

The Stone Squarer

Holy Royal Arch Masons ~ North Carolina ~ Quarterly Newsletter
Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons Jurisdiction of N.C. PMA



The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina (PMA) was organized on June 25, 1946. Most Excellent Grand High Priest George D. Carnes (Wilmington, NC) and the Grand Council signed and sealed a Certificate of Incorporation of Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina Grand Chapter of Prince Hall Origin Inc. on November 30, 1946. Secretary of State Thad Eure and the State of North Carolina signed, sealed, and issued a Certificate of Incorporation of Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina Grand Chapter Prince Hall Origin, Inc. December 3, 1946.

Holiness to the Lord

Greetings Companions and Heroines,

As we draw nearer to the end of another Capitular year I am pleased with the progress and positive energy of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter. I've observed Chapters doing an outstanding job working in the quarries, and the unity with our Heroines are to be commended. With this display of unity our beloved order is destined to live long after we've moved off the scene. Robin S. Sharma said:

“Leadership is not about a title or a designation. It's about impact, influence and inspiration. Impact involves getting results, influence is about spreading the passion you have for your work, and you have to inspire others.”

I want to personally thank my District Grand Deputy High Priests, along with the Excellent High Priests for leading the charge in collecting funds for our Community Service Project, which will be presented in November, as well as the Hurricane Relief Initiative. Through your strong efforts and support the Grand Chapter was able to present a sizable donation during the 147th Grand Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina. This was a great display of the cohesiveness throughout the jurisdiction.

Special thanks to PEHP Kendrick Smith and the Scholarship team for ensuring the opportunity of two deserving students to launch further into their future. As Most Excellent Grand High Priest, I emphasize that we must stay the course in investing in our youth's future through academic excellence. Lastly, let us not be wearied in well doings, there is still much work to be done. I reaffirm my pledge in pursuit of greater for this jurisdiction.

HOLINESS TO THE LORD Companions, HOLINESS TO THE LORD!

3X3

Robert D. Hood

PEHP Robert D. Hood, Most Excellent Grand High Priest
Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons
Jurisdiction of North Carolina, PHA



MEGHP Greetings	2
GWJ Wm. F. “Bill” Smith, III	3
Administrative Team	4
Educational Team	5
Rehab Day	6
I Am That I Am	7
PMEGHP Nathaniel Degraffinreid	8
General Grand Conference	9
Kinston York Rite	10
Koinonia In North Carolina	11
PMEGHP Needham E. C. Gee	12
PMEGHP David R. Odom	13
PMEGHP Clemuel D. Grandy, Jr.	14
Order of the High Priesthood	15
PGWJ Eddie F. Jones, Sr.	16
Working in the Quarries	17-23
Investing In Our Youth	24
As We Three Agree	25
2018 Proclamation 1	26-27

Editor: Comp. Damajo C. Smith
damajocs@yahoo.com



Grand Worthy Joshua ~ Companion Wm. F. (Bill) Smith, III



Supporting **Heroine Gwendolyn A. Joyner**
North Carolina Grand Most Ancient Matron
Heroines of Jericho, P.H.A.



Fraternal Greetings:

Initially let's give Respect and Honor to: our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Now more than ever, especially during these turbulent times, we, as a stalwart and committed institution, the Prince Hall Family and the North Carolina Holy Royal Arch Masons need to be as attentive, cohesive and as vigilant as possible in order to set a solid societal example for all. It is important for our survival.

Companions, if we take a moment to read and study the legend of Rahab, the wife of Salmon and the mother of Boaz, who put her life on the line to save the Jewish people. We would gain a greater appreciation and understanding for our sisters of the Heroines of Jericho and how both the NC Holy Royal Arch Masons and the NC Heroines of Jericho are coupled together.

We pray Heroines and Companions, for what links us together, covered by the strong bonds of the Scarlet Cord and under the dome of 3x3, with Friendship and Harmony via Sisterly and Brotherly Love, Trust and Respect abounding for each of us. We are looking forward to seeing you at the "2018" North Carolina York Rite Convention..

Thank you, Fraternaly Yours,

Wm. F. (Bill) Smith, III

Comp. Wm. F. (Bill) Smith, III, No. 71 & 12
Grand Worthy Joshua, NC-HOJ, PHA





The Administrative Team



L-R: REGK Clinton Hamm, MEGHP Robert D. Hood, REGS Damien Jack



Companion Craig Little
District Deputy GHP



Companion Maurice Hamilton
District Deputy GHP



Companion James Reed
District Deputy GHP



Companion Floyd Duhon
District Deputy GHP



Companion Norman Simms
District Deputy GHP



Companion Ravon Leak
District Deputy GHP

The Educational Team



Companion Raymond Swann
District Grand Lecturer



Companion Randy Dickinson
District Grand Lecturer



Companion Ron Hartsfield
District Grand Lecturer



Companion Antoine Lilly
Grand Lecturer



Companion Rodney Baldwin
District Grand Lecturer



Companion George Massey Sr.
District Grand Lecturer



Companion Herbert Estelle
District Grand Lecturer

Rahab Day

Every third Sunday in July, the Heroines and Companions of the Heroines of Jericho celebrate one of the central figures within the organization, Rahab. Her name in Hebrew meant “a woman, a prostitute,” which was her profession in the country of Jericho where she lived, the same place promised to the children of Israel by God. We are introduced to Rahab in the book of Joshua.

