

Holy Royal Arch Masons ~ North Carolina ~ Quarterly Newsletter

PEHP

Maurice D. Hamilton, KYGCH 33
Most Excellent Grand High Priest



2022 EXECUTIVE TEAM OF
THE MOST EXCELLENT GRAND CHAPTER
HOLY ROYAL ARCH MASONS
JURISDICTION OF NORTH CAROLINA
PRINCE HALL AFFILIATED INCORPORATED



From the Desk of the 32nd Most Excellent Grand High Priest

To all the Companions of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons Jurisdiction of North Carolina Prince Hall Affiliated Incorporated:

On behalf of myself and the 2022 Executive Team, we would like to thank all of the Companions of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons Jurisdiction of North Carolina Prince Hall Affiliated Incorporated, for your vote of confidence in re-electing us to lead this August body for the 2022 Capitular year. We are very humbled by this amazing opportunity to once again serve as your leaders and are looking forward to another amazing year. We are already off to a strong start. As Constituent Chapters, you have continued to meet through virtual platforms in order to continue

the work of this Most Excellent Grand Chapter. In doing so, you have been able to continue serving in your various communities with your charitable giving, outreach projects, scholarships and most importantly, being willing to be present with a willingness to serve! Thank you, Companions, for all of your good work, true, work, square work!

During the course of last Capitular year, we adopted the saying "Turning Obstacles into Opportunities". We agreed that we would not let the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic presented prevent us as Companions for carrying out the business of the Grand Chapter. At the beginning of this Capitular Year, the Executive Team challenged the Grand Lecturers Department to come up with a safe way to continue to educate our Companions as well as presented them the task of how to do execute degree for those brothers who were endeavoring to become Companions of the Holy Royal Arch. After much deliberation and prayer, it can be said that the Grand Lecturer Department has far exceeded any and all expectations and they have suitably prepared 45 brothers to be exalted and become Companions in this Most Excellent Grand Chapter!

This 2022 Capitular year we have adopted the theme "Building for the Future through Accountability, Advocacy, Education, Forward Thinking, & Teamwork!" We want to continue to build upon the great work that has already been done. As we look to the future, we are planning to take our Grand Chapter to the next level. We want you to be a part of the development and execution of the strategies that will elevate this Grand Chapter for years to come. This will enable us to re-enforce the foundation that we have, while at the same time cementing our legacy of greatness, as we always remember that Holiness is STILL Right!!!

As I close, my prayer is and continues to be that we continue to apply the lessons we are taught in Masonry to our everyday lives. As we continue to labor in the quarries of everyday life, may the Great I Am continue to bless you all, bless this Most Excellent Grand Chapter, and bless our Prince Hall Masonic Family Worldwide!

Holiness to the Lord! Holiness to the Lord!! Holiness to the Lord!!!

Yours in Humble Service,

Maurice D. Hamilton

PEHP Maurice D. Hamilton, KYGCH, 33° 32nd Most Excellent Grand High Priest Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons Jurisdiction of North Carolina, Prince Hall Affiliated, Incorporated





Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons Jurisdiction of North Carolina Prince Hall Affiliated, Incorporated



2022 Administration

Grand Executive Team

PEHP Maurice D. Hamilton, KYGCH – Most Excellent Grand High Priest PEHP Richard R. Peeler – Right Excellent Grand King PEHP Randolph Dickinson, KYCH – Right Excellent Grand Scribe PMEGHP Clinton L. Hamm, KYGCH – Right Excellent Grand Secretary PGHP J. Michael Barnes, KYCH – Right Excellent Grand Treasurer

Grand Trustees

PEHP William E. Levette, II – Right Excellent Grand Trustee (3 Year) PEHP Mahlon Jenkins, Jr. – Right Excellent Grand Trustee (2 Year) PEHP William Saddler – Right Excellent Grand Trustee (1 Year)

Grand Auditors

PEHP Michael L. Faulk, KYCH – Right Excellent Grand Auditor (3 Year) PEHP Kevin Russell – Right Excellent Grand Auditor (2 Year) PEHP Brian Tennie – Right Excellent Grand Auditor (1 Year)

