston" (Arcadia Publishing, 2006)



**Anthony Kinzer is founder and director of the West Virginia Center for African-American Art & Culture. The center's purpose is to raise awareness about black heritage in West Virginia in general, including The Block.**

A historical marker on the corner of Shrewsbury Street and Washington Street East gives a brief history of the area.



This 1947 photo shows the Garnet High School band in front of the Simpson Memorial Methodist (now United Methodist) Church.





**Simpson Memorial United Methodist Church on 607 Shrewsbury St. was formerly known as the Simpson Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church. The structure was built in 1914 and served as an anchor of Charleston's African-American community. By Stan Bumgardner For Daily Mail WV**

## SIXTH DISTRICT

Michael Lee 6<sup>th</sup> DDGM  
PGWM Angelina Calcote 6<sup>th</sup> DDGWM

Mt. Moriah #11 - Cacerus Club Backpack drive was a huge success this year. The event has become the largest backpack drive event in Monongalia County. "Charity extends beyond the grave"



Brothers Attending 6<sup>th</sup> District Cook-Out





**Truth Chapter #2, O. E. S. Annual Steak Fry Benefiting Cancer Research**



## GM Calcote Providing Leadership at his Fall Cabinet Meeting



## AROUND THE JURISDICTION



**Congratulations** to 5th District Deputy Grand Master Thom Conner III for being promoted to Director of Enrollment at Bridge Valley Community and Technical College in Charleston, WV. Let's all wish him luck on his new position.

**Congratulations** to RWSGW Kenneth Hale for being elevated to the 33rd and final degree of Masonry as a Grand Inspector General of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction



**Congratulations** to William "Ox" Curenton for receiving a Community Service Award from the City of Weirton, WV



**Nobles of Thotmes Temple #113 gathered for a Repast**

**Thotmes #113 Shrine representing WV in  
Baltimore MD**



**Past Potentate Kelvin Elmore, Past  
Potentate/Past Deputy of the Desert  
Thomas Jones, and then Illustrious  
Potentate Anthony Green at Imperial  
Session in Tampa, Florida.**



**NC MEGHP Robert D. Hood & MEGHP Kenneth L. Hale, Sr.; WV HRAM Grand Scribe “JT” Thomas & MEGHP Kenneth L. Hale, Sr.**

HRAM of West Virginia attend General Conference Grand Chapters HRAM of the United States and Bahamas, Prince Hall Affiliated

Over the past year, West Virginia with the help and support of North Carolina’s MEGHP Robert D. Hood, has set-out on an ambitious goal of reactivating Holy Royal Arch Masonry (PHA) in the jurisdiction of West Virginia. This journey began in May 2017, as a delegation of Blue Lodge masons traveled to North Carolina for exaltation, whereby they became Holy Royal Arch Masons. The movement has propagated itself throughout the orient, Red House masonry and the compliment of York Rite masonry, is catching on throughout West Virginia.

Past High Priest Kenneth Hale was elected and installed as the new Most Excellent Grand High Priest (MEGPH) for the state of West Virginia for the ensuing year 2017-2018. MEGPH Hale has been working diligently at building and securing relationships throughout the eastern alliance. MEGPH Hale along with his Grand Scribe attended the General Conference Grand Chapters Holy Royal Arch Masons of the United States and Bahamas, Prince Hall Affiliated, June 3-July 4, 2018 event in Philadelphia, Pa. the participants also included the Heroine of Jericho from several states. This adventure exposed West Virginia to a beautiful and festive program, with the highlight being West Virginia HRAM having the ability to answer the roll and participate in the Parade of States for the very first time in many years.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**November 15, 2019** - Washington Lodge #4, F. & A. M. and Nazarene Chapter #20, O. E. S. volunteering to serve Thanksgiving Dinner to residents of the Orchard Manor Housing Complex.

**November 20, 2019** – Bright Hope Lodge #9 and Naomi #10 will deliver canned goods and non-perishable items to EnAct Community Action, Montgomery, WV.

**November 22, 2019** – Washington Lodge #4 and Nazarene Chapter #20 donating turkeys and monetary donations to Sojourner's Shelter for Women and Children.

**November 23, 2019** – King Solomon #5, F. & A. M. and Truth Chapter #2, O. E. S. will have their Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Give-A-Way, starting at 12:00 p. m.

**November 23, 2019** – Brothers of Harmony #42, F. & A. M. will have a Pre-Thanksgiving Dance from 9:00 p. m. – 1:00 a. m. The event will take place at the Shepherdstown Fire Department. Tickets are \$10 in advance & \$15 at the door. Call 304-582-6755 or 304-267-2588, or contact any BOH Member.

**November 30, 2019** – Naomi Chapter #10, O. E. S. will contribute Christmas Toys to Washington Lodge #4, F. & A. M.

**December 3, 2019** – Queen of Sheba #8, O. E. S. Annual Election of Officers

**December 6, 2019** – Naomi Chapter #10, O. E. S. and Bright Hope Lodge #9 will participate in the Montgomery Annual Christmas Parade.

