



# The Texas Prince Hall Freemason



Official Publication of The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Texas



*"Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope."*

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr**

**TPHFM Volume 5 - Issue 17 - Spring 2023**

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# The Texas Prince Hall Freemason

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Greetings,

The Texas Prince Hall Freemason accepts submissions of articles and photographs of general interest to Prince Hall Masons throughout the Lone Star State.

The Texas Prince Hall Freemason is published quarterly in the months of November, February, May and August. Submissions of articles and photographs are to be forwarded to the publication's Editor via email.

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The Texas Prince Hall Freemason  
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# ELECTED GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

2022-2023



**MOST WORSHIPFUL  
GRAND MASTER  
Wilbert M. Curtis**



**R.W. Deputy Grand Master  
Michael T. Anderson**



**R.W. Grand Senior Warden  
Big Bryce A. Hardin**



**R.W. Grand Junior Warden  
Frank D. Jackson**



**R.W. Grand Treasurer  
Robert J. Datcher**



**R.W. Grand Secretary  
Tracey C. Bittle**



**R.W. Grand Tiler  
Marcus Thomas**



**R.W. Grand Auditor  
Samuel L. Hobbs Jr**



**R.W. Grand Auditor  
Joseph Thomas III**



**R.W. Grand Auditor  
Norman L. Thomas**

# MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER

## From the Grand East

### Wilbert M. Curtis Grand Master



Wilbert M. Curtis

I greet you in the name of The Grand Architect of the Universe, there by whom all blessings flow. It is my prayer that you are receiving the bountiful blessings of joy and peace. Continue to spread the cement of brotherly love and charity as you travel.

As we have moved into a new calendar year and the second half of our Masonic year, I am pleased to be able to say that things continue to look positive for the Texas Prince Hall Masonic Family.

The Master Masons had a very successful Mid Winter session in November. We had excellent workshops that were very informative.

The York Rite Bodies had an exceptionally great York RiteWeekend in Killeen, Tx. My hat goes off to the. Head of those Houses and the entire membership. It was a golden opportunity for everyone to get back into the convention experience. We look forward to the Scottish Rite, Texas Council of Deliberation to be held in El Paso next month. Over the next few months our Masonic Family will continue the state wide activities. Please participate and support them.



On the Grand Lodge level, a new version of the Grand View Membership System (GVMS) will be rolling out a new and improved version. Also remember that GVMS will be reset in March in preparation for 2023 Masonic year reporting and elections. This will be the second year that we will be reporting online instead of the blue annual returns forms.

We are looking forward to having our 148th Annual Communication at the Frisco Embassy Suites Hotel in June. We are hoping for a packed house! Be sure and make your reservations early.

As I close, please remember that the principles of which Our Grand Old Order is founded upon; faith, hope and charity. The greatest of these is charity. We are to be living examples of upright men and women not only in our lodges, courts and chapters but in our homes, communities, work places or where ever our travel takes us.

I remain...

Fraternally yours

Grand Master Wilbert M. Curtis



**Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter  
Holy Royal Arch Masons of the State of Texas.  
Elected Grand Chapter Officers  
2022-2023**



**MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH  
PRIEST  
MICHAEL BERRY, SR.**



**RIGHT EXCELLENT DEPUTY  
GRAND HIGH PRIEST  
KEITH MC MURRAY**

**RIGHT EXCELLENT GRAND KING  
ANDRE MCGAUGHEY**

**RIGHT EXCELLENT GRAND  
SCRIBE  
JEROME CALBERT**



**RIGHT EXCELLENT GRAND  
SECRETARY  
VICTOR WIGGINS JR.**

**RIGHT EXCELLENT GRAND  
TREASURER  
ANTHONY L. DAVIS**

**RIGHT EXCELLENT GRAND  
SENTINEL  
DAMON MATTOX**







Eula W. Bell  
Grand Worthy Matron



Anthony K. Carr  
Grand Worthy Patron



*Norris Wright Cuney  
Grand Chapter  
Officers*



Tracy Gardner  
Grand Associate Matron



Phillip H. Edwards III  
Grand Associate Patron





**Trina Powell**  
Grand Conductress



**Myrtle Smith**  
Grand Associate Conductress



**Shontell Pickett**  
Grand Secretary



**Talya J. Stroman**  
Grand Treasurer



**Johnnie McMillan**  
Grand Board Member



**Diane Adams**  
Grand Board Member



**Willie Foreman**  
Grand Board Member



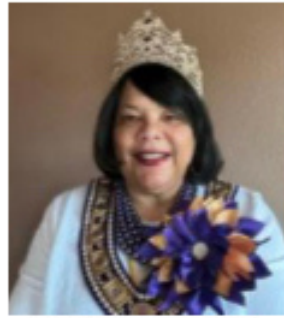
**Robert B. Calloway, Jr.**  
Past Grand Worthy Patron Emeritus



**Marvin Dave**  
Grand Board Member



Elected Grand Court Officers Of Margaret A. McDow Grand Court LOCOP  
2022-2023



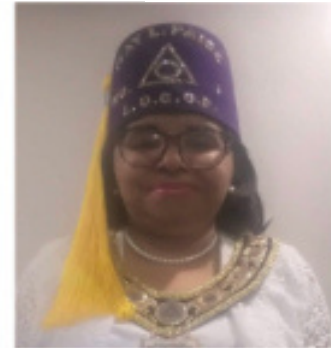
Royal Grand Perfect  
Matron  
R. Lucille Samuel, PYCH