Grand Floor Officers

PEHP Raymond Swann, KYCH – Excellent Grand Captain of the Host PEHP Rev. Kenneth Williams, KYCH – Excellent Grand Principal Sojourner PEHP Darryl J. Garner – Excellent Grand Royal Arch Captain PEHP Ronnie Ross – Excellent Grand Master of the 3rd Veil PEHP Joe Nelson – Excellent Grand Master of the 2nd Veil PEHP Kenneth Battle, KYCH – Excellent Grand Master of the 1st Veil PEHP Ernest Winsted – Excellent Grand Sentinel PEHP Jerrell Knight – Excellent Grand Marshal East PEHP Reggie Mathis – Excellent Grand Marshal West

Grand Administrative Team

PEHP Shawnta D. Best, KYCH – Excellent Grand Assistant Secretary
PEHP William Dunston – Excellent Grand Assistant Secretary
PEHP Alonza Ollison, KYCH – Excellent Grand Administrative Assistant
PEHP Timothy D. Wilson – Excellent Grand Webmaster/Technology Director
PEHP David B. White – Excellent Grand Information Technology Specialist
PGHP Colen E. Craven, Jr. – Excellent Grand Aide de Camp
PEHP Joseph Burwell – Excellent Grand Aide de Camp
Comp. Damajo Smith – Excellent Grand Editor Stone Squarer Newsletter

Special Deputy Grand High Priests

PEHP Thomas L. Butts – Special Deputy Grand High Priest Coastal Region PEHP Norman F. Sims, KYCH – Special Deputy Grand High Priest Eastern Region PEHP Rodney F. Baldwin, KYCH – Special Deputy Grand High Priest Central Region PEHP Craig Little – Special Deputy Grand High Priest Western Region

District Deputy Grand High Priests

PEHP Curtis Ty Lodge – District Deputy Grand High Priest – District 1
PEHP Richard Ryan – District Deputy Grand High Priest – District 2
PEHP Leonard Jones, KYCH – District Deputy Grand High Priest – District 3
PEHP Joseph Wiggins – Assistant District Deputy Grand High Priest – District 3
PEHP Jamal Brodie – District Deputy Grand High Priest – District 4
PEHP Michael Ratliff – District Deputy Grand High Priest – District 5
PEHP George T. McCormick – District Deputy Grand High Priest – District 6
PEHP Douglas Palmer – District Deputy Grand High Priest – District 7
PEHP George Massey, II – District Deputy Grand High Priest – District 8
PEHP Francois Evans – District Deputy Grand High Priest – District 9

Grand Lecturer Team

PEHP Brian Tennie – Excellent Grand Lecturer
PEHP Morris Harris – Assistant Grand Lecturer – District 1
PEHP Charles Bush – Assistant Grand Lecturer – District 2
PEHP Lineal Hyman – Assistant Grand Lecturer – District 3
PEHP Bryon Vickers – Assistant Grand Lecturer – District 4
PEHP D. Antoine Lilly – Assistant Grand Lecturer – District 5
PEHP Brian Tennie – Assistant Grand Lecturer – District 6
PEHP Rufus Grier – Assistant Grand Lecturer – District 7
PEHP Michael Duncan, KYCH – Assistant Grand Lecturer – District 8
PEHP Lonnie McBride – Assistant Grand Lecturer – District 9

Grand Ambassadors

PGHP Alford L. Mack, KYGCH – Prince Hall Grand Council Royal & Select Masters, NC Inc. PEHP James Reed, KYCH – Tarheel Grand Commandery Order of Knights Templar PHA Inc. PEHP James O. Wright, KYCH – Convent General, Knights York Cross of Honor PHA USA PEHP Clarence Barnett, Jr., KYCH – Dr. G. Wesley Allen Council of Deliberation USC-TN PMEGHP Victor C. Cooper, KYGCH – E.J. Morine Council of Deliberation USC-DC PMEGHP William A. Cooke, KYGCH – Desert of North Carolina A.E.A.O.N.M.S., Inc. PEHP Calvin R. Jordan – North Carolina Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star PHA PEHP David B. White – Jurisdiction of Georgia PEHP Thomas D. Shaw, KYCH – Jurisdiction of Florida PEHP Jerwon Avery, KYCH – Jurisdiction of South Carolina PGHP Ivey Chery, Jr., KYCH – Jurisdiction of Maryland