According to Joshua 2, Joshua sent two spies into Jericho as a final preparation of taking over the land. The spies went into Rahab’s house for shelter and the king was informed of this situation. He sent his men to Rahab’s home to retrieve the two men, but Rahab hid the men on the roof of the house and told the king’s men they had left before the shutting of the gate and went along the River Jordan.

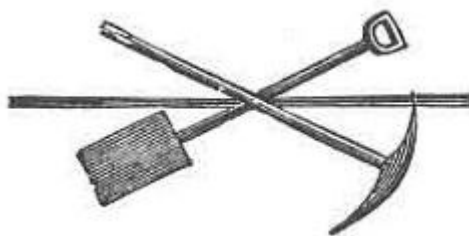
After the king’s men left, she went to the roof where she hid the two spies and said to them according to Joshua 2:9-13,

“And she said unto the men, I know that the Lord hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the Lord your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath. Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the Lord, since I have shewed you kindness, that ye will also shew kindness unto my father’s house, and give me a true token: And that ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren, and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death.”

The spies answered her in Joshua 2:14, *“Our life for yours, if ye utter not this our business. And it shall be, when the Lord hath given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee.”* Rahab then used a scarlet cord to lower the men down the wall, and instructed them to wait three days in the mountains until her pursuers returned to the country before going back. The men then instructed her to place the same

Rahab then used a scarlet cord to lower the men down the wall, and instructed them to wait three days in the mountains until her pursuers returned to the country before going back. The men then instructed her to place the same scarlet cord in the window of her home and the lives of her and her family would be spared. As promised when Jericho fell, Rahab and her family was saved.

Rahab is an example of how to remain steadfast in your faith no matter what your current condition is. She went from being despised due to her profession to being celebrated by her actions and her faith. Rahab is important not just to the Heroines and Companions of the HOJ, but she is important to Masonry. How do you ask? After being spared, Rahab went on to marry Joshua and they had a son by the name of Boaz which is a key figure in Symbolic Masonry. So, while Rahab Day is a day celebrated by Heroines and Companions, it should be celebrated by all, because without Rahab there would be no Boaz.





"I Am That I Am"



We as Holy Royal Arch Masons are very familiar with "I Am that I Am", but as it relates to who we are, and what we are, let us visit for a moment "what I am".

First let us go a few degrees back in Masonry, where the first place you were made a mason was in your "heart". We often search our hearts for an answer or for guidance because in our hearts are the foundation of who and what we are. God himself confirmed it through the Prophet Jeremiah, in the Holy Bible, Chapter 17 verse 10, He said, "He searches our heart and gives us according to the fruits of our ways and our doings". That brings up an interesting question concerning our doings, as Holy Royal Arch Masons, are we doing all we can?

We are holy men, which is a strong statement because it is not just a title but it is also a way of life. "I AM A HOLY ROYAL ARCH MASON, I LIVE BY A SET OF GUIDELINES AND RULES UNDERGIRD BY A STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE IN ALL THAT I SAY AND DO", this should be our battle cry as we allow the inner glow to manifest outwardly and each day travel in the glorious manner of a Holy Royal Arch Mason. Also, keeping this one thing etched in our hearts, the starting place and the foundation of it all, this is "WHAT I AM". We should allow the Prophet Haggai's words to manifest in our lives and spread everywhere we go; Haggai 2:9 states, "THE GLORY OF THE LATTER HOUSE WILL BE GREATER THAN THE FORMER".....HTTL

Companion Monaque Farmer
R.L. Siebles Chapter #79



Congratulations PMEGHP Nathaniel Degraffinreidt



The 59th Annual Conference and 53rd 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., convened at Melia Nassau Beach on Friday, June 30 through Wednesday, July 05, 2017. This year's General Grand Conference was full of excitement and education.

The Eastern Alliance continues to make great strides in the forward progression of the General Conference. During the Annual Meeting, three more leaders were added from our group: Companion Medford Campbell (MD), RE Grand King and Companion Eddie V. Tucker (MD), Grand Principle Sojourner.