**December 6, 2019** – Washington Lodge #4, F. & A. M. Annual Election of Officers.

**December 7, 2019** – Naomi Chapter #10, O. E. S. Annual Election of Officers.

**December 9, 2019** – Marie Chapter #49, O. E. S. Annual Election of Officers.

**December 9, 2019** – Naomi Chapter #10, O. E. S. will donate to the Robert Jackson Annual Children's Christmas Parade.

**December 14, 2019** – Nazarene Chapter #20, O. E. S. Annual Election of Officers.

**December 14, 2019** – Washington Lodge #4, F. & A. M. and Nazarene Chapter #20, O.E.S. hosting Annual Christmas Party, with pizza, hot dogs, ice cream, presents and Santa, at the Orchard Manor Housing Complex.

**December 14, 2019** – King Solomon #5, F. & A. M. and Truth Chapter #2, O. E. S. will have their Annual Christmas party.

**December 14, 2019** – Bright Hope Lodge #9, F & A.M. Annual Election of Officers.

**December 16, 2019** – Truth Chapter #2, O. E. S. Annual Election of Officers

**January 2020** – Naomi Chapter #10, O. E. S. will donate to the Pouch Pocket Program (featured on Channel 13 News), feminine products for Junior High Students at Valley Middle School.

**January 2020** – Naomi Chapter #10, O. E. S. will donate to the Booker T. Washington Community Center, located in London, WV, for Back to School supplies.

**February 14, 2020** – Naomi Chapter #10, O. E. S. will visit Montgomery Elderly Care Valentine Party, crowning of their King and Queen.

**March 20 & 21, 2020** –Mid-Atlantic Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Martinsburg, WV.

**April 18, 2020** – Tentative date for Spring Cabinet Meeting. Location to be determined. Electa Prince Hall Grand Chapter OES/PHA deadline to purchase chances for a \$250 award. Proceeds will benefit Scholarship Fund to be awarded in June 2020. See any Eastern Star for chances.

**April 26, 2020** – Tentative date for Fifth District Meeting. Further details forthcoming.

**June 25 – 27, 2020** – 143<sup>rd</sup> Annual Grand Communication of the MWPHGL of WV, F. & A. M., Inc. and 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Grand Session of EPHGC, OES/PHA in Wheeling, WV. Details forthcoming.

### **SICKNESS & DISTRESS**

PGWM Betty Smith #8  
Sister Ernestine Hill #8  
GAC Dionne “Dee Dee” Brown #10  
MWPGM Nash Cunningham #33  
PM Gilbert Johnson #33  
PM Antonio Williams #10  
Sister Dorothy Knight #2  
PM John Radford #9  
Bro. David Johnson #9

PM Lacy Smith #8  
PWM Daisy Richardson #8  
MWPGM Rev. Homer H. Davis #4  
PWM Julia Downing #38  
PGWP Edmond Hornbuckle III #2  
Sister Dara Clausell #2  
Sister Helen Coles #2  
Brother Joel Acey #9  
Sister Arline Williams #20

### **IN MEMORIAM**



Lessie A. Watkins of Holden, WV was born May 8, 1932 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, a daughter of the late Guy Sr. and Frances Yates Foster.

She departed this life Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at Logan Regional Medical Center. Preceding her in death was her late husband Mose Hamlet, her current husband Frank Watkins, her daughter Moseetta Fearwell, her brother Guy Foster and four sisters Sadie Foster, Judy Thomas, Bessie Hawkins, and Jennie Day.

Lessie attended Aracoma High School. She was united in marriage to Mose Hamlet and to the union were born seven children. She worked for JT Fish Company and GC. Murphy Department Store. She

was a retired nurse from Logan General Hospital with thirty-two years of service. She was a member of St. Phillips Missionary Baptist Church at Cora where she was a member of the choir and served as a Church Clerk for many years.

Lessie was a very dedicated servant in her church. She was a member of Queen of Sheba #8, Order of the Eastern Star.

She leaves to cherish the memory of her life, three sons, Mose Hamlet Jr. of Capital Height, MD, Darrell (Vicky) Hamlet of Logan, WV, and Michael (Patricia) Hamlet of Upper Marlboro, MD; three daughters, Linda Richardson of Logan, WV, Brenda (Desmond) Burns of Forestville, MD, and Lessie (Brian) Law of Charleston, WV; three sisters, Ethel Murphy of Logan, WV, Jessie Sanfranciso of Huntington, WV, and Willie-Mae Johnson of Bluffton, SC; two step-sons, Frank (Sherrie) Watkins of Charleston, WV and Tyrone Watkins of Charlotte, NC; two step-daughters, Little (Victor) Simpson of Huntington, WV and Jennifer Watkins of Bronx, NY; eighteen grandchildren, thirty-two great grandchildren, and one great-great-great grandchild, and many nieces, nephews, and two special (sister in laws) Loretta Foster and Little Mai Fizer.

Service will be held 1:00 PM Saturday, August 3, 2019 at St. Phillips Missionary Baptist Church in Cora, WV with Reverend Curtis Calloway officiating. Burial will follow in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Pecks Mill, WV. A visitation will begin a hour prior to the service. Collins Funeral Home Inc. of Switzer, WV is overseeing the arrangements.

### **Masonic Bulletin Submissions**

If you have email, please send your articles in electronic format as a Microsoft Word (.doc) document or as a notepad (.txt) document. The Masonic Bulletin will be published two times a year.

Please send your articles to:

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