Grand Committee Chairmen

PMEGHP Nathaniel DeGraffinreaidt, KYGCH - Committee on Foreign Correspondences PMEGHP Daniel L. "DT" Thompson, KYGCH - Jurisprudence & Constitution & Bylaws PMEGHP Robert D. Hood, KYGCH - Co-Chairman, Past Grand High Priest Council PMEGHP Dillon E. McManus, KYGCH - Co-Chairman, Past Grand High Priest Council PMEGHP Clemuel D. Grandy, Jr., KYGCH - Charters & Dispensations PMEGHP R. David Odom, KYGCH - Grand Chapter History & Archives PEHP George Massey, Sr. - Chairman, Grand Chapter Medical Team PEHP Rev. D. Angelo Burch, Sr. - Chairman, Community Outreach PEHP Rodney F. Baldwin, KYCH - President, Melchizedek NC Order of High Priesthood



NC Grand Court Heroines of Jericho Prince Hall Affiliated

Greetings,

It is with a humble heart and a glad spirit that I greet you. "This is the day that the Lord hath made; I will rejoice and be glad in it." Psalms 118; 24

The North Carolina Grand Court Heroines of Jericho, PHA, held our York Rite Session on Friday, February 11, 2022. The following officers were elected and installed for the ensuring year:

Her. Rose S. Nelson,
Grand Most Ancient Matron
Comp. Eddie Jones,
Grand Most Worthy Joshua
Her. Shirla Sewell-Fisher,
Grand Vice Matron
Comp. Oscar Hopkins,
Grand Vice Joshua
Her. Maria Taylor-Perry,
Grand Secretary

Her. Shirley Barnes,
Grand Treasurer
Her. Bernadine Coleman,
Grand Senior Matron
Her. Audrea Dickinson,
Grand Senior Attendant
Her. Tikisha Smiley,
Grand Junior Attendant
Her. Linda F. Crumel-Fuller,
Grand Historian

We are busy continuing the great work of this order. We had our first executive board meeting March 12, 2022. Appointed officers have been appointed and installed. Committees have been assigned and are busy meeting and planning their projects for this year. We are excited about doing our best in 2022.

As the 32nd Grand Most Ancient Matron of the North Carolina Grand Court, Heroines of Jericho, PHA, I am looking forward to working closely with PEHP Maurice D. Hamilton, KYGCH, and the Companions of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons, Jurisdiction of North, Inc., PHA. We are already off to a great start. Thank you for the invite to attend your 2022 Zerubbabel Day Virtual Celebration. Every part of this program was outstanding. Bishop Robert Hood filled the space with wisdom from the Most High with his sermon "Rebuilding Broken Place." I am still on a spiritual high from the day.

May God's blessing follow us in all that we do and may be receive courage, wisdom and strength to carry on our task from day to day. I promise you I will do my best and let God handle the rest!



Heroine Rose S. Nelson, PYCH 32nd Grand Most Ancient Matron NC Grand Court HOJ PHA



Companion Eddie F. Jones Grand Most Worthy Joshua NC Grand Court HOJ PHA

2022 Most Excellent Grand Chapter Zerubbabel Day Celebration

PEHP Richard R. Peeler Right Excellent Grand King MEGCHRAMNC PHA Inc.

On Sunday March 20, 2022 at 4:00 pm, the Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons Jurisdiction of North Carolina Prince Hall Affiliated Incorporated celebrated its 2022 Zerubbabel Day Celebration. There were 175 people who joined in via Zoom and were made up of Companions, Heroines, members of the NC Prince Hall PHAmily, members from the General Grand Conference of Grand Chapters for the United States and the Bahamas PHA, brothers and sisters, family and friends.