The Jurisdiction of North Carolina proudly salutes our own, Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest Nathaniel Degraffinreidt, on being elected Right Excellent Grand Scribe, of the General Grand Conference. **CONGRATULATIONS!**



General Grand Conference 2017



PEHP James Reed escorting Betty Marrow the winner of the Lady in waiting contest



2 Companions and 13 Heroines from North Carolina during the General Conference of Grand Chapters and Courts



PEHP James Reed serving as Grand Master of the 3rd Veil



Companions fellowshipping at the General Grand Conference.

Kinston York Rite
Men's Unity Day: Georgia K. Battle, Summer Camp ~ July 18, 2017

Companion Omar M. Myers, gave a motivational and impressionable talk which is still being repeated by the Young Men to this day, "Motivation Check", they respond with "Reteach"; meaning, what you know, you are required to pass it on (Reteach).

The members present also taught the young men how to put up 'Pup Tents' with the aid of three campers (they demonstrated how it was done first), then, we all worked with the campers, on putting the other tents up. For lunch, the boys were given pizza, chips and sodas (provided by PEHP St. Thomas Robinson). Companion Michael Blair gave a lecture on CPR, First Aid & Heart Saver (signs of heart attack) and abdominal thrusts. After lunch EHP Henry Williams gave a timely lecture on "Bullying".

The rest of the afternoon was spent doing outside exercises such as sprints, playing basketball, and breaking for ice cream.

Pictured left to right are:

SK Omar M. Myers #21 PEC – District Deputy Grand Commander (Region 5 TGC); PEHP St. Thomas Robinson, PTIM James Whitfield (King David Council #7), PMEGHP William A. Cooke, EHP Henry Williams (Prudence Shaw Chap. #75), Companion Copeland, III. Companion James Miller, SK Homer E. Stephenson (Elijah Haddock Commandery #21)

A Blessed time was had by ALL!





Koinonia In North Carolina



"This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty."
Zechariah 4:6

The tenants of our Beloved Fraternity are Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love; it is with these tenants we begin laying the building blocks of Freemasonry. However, as beautiful as these lively stones are, the process of time has revealed an important element of our foundation is missing, "Unity".

In the Book of Genesis, we are told that Lot's wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt. Jesus said in Luke 9:62, "No one who puts his hands to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God." Also, in substance, Paul tells us not to dwell in the past, but to direct our efforts and give attention to improving our future. To us, these writers suggests not to dwell on ideologies of traditional practices, but to use our time, influence, and talents to develop better conditions for mankind in the future.

The most important project in Capitular Masonry is the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem. Zerubbabel led a wave of Israelites out of Babylon, returning to Jerusalem, for the purpose of rebuilding. He brought together a divided people into a spirit of unity and completes the magnificent work of the temple. The same fervor possessed by our Most Excellent Companion is that which must underlie the endeavors of our Rite, if we are to be successful.

Thus, spawning hope of a beautiful view of Royal Arch Masonry, as three Most Excellent Masters (Hood, Hamilton, and Duhon) begin work in the quarries. As laborers of truth, we commence work at the darkest corner of the ruins. Clearing away and removing the rubbish, in order to lay a foundation that future Royal Arch Masons will build upon. The secret vault is discovered, just as it was in days of old, which have led to the discovering of three squares of agreement from: (1) Most Excellent Grand High, (2) Right Grand Thrice Illustrious Master, and (3) Right Eminent Grand Commander.

On Friday morning, September 22, 2017, not only was the vault, once hidden in darkness, found but was penetrated when the Most Excellent Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons (PHA), and the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina (A.F.&A.M.) came together. Acts of brotherly love were exemplified as conversations were laced with mutual recognition.

It is our desire to make our mark upon the world, to leave something lasting and permanent, for a part of us to survive long after we're gone. This act of un-daunting fortitude, fervency, and zeal will triumph over all forms of ignorance. The stone was rejected due to hatred and racism; it was Neither oblong nor square, but Jesus said in Matthew 21:42, "Have you never read in the scriptures: The Stone that the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes."



Most Excellent High Priest C. Ray Hall and
Most Excellent Grand High Priest Robert D. Hood, KYGCH

Good Work, True Work, Square Work

Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest Needham Earl Clinton Gee



Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest Needham Earl Clinton Gee has served Prince Hall Masonry in North Carolina for over 50 years. His contributions are detailed in all houses of the masonic order. He has faithfully served Capitular Masonry for over 40 years. At the golden age of 92, he is the oldest living Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest within the jurisdiction.

On July 29, 1989, in the city of Fayetteville, during the 43rd Grand Convocation, Companion Needham Gee was duly elected the 16th Most Excellent Grand High Priest in succession. He faithfully discharged his duties for two years, serving with distinction and respect. During his tenure as Most Excellent Grand High Priest, the Grand Chapter continued to make great strides.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest Gee is one of the oldest Grand High Priests ever elected; however, this did not deter him from what he called, "Doing it by the book"! He was adamant that all Chapters should follow the ritual, and pushed for the jurisdictional officers to learn their parts.

We salute PMEGHP Needham Earl Clinton Gee!



Good Work, True Work, Square Work



Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest David Rondell Odom

David Rondell Odom was born in Mullins, South Carolina. He was raised in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, he graduated from John W. Paisley High School, attended Winston-Salem State University, Forsyth Technical College, Naval School of Construction and Naval School of Counseling.

David is the father of three lovely children, Monte', Yoko and De-Marco Odom. David has eight grandchildren and one great grandchild.

David was employed by Sara Lee Underwear (Hanes Brands) where he has held various positions. He was supervisor of Process Improvement / Quality Lab Department.

During the Vietnam War, David served with the United States Navy Seabees, Mobile Construction Battalion #11 of Port Hueneme, California. David also served with Reserve Mobile Construction Battalion #24 of Huntersville, Alabama and Naval Reserve Support Construction Force #1 and #3 of Ft. Jackson, South Carolina.

David has received many Medals and Awards doing his 22 years in the Navy Seabees. The Awards are as following: National Defense Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Battle "E" Ribbon-2, Vietnam Service medal, Vietnam Meritorious Unit (Gallantry), Vietnam Meritorious Unit (Civil Action), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Distinguished Rifle US", Naval Reserve Medal, Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal and the Navy Humanitarian Service Medal which is one of his greatest award.

Odom is a member of the Disabled Veterans, Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, Aids Task Force, and past Trustee and Superintendent of Sunday School Department at Kimberly Park Holy Church and past Deacon of United Cornerstone Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Odom's Masonic affiliation are: Past Master and Secretary, Red Rock Lodge #809, Past High Priest of Eureka Chapter #68, Past KSA of King Solomon Consistory #64, Past

Eminent Commander of Prelate Commandery #10, Past Eminent Prior of the Tarheel Priory #10 and Registrar of Carolina Priory #17 Knights York Cross of Honor, Past Grand Eminent Commander of Tarheel Grand Commandery, Past Grand High Priest of The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons, Past Thrice Illustrious Maser of Hiram of Tyre Council #1, Past Right Grand Thrice Illustrious Master of the Prince Hall Grand Council Royal and Select Masters, Past Worthy Patron of Rose McCloud Chapter #608, Order of the Eastern Stars, Past Worthy Joshua of Duck-Lassiter Court #15 Heroines of Jericho, Past Royal Chief Advisor of Clara N. Hayes Court #5, Past Grand Royal Chief Advisor of the Lady of the Circle of Perfection and Past Royal Chief Engineer of Elizabeth Court #7, Cyrene Crusade.

David has served on the General Grand Conference of Holy Royal Arch Masons as Grand Sentinel and Chairman of the Scholarship Committee. He also served as Grand Lecturer in the General Grand Conference of Royal and Select Masters Masons.

While serving as Grand High Priest he was the guest of the Grand High Priest in Pennsylvania. During that visit he met the heads of various Concordant and Affiliated Prince Hall Bodies including the Royal and Select Masters and from that experience conceived the idea of introducing this order to the Jurisdiction of North Carolina and from that experience the Ladies of the Circle of Perfection was born. Reflecting on this milestone achievement, Brother Odom continues to work in the Valley of Life.

Comp. David Rondell Odom stands to be one the most influential person of Capitulary Masonry in North Carolina.



Good Work, True Work, Square Work



Clemuel D. Grandy Jr. was born in Durham, North Carolina. He graduated from Hillside High School, attended Texas Southern University, and joined the United States Air Force. He was employed by Duke where he retired after 20 years.

In 1986, Clem was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. His zeal and fidelity afforded him the opportunity to move swiftly in his lodge. He was duly elected Worshipful Master of Shephard Memorial Lodge #84, Durham, NC in 1990. He faithfully discharged his duties as Worshipful Master for two years. He received his first Grand Lodge appointment by Grand Master Marvin D. Chambers, and was later re-appointed, Right Worshipful Grand Sr. Deacon, by Most Worshipful Grand Master Milton F. Fitch Jr.

PMEGHP Grandy have served Prince Hall Masonry in the following Capacities: Worthy Patron, Star of Hope Chapter #669 (OES), Past Excellent High Priest, C. Hudson Chapter #63, Menelik Council #4, Past Thrice Illustrious Master, the Prince Hall Grand Council, Royal & Select Masters, Ill. Grand Principle Conductor of the Works, Turner-Meers Commandery, Past Eminent Commander, the Tarheel Grand Commandery, Past Grand Recorder and Honorary Past Grand Commander. Recommended to the elite honor of Knight York Cross of Honor, Tarheel Priory #10, Past Commander in Chief, Durham Consistory

PMEGHP Clemuel Durham Grandy, Jr.