The Right Excellent Grand King, PEHP Richard R. Peeler served as the 2022 Zerubbabel Day Celebration Leader setting the tone for our annual celebration. A powerful and uplifting opening prayer was delivered by PEHP Rev. Dr. B. Angelo Burch, Sr. Our Right Excellent Grand Scribe, PEHP Randolph Dickinson, KYCH welcomed everyone and emphasized to all to be at home and to celebrate one another at our annual celebration. The Excellent Grand Lecturer PEHP Brian Tennie educated everyone on who Zerubbabel was and why we as Holy Royal Arch Masons celebrate Zerubbabel Day. PEHP Rev. George T. McCormick, read our scripture coming from the book of Ezra, Chapter 3 verse 8.

After the introduction of the preacher for the hour by PEHP Richard R. Peeler, Right Excellent Grand King, the Preached Word was rendered by our very own, the Rt. Reverend Robert D. Hood, KYGCH, who served as our 30th Most Excellent Grand High Priest. Bishop Hood did not hold back as he delivered a powerful message on the subject "Rebuilding Broken Places" taken from the book of Haggai, Chapter 2 verses 19 through 23. PMEGHP Hood reminded us that all of us, over time and with the help from the Lord, we can all be healed from the brokenness that plagues us all, and that Holiness is still right! Bishop Hood directly challenged the leadership that was in attendance to have the courage like Zerubbabel and not to be afraid to stand up for and fight for what is right on behalf of the people that we have been elected to not only lead, but most importantly to serve! He encouraged us not to settle for the status quo, but for us to empower, enable, and uplift one another to a higher standard of excellence and rise above the foolishness and shenanigans that have penetrated many of our sacred institutions and our beloved organizations.

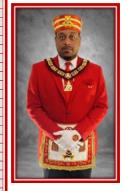
We are very thankful and ever so grateful to the Great I Am for sending us a much needed and on time message from a mighty man of God! We will heed the words of Bishop Hood as we continue to walk by faith while being in tune with the Holy Spirit and with one another to do the will of the Great I Am! Thank you to all who took the time to join us in our 2022 Zerubbabel Day Celebration! We pray that a wonderful time was had by all in attendance.



PMEGHP Rt. Reverend Robert D. Hood, KYGCH 30th Most Excellent Grand High Priest MEGCHRAMNC PHA Inc.

Who is Zerubbabel & Why We Celebrate Zerubbabel Day as Holy Royal Arch Masons?

PEHP Brian Tennie Excellent Grand Lecturer MEGCHRAMNC Inc.



You may be familiar with story of Emperor Darius and his three bodyguards. The story goes that the three would name to Darius the one thing that is the strongest in the world, he would choose the wisest answers, and grant them great gifts and the title of "Relative of the Emperor". The first answered "there is nothing stronger than wine". The second answered "there is nothing stronger than the emperor". The third, Zerubbabel answered "there is nothing stronger than woman, yet truth can conquer anything". When Zerubbabel had finished speaking, all the people shouted, "Truth is great – there is nothing stronger!" Then the emperor said to him, "You may ask anything you want, even more than what was agreed, and I will give it to you. You will be my adviser, and you will

be granted the title "Relative of the Emperor.' "Zerubbabel replied, "Your Majesty, permit me to remind you of the solemn vow you took on the day you became emperor. You promised to rebuild Jerusalem and to send back all the treasures that had been taken from the city. Remember that when Cyrus made a vow to destroy Babylon, he set these things aside and solemnly promised to send them back to Jerusalem. You also promised to rebuild the Temple, which the Edomites burned down when the Babylonians devastated the land of Judah. So, Your Majesty, because you are a man of generosity, I beg you to fulfill the solemn promise you made to the King of heaven." Then Emperor Darius stood up, kissed Zerubbabel, and wrote letters for him to all the treasurers, governors, and administrators in the provinces, ordering them to provide safe passage for him and all those going with him to rebuild Jerusalem.