#218, Dr. G. Wesley Allen Council of Deliberation – USC-TN, Ill. Grand Minister of State, Class Advisor, and Past President – Commanders of the Rite; he hence serves the Ernest J. Morine Council of Deliberation– USC-DC, Dean of Elevation, and Coronated to the esteemed honor of Sovereign Grand Inspector General (Active) in 2016. He served Boyd & Hodge Court #7, Heroines of Jericho, Worthy Joshua, Grand Vice Joshua of the North Carolina Grand Court HOJ, and Zafa Temple #176, Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

Most notably Companion Clemuel D. Grandy Jr served the Most Excellent Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons of NC as Most Excellent Grand High Priest from 1996-1999. As a three-year Grand High Priest, Companion Grandy published the first criteria for High Priest of the year, Secretary of the year, Treasurer of the year, and Companion of the year. His administration was fervent with incorporating the latest developments and trends within the Grand Chapter, some that are still being used today.



**Most Excellent Grand High Priest, 1996 - 1999
Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons, NC**

The Order of the High Priesthood

Greetings Companions,

Allow me to introduce myself. I am PEHP Damien Jack, Most Excellent President of the Order of the High Priesthood. The Order of the High Priesthood is an Order within the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina. Our purpose is to initiate, or anoint, all new elected Excellent High Priests prior to their installation.

Let me first introduce you to the Officers of the Order of the High Priesthood:

Vice President – PEHP Raymond Swann III
Chaplin- PEHP Kenny Smith
Treasurer – PEHP J. Michael Barnes
Recorder – PEHP Richard R Peeler
Master of Ceremonies - PEHP Rodney Baldwin
Conductor – PEHP Joe Nelson
Herald- PEHP Lee Caphart
Stewart- EHP Antoine Lilly
Sentinel- PEHP Dave McAllister

Anointing a High Priest dates back to when the very first High Priest was appointed and anointed. When given instructions on how to construct the Tabernacle, God instructed Moses on who should be the priests. Exodus 28:1 states, "Call for your brother, Aaron, and his sons, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. Set them apart from the rest of the people of Israel so they may minister to me and be my priests." From this appointment, all descendants of Aaron, according to Exodus 28:43, were given the tasks of being the priests of Israel.

Before assuming the role of High Priest, Aaron and his sons had to be provided with the proper attire, then they had to be anointed. The attire of a High Priest, as stated in Exodus 28:6-36, consisted of the Ephod, a breastplate, a robe, a tunic, a sash, a mitre and gold bells. Once clothed with their priestly garments, Aaron and his sons were anointed, ordained, and consecrated as priests.

Anointing Aaron and his required a sacred oil, the same oil mentioned in Pslam 133. According to Exodus 30:22-25, God instructed Moses to make the precious, or anointing oil using the following materials; 500 shekels of liquid myrrh, 250 shekels of fragrant cinnamon, 250 shekels of fragrant calamus, 500 shekels of cassia, and a hint of olive oil. This oil was sprinkled on all the holy vessels of the tabernacle, and most importantly on Aaron and his sons.

God instructed Moses on how to consecrate Aaron and his sons in Exodus 29:5-7, "You shall take the garments, and put on Aaron the tunic and the robe of the ephod and the ephod

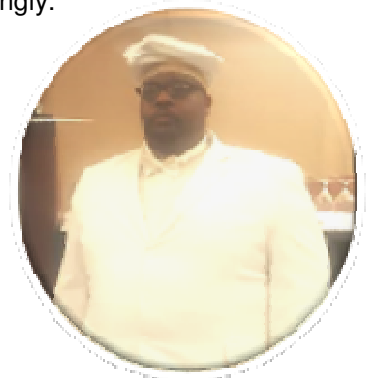
and the breastpiece, and gird him with the skillfully woven band of the ephod, and you shall set the turban on his head and put the holy crown on the turban. Then you shall take the anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him."

What is the importance of the High Priest? Hebrews 5:1-3 proclaims, "Every high priest is selected from among the people and is appointed to represent the people in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people." The High Priest is the only one allowed to enter the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement, the holiest day of the year in Judaism for the purpose of repentance and amendment.

As stated, the High Priest is appointed to represent the people before God. The Excellent High Priest is elected among his peers to represents to represent the chapter. We may have changed the wording from being appointed to being elected, but the importance of the role of the High Priest does not change. Remember that we are in a Holy Order, which means every work done by the High Priest should be done for the purpose of giving God glory. The High Priest has a heavy burden to bear. He speaks for those carries the sins of himself and others to God. He has the burden of judgement, which comes in the form of the Urim and the Thummim.

The Order of the High Priesthood is designed to illustrate the importance of the Priesthood. It is more than just a title, it is a responsibility. A responsibility only given to chosen few; a responsibility God saw fit to bestow upon a particular lineage. So for those who desire to serve as Excellent High Priest, be mindful of the information you've been provided and govern yourselves accordingly.

Holiness to the Lord



Past Grand Worthy Joshua, Companion Eddie F. Jones, Sr.

We welcome and congratulate Past Grand Joshua, Companion Eddie F. Jones Sr. for serving the North Carolina Grand Court, Heroines of Jericho as Grand Regional Deputy. He was appointed by Grand Most Ancient Matron Gwendolyn Joyner to fill the position left vacant due to the passing of Past Grand Joshua Marvin Gooding.

Companion Jones will be serving the South-Eastern Region, which consists of the following courts: Heroines of the East #10, St. James #13, Gore Maryanna #16, A.S. Swinson #17, and Scarlet Elect #21. Companion Eddie Jones is a member of Annie S. Swinson Ct. #17 in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

BIOGRAPHY 2017

I am one of the five (5) sons of the late Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Jones Sr. and all five served in the Army for the United States including my father. I retired after (27) years as a Sgt. Major.

I am a member of Hills Chapel MBC and have served as a Trustee for many years.

I am a Past Potentate of Mizpah Temple #66-Goldsboro, NC
Member of Milton F. Fitch Sr. Consistory #43-Wilson, NC
Past Master Mason for fifty years (50) Trenton, NC
Past Eminent Commander for Trinity #17-Goldsboro, NC
Past Grand District Deputy for NC Tarheel Grand Commander
Past Chief Engineer for Armour of God Court #10 Cyrene, Goldsboro, NC
Past Grand Chief Engineer for the State of NC Cyrene Crusaders
Past High Priest for U.N. Dawson Chapter #83 Goldsboro, NC
Past Joshua for A.S. Swinson Court #17 HOJ Goldsboro, NC
Past Grand Joshua for the State of NC HOJ
Past Thrice Ills. Master for Menelik Council #4 Goldsboro, NC
Past Guardian Companion for Clara S. Ross Court #17 Wilson, NC
Past Worthy Patron for Best Grove Chapter #568 OES

AWARDED

HPGEC for North Carolina Knight Temple
HPGHP for NC Holy Royal Arch
Joshua of the year
District Worthy Patron of the year.

I, Eddie F. Jones Sr. consider it a great honor to continue serving this year as Deputy of the South-Eastern Region for the Heroine of Jericho. May God continue to bless all of us as I start this journey! I will do all can to make it a success.

Eddie F. Jones Sr.





Working in the Quarries



*Deputy Grand High Priest Craig Little
8th District Rehab Day*



*Deputy Grand High Priest Craig Little
8th District*



Working in the Quarries



MEGHP Robert D. Hood visting King Solomon Chapter #71



Newly Exalted Companions



GL Antoine Lilly, PEHP Kendrick Smith, MEGHP Robert D. Hood and REGS Damien Jack,

Working in the Quarries

*Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, NC-PHA
Annual Session*



Working in the Quarries



*11th District Making History
Submitted by: DDGHP James Reed*

Saturday July 8, 2017 proved to be a long day for 21 brothers in the Lumberton area as they took part in North Carolina's first ever York Rite Day. These brothers, on this particular day, were able to complete the York Rite by participating in the ceremonies of initiation of each body.

Their day began by going through ceremonies of initiation for the Holy Royal Arch. Under the direction of Excellent High Priest McKinley Knight of Duncan J. Whitted Chapter No. 81, these 21 brothers were Advanced to the honorary degree of Mark Master Mason, Presided in the Chair, Received and Acknowledged as Most Excellent Masters and Exalted to the August degree of Holy Royal Mason.

Congratulations to the newly exalted Companions. The Companions of Duncan J. Whitted looks forward to work and dedication soon to come from these great men.



*NC Prince Hall York Rite Heads of Houses with
NC A.F. & A.M. York Rite Heads of Houses*



North Carolina Visit to the Virginia Grand Convocation



Working in the Quarries



*General Conference Grand Chapters Holy Royal Arch masons Eastern Alliance Meeting
Submitted by: DDGHP James Reed*

District Deputy Grand High Priest James Reed and Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest Nathaniel Degraffinreaidt attended the Semi Annual Eastern Alliance Meeting held in Boston Massachusetts at the Historical Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The purpose of the Eastern Alliance Meeting is to create a forum to propose and discuss matters pertinent to the advancement of Holy Royal Arch Masonry throughout the Capitular domain, and bring to the attention of the General Grand Conference for consideration.

The Eastern Alliance is made up of the following jurisdictions, North Carolina, Virginia, DC, Maryland, Delaware, Philadelphia, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and West Virginia.