After a season of about fourteen months to get settled, the Jewish people began to rebuild in earnest. It wasn't long before opposition arose from surrounding adversaries, and, eventually, the work was brought to a standstill by order of King Artaxerxes (Ezra 4:1–24). Only the foundation of the temple had been completed. After a seventeen-year delay the Jews were granted permission to continue rebuilding. Within three and a half years after the second effort began, the temple was completed in 516 BC. Although Zerubbabel's temple was smaller than Solomon's had been, God promised a greater glory: "The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house," said the Lord. The glory bestowed on Zerubbabel's temple came centuries later when Jesus Christ came into the temple courts. Solomon's temple never received a visit from Jesus, but Zerubbabel's did. While the temple Zerubbabel helped rebuild paled in comparison to the size and grandeur of Solomon's, it far outlasted it.

So why do we celebrate Zerubbabel Day as York Rite Masons? We as York Rite Masons celebrate Zerubbabel Day during the time in which it is believed that Zerubbabel began to build the second Temple. This is said to be the second month of the Hebrew calendar during the month of Iyar. We are reminded of the great efforts of Zerubbabel in freeing his people and restoring their land to rebuild the Temple of God. We look into his character and his works as we continue to work on ourselves. Just as Zerubbabel freed the Jews who were held in captivity, we are reminded to free our minds from the vices that hold us captive. Allowing our minds to freely build upon itself to contemplate and appreciate the blessings of our Creator. Allowing our spirits to move freely to perform the glorious work so that we may honor our Creator.

As Zerubbabel worked with such zeal to rebuild the Temple of God, we are reminded to be ever so zealous in the rebuilding of our spiritual temple, that temple which we have been erecting within ourselves – to the services of the Supreme Being. And although we know of a certainty that all earthly things are transient, and that in process of time, even at the best, decay of ages will crumble our magnificent temple into dust, yet we are persuaded, that, if we have erected the temple of our inner life through the teachings of His Word, its foundations shall never fail, and its fabric shall never crumble nor decay. So let us take care that we so labor in the erection of our temple here, that when we leave this earthly platform, for that mansion in the sky, we will hear him say "well done, my good and faithful servant".

General Conference Grand Chapters Holy Royal Arch Masons Prince Hall Affiliation, United States and The Vahamas









PMEGHP Nathaniel DeGraffinreaidt, KYGCH
General Grand Conference Grand King – GGCHRAMPHA USA
Grand CCFC MEGCHRAMNC PHA Inc.

Greetings to you all! Please see the message below coming from the General Grand Conference Convention Coordinator, PGGCGHP Willie J. Tate inviting all of you to join us at the 64th Annual General Grand Conference Session.

To All Past General Grand High Priests, All Most Excellent Grand High Priests, all Elected and Appointed Officers and Companions of the Member Jurisdictions of the General Conference of Grand Chapters, Holy Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America and the Bahamas, Inc. Prince Hall Affiliated:

Greetings! I pray this communication reaches you and your jurisdiction under the bountiful blessings of the GREAT I AM, and HE continue to bestow HIS mercy and blessings upon you. Companions, it is now time to prepare for our 64th Annual Conference and 56th Joint Session of The General Conference Grand Chapters, Holy Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America and the Bahamas, Inc., P.H.A. and the General Conference Grand Courts, Heroines of Jericho, United States of America and the Bahamas, Inc. P.H.A., which will convene Friday, July 01 through Wednesday, July 06, 2022.

The 64th Annual General Grand Conference will be held from 1 July to 6 July 2022 at the Ramada Inn located at 441 Electronica Parkway, Liverpool, NY 13088. 13088. for reservation information; you can contact the hotel at 315-457-1122 or. website ramada@staysyracuse.com or The General Conference of Grand Chapter July 2022 Group Code GEN. Hotel Reservations must be received on or before Wednesday, June 01, 2022 to meet the General Conference Grand Chapter and Grand Courts room block deadline. Room rates are \$109.00 Single or Double. The tax is currently 14%. Check-In time is 3:00 p.m. and Check-Out time is 12:00 noon. Airport transportation is Complimentary available upon request; please contact the hotel (315) 457-1122. Parking is complimentary.