*Prudence-Shaw Chapter #75 and MEGHP
Robert D. Hood Visiting PMEGHP Needham Gee*



Inaugural York Rite Banquet of Raleigh



On Friday, September 15, 2017, the York Rite Bodies of Raleigh launched their inaugural York Rite Banquet. The event was held at the Garner Senior Center in Garner, NC, with 50 guests in attendance. The atmosphere was charged with a spirit of harmony and brotherly love as respective leaders of demonstrated the value of unity.

The guest speaker for this august event was Most Excellent Grand High Priest Robert D. Hood, Most Excellent Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina. He electrified the room with a timely message entitled, "This far by Faith".

Also in attendance was Grand Most Ancient Matron Gwendolyn Joyner, Grand Worthy Joshua William "Bill" Smith III, Royal Grand Perfect Matron Linda Riggins-Rhodes, and Regal Prioress Joanne Mitchell.

Working in the Quarries

*147th Grand Communication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of NC, Inc.
Most Worshipful Grand Master Milton F. "Toby" Fitch, Jr.*



Working in the Quarries



*North Carolina Visit to the 2017 Grand Convocation of the:
Most Excellent Grand Chapter Order of Holy Royal Arch Masons, PHA ~ Georgia
Most Excellent Grand High Priest John R. Smalls*



Investing In Our Youth ~ Investing In Our Future



Companions of Duncan J. Whitted #80,
Marvin A. Jacobs, Robert Evans and
Cassius Adams, Jr.

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Mason of North Carolina recognizes the importance of our role in helping prepare young people for the "World of Opportunity". We take pride in our long history of investing in programs that fosters self-respect, self-worth and self-preservation. Too many of our young people, especially people of color, are subjected to the ills and devastation of distressed neighborhoods, poverty and unemployment while the world continues to grow around them. We live in a world now that requires higher education and skills and it is up to us as members of our various communities to provide any assistance necessary to give them the skills they need. Investing in our young people allows us to invest in the long-term security, stability and growth of our future.

The MEGCHRAMNC awarded one of its 2017 scholarships to Mr. Cassius Adams, Jr. of Walkertown, NC. Cassius is a 2017 graduate of Walkertown High School who is currently attending the University of North Carolina-Pembroke majoring in Psychology. In addition to playing football in high school, he enjoyed working with youth at his local community center where he volunteered over 1000 hours as a youth counselor. Cassius was inspired to volunteer his time because "while working with the youth in the summer program, I realized the struggles of the African-American male and this really bothered my spirit. I believe every child should be afforded the chance at a great life and provided the best guidance possible. I began to speak to the youth about their educational needs, choices they make regarding their life and not becoming a statistic that society has already deemed for African-American males." Cassius is the son of Mr. Cassius Adams, Sr. and Sis. Bobbietta Adams and is the oldest of three siblings.

Also, a scholarship was awarded to Ms. Erykah Cooke. Erykah is a 2017 Kinston High School Graduate, National Honor Society Member and International Baccalaureate Program Pin Recipient. Erykah is a Youth Worship Leader at St. James A.M.E. Church and Young People's Department President. She is also a member of the Kinston Teens, Volunteer with the Special Olympics and Super Bowl of Caring. She is attending East Carolina University, majoring in Elementary Education. She is the youngest daughter of PMEGHP William A. Cooke.

The MEGCHRAMNC proudly works with the Prince Hall Masonic PHamily to promote education and to demonstrate our commitment to a brighter future for deserving students. We look forward to many great accomplishments that are sure to follow these dynamic students.



Ms. Erykah Cooke

As We Three Agree



What comes to your mind when you look at this picture? Some may have thoughts of power, prestige, or stature, but what the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, the Right Excellent Grand King and Right Excellent Grand Scribe want you to see and remember through this picture is togetherness.

Whether it was King Solomon, Hiram King of Tyre, and Hiram Abiff, or Joshua, Zerubbabel, and Haggai, the theme of togetherness remained the same. When the Word was discovered, it was agreed that it would be given to those who were found worthy and only communicated in the presence of all three. When the artifacts were discovered in the ruins and presented to the council, it was not confirmed to be a specific artifact until all three observed and agreed on its authenticity. These two specific councils are examples of togetherness because before King Solomon and Joshua rendered any decision, it was discussed within the council.

When you look at today's leaders inside and outside of Masonry, do you see togetherness? Do you have that feeling of whether all parts of the administrative team are on the same page? Do you feel confident that decisions made within leadership have been discussed internally before being brought to the external body? These are the feelings this Grand Council wants you to express within the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina.

Companions Hood, Hamm and myself are the triangle of the Grand Council. Together we will ensure that whatever decisions need to be made, will be made, in the best interest of this jurisdiction. It is imperative for us to agree, because we not only show how no contention exists within this Grand Council, but when we agree, we promote Peace between each other, Love for our Companions, and Unity within the jurisdiction.

Our Most Excellent Grand High Priest has the final say, but as any good leader does he welcomes the input of those chosen to lead with him. A person who leads without wise council from his cabinet will find himself on an island with no one to support. But as we three do agree in peace, love and unity, we remind each other and our Companions of Ecclesiastes 4:12, "A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a threefold cord is not easily broken."

Holiness to the Lord!



2018 Proclamation 1



Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons Jurisdiction of N.C., PHA
Companion Robert D. Hood, Most Excellent Grand High Priest
Post Office Box 544, LAGRANGE NC 28551
mrhood357@gmail.com

01 October 2017

TO BE READ IN IT'S ENTIRETY IN ALL SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS

Right Excellent Grand King Clinton Hamm, Right Excellent Grand Scribe Damian Jack, Past Most Excellent Grand High Priests, Past Grand High Priests, Grand Chapter Officers, Excellent High Priests, Kings, Scribes and Companions of this Most Excellent Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina, PHA, INC.,

Holiness to the Lord!

Holiness to the Lord!

Holiness to the Lord!

Pursuit to the powers and authority vested in me by the Constitution and General Regulations of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina, Prince Hall Affiliation, Incorporated. I, Companion Robert D. Hood, 30th Most Excellent Grand High Priest, do hereby announce the convening of the 72nd Annual Grand Convocation and summons all Companions owing allegiance to the Most Excellent Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina, PHA, Inc., to join me on Friday, February 9, 2018, for the good of the Rite and further the progress of this Grand Chapter. We will convene at the Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown hotel, located 3415 Wake Forest Rd. Raleigh NC. 27609.

Grand Chapter/York Rite Convention Registration

Advanced Registration is \$150.00 for all three sessions, \$120.00 for any two sessions, and \$90.00 for one session. Advance registration includes luncheon tickets (each day registered), and Friday night's banquet ticket. On-site registration is \$40 per meeting. On-site registrants will not receive anything other than a badge produced by the Grand Chapter to identify our voting delegation. On-site registrants will not receive a luncheon ticket nor a banquet ticket. There are no banquet or luncheon tickets for sale on-site. Advance registration ends on January 30, 2018.

Hotel Reservations

For single or double occupancy, room rates are \$112.75 per night tax included per single/double occupancy. Please reserve your room on or before 15 January 2018. The number for the Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown is 919.872.2323.

Souvenir Journal

All Officers and Subordinate Chapters are asked to purchase an ad for the Souvenir Journal. Full page ads are \$90.00 and Half page ads are \$50.00 (picture included). Souvenir Journal ads/advertisements are due by 23 January 2018. The souvenir journal will be a colored book.

2018 Proclamation 1 Cont.

Order of the High Priesthood

The order of the High Priesthood degree will convene on Thursday, February 8th, 7:00 P M. All newly elected Excellent High Priests must be present to be anointed and admitted in the High Priesthood. NOTE: ANY EXCELLENT HIGH PRIEST-ELECT WHO IS NOT REGISTERED FOR THE CONVOCATION, HAVE PAID REQUIRED FEE AND/OR CHAPTER IS UNFINANCIAL WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO RECEIVE THE DEGREE! Also, all Excellent High Priests-Elect must receive this degree before being installed in their respective Chapter.

Opening an Occasional Chapter

An Occasional Chapter will open at 8:00 A.M. All Companions will need their registration badge to be admitted to the Convocation. Distinguished visitors will be received into the Chapter room at 9:30 A.M.

Annual Reports

To ensure efficiency during the Grand Chapter, all election results, Annual Reports, and fees are due to your District Grand Deputy High Priest by 10 January 2018, which is then due to the Grand Secretary by 15 January 2018. NOTE: You must send separate checks for Grand Chapter Taxes, Benevolence, Past High Priesthood and Scholarship Donations. District Grand Deputy High Priest mail your subordinate Chapters annual reports to the Grand Secretary Richard R. Peeler at 10535 Paces Ave #827, Matthews, NC 28105.

District Grand Deputy High Priests and Committee Reports

Deputy and other Committee reports should be mailed to the Grand High Priest NLT 15 January 2017. These reports should be concise detailing your work for this calendar year.

Annual Kings Contest

District Deputy Grand High Priests are responsible for ensuring each district have a representative. The Chapter's representative name, respective reports, and funds should be forwarded to R.E. Grand Scribe Damien Jack, 3801 Winterfield Place, Charlotte, NC 28205, Email: masonic1906@gmail.com, NLT 15 January 2017.

Fraternally,
3x3



Companion Robert D. Hood, KYGCH

Most Excellent Grand High Priest

Most Excellent Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons

Jurisdiction of North Carolina Inc. PHA