Advanced Registration is \$150.00 and must be received by May 30, 2022. On-site registration is \$250.00 and there will include accommodations to the Annual Banquet. Please make checks payable to the General Conference of Grand Chapters Please mail all forms, registrations and funds to:

Willie Tate 1505 Iris Avenue Killeen, TX 76543

Yours Three Times Three,
PGCGHP Willie J. Tate, KYGCH
General Conference Coordinator

The American Heart Association and The Sickle Cell Disease Association of America: Charities of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Masons of North Carolina Prince Hall Affiliated, Incorporated

PEHP Randolph Dickinson, KYCH Right Excellent Grand Scribe MEGCHRAMNC PHA Inc.



The American Heart Association (AHA) is a nonprofit organization in the United States that funds cardiovascular medical research, educates consumers on healthy living and fosters appropriate cardiac care in an effort to reduce disability and deaths caused by cardiovascular disease and stroke.

Originally formed in New York City in 1924, it is currently headquartered in Dallas, Texas. The AHA is a national voluntary health agency. For nearly 100 years, the American Heart Association has been fighting heart disease and stroke and helping families and communities thrive. The AHA is known for publishing guidelines on cardiovascular disease and prevention, standards on basic life support, advanced cardiac life support (ACLS), and pediatric advanced life support (PALS), and in 2014 issued its first guidelines for preventing strokes in women. The mission of the organization, updated in 2018, is "To be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives." February is American Heart Month, a time when all people can focus on their cardiovascular health. The American Heart Association is committed to advancing health equity – which can exist only when all people can have the opportunity to enjoy healthier lives. We're removing barriers to health through work in communities, scientific research, advocating for healthy policies and more. If you would like more information on heart health and awareness as well find out how you can help in your local communities, please visit www.heart.org.



The Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Inc. (SCDAA) is a nonprofit organization with the sole purpose of supporting research, education and funding of individuals, families those who are impacted by sickle cell disease. The SCDAA's mission is "To advocate for and enhance our membership's ability to improve the quality of health, life and services for

individuals, families and communities affected by sickle cell disease and related conditions, while promoting the search for a cure for all people in the world with sickle cell disease." For more than 45 years, the SCDAA and its 48-member organizations and affiliates have demonstrated how community-based organizations can work, as partners with medical facilities and local and state government agencies, to pursue national health care objectives. The SCDAA has recognized that one agency cannot meet all the needs and challenges of those living with sickle cell disease and their families. As part of its strategic efforts and to enhance its effectiveness, the SCDAA has partnered with government, private and other not-for-profit agencies and programs at the local, state, and national levels. In collaboration with SCDAA member organizations and other stakeholder groups, SCDAA's national efforts involve six broad areas of emphasis: Research, Public Health Education, Professional Health Education, Patient Services, Community Services, and Support to Global Organizations and Practitioners. National Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month is acknowledged annually in September. For more information about Sickle Cell, the SCDAA, and how you can join the fight against this disease, please visit the SCDAA website at www.sicklecelldisease.org.

Letter From Our Editor

Companion Damajo C. Smith Bost Chapter No. 61 HRAM PHA Grand Editor – The Stone Squarer

Greetings Companions of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons Jurisdiction of North Carolina Prince Hall Affiliated Incorporated. I pray that the Great I Am continues to shower His blessings upon you and your families. I know it has been quite some time since we last prepared a Stone Squarer Newsletter due the effects of the COVID 19 pandemic but I am happy to announce that we are back!

Please continue sharing the good works that you are doing in your communities with us so that we can be sure to have them included in future editions of the Stone Squarer. Our Jurisdiction continues to lead from the front and that is evident in the works that you continue to do.

May the Great I Am continue to bless each and everyone of you and keep you safe as we continue our good works.

Holiness to the Lord! Holiness to the Lord!! Holiness to the Lord!!!

Yours 3X3,

Damajo E. Smith

Companion Damajo C. Smith Grand Editor - The Stone Squarer

Phone: 704-618-2145

Email: damajocs@amail.com