Royal Grand Deputy Matron  
Demetra Jackson



Royal Grand Principal Conductress  
Conwaja (Lilbit) Brunson-Grice



Royal Grand  
Treasurer  
Sonya Wilkes



Royal Grand  
Secretary  
Monique N. Calbert



Royal Grand Associate  
Conductress  
Patricia Thomas



Royal Grand Conductress  
of  
Ceremonies  
Angelena Phifer



Royal Grand Trustee #1  
Patina Alexander



Royal Grand Trustee  
#2  
Bobbi McGhaughey



Royal Grand Trustee #3  
Cassandra Robinson  
Gossett

**LONE STAR GRAND  
GUILD OFFICERS  
2023-2024**



**Grand Princess Captain  
Monique Calbert**



**Eminent Grand Royal Advisor  
André McGaughey Sr.**



**Grand Assistant Princess Captain  
Patricia Thomas**



**Grand Princess First Lieutenant  
Conwaja Brunson-Grice**



**Grand Princess Second Lieutenant  
Demetra Jackson**



**Grand Princess Secretary  
Shuntai Mitchell**



**Grand Princess Treasurer  
R. Lucille Samuel**

**By The Cross,  
Monique Calbert**

Heroines of the Templars Crusade

Lone Star Grand Guild of Texas PHA

**Grand Princess Captain**



# GRAND LECTURER CORNER

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I pray the Great Architect of the Universe continues to bless, guide, and protect you and your families. If you all would allow me a few moments of your time, I would like to share my thoughts on leadership and a few qualities leaders should possess.

First and foremost, we must ask ourselves what is leadership? According to the Oxford dictionary leadership is “The action of leading a group of people or an organization”. Although I agree, I would say that leadership is the act of “SERVING”, a group of people or an organization, which is in accord with the language used during our annual elections. Once the nominations have been made and the ballots cast, the presiding officer announces to the Brother or Sisters that they have been elected to “SERVE” as Worshipful Master, Most Ancient Matron or Worthy Matron, etc. for the ensuing Masonic year. Most of us associate leadership with the titles and positions that are held within our respective local, district, state, and national Masonic bodies. However, leadership is not the actual titles or positions that we hold. Simply put, “LEADERSHIP IS SERVITUDE AND SERVITUDE IS LEADERSHIP”. I am a fond believer in the bigger the title you have, the bigger the “SERVANT” you should be. Too often when we’re elected or appointed to positions, our egos show up and we are looking to be served, not to serve. It’s been said, if you really want to know the true character of a person, give them some power or money, and watch them reveal their true selves. If they were truly humble before receiving either of the two, then they will display even more humility. But, if they were pretending to be humble, then they will reveal the opposite, which is never good for any organization.

Furthermore, a leader is a visionary who knows from whence they came, where they are now, where they want to go in the future. More importantly, they know how to communicate their vision with purpose, passion and clarity to the other officers and members, in order to achieve the desired results. As a side note, there is a huge difference between having a vision and having a personal agenda. If a leader has a vision, the organization will succeed, but if they have a personal agenda, the organization will most likely suffer.

Leaders have integrity and rely on their core values to guide their decision making, decorum, and interactions. Although they know that having integrity won't make them a leader, they also understand that without integrity they will never be one. Effective leaders possess a strong sense of character, keep their promises, communicate openly, and honestly, and are respected for being authentic, moral, and rational.

Leaders know that effective communication is more than giving an attentive ear and responding appropriately. It includes sharing important information, asking for opinions, being transparent and communicating/connecting effectively with different personalities, who may be from different social, religious, education and economic backgrounds.

Leaders also motivate, inspire, and invest time in the officers and members of their organization, to determine their strengths, needs, and priorities. They also make them feel valuable and reinforce how their efforts are making a difference.

The discussion on leadership and the qualities of good leaders are so extensive that I would need to develop a leadership symposium just to delve deeper into these topics.

Therefore, in conclusion, I will leave you all with a quote from Debashis Chatterjee, "The most significant role of a leader is to make the invisible clearly visible. Inspiration is invisible but inspired action is visible. Truth is invisible but trustworthy behavior is visible. A leader has to constantly cross the bridge between what is unseen and that which is seen in order to connect with his followers".

Fraternally Submitted  
Troy A. Cousin  
Grand Lecturer-At-Large



# Love Chapel Lodge #558 Donates To Victims of EF2 Tornado Of Hughes Springs, Texas

*(Rodney K. Hartfield, District Deputy, District #1)*

**HUGHES SPRINGS, TEXAS** – On the evening of Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> an EF2 tornado hit the small East Texas town of Hughes Springs causing damage and destruction to homes and buildings. City Hall and the fire department appeared to be total losses during this weather event. Hughes Springs is the home city of Love Chapel Lodge #558.

In March 2022, a similar incident happened southwest of this city in the Lake O' the Pines area. In late spring, Love Chapel Lodge acknowledged a need to construct a plan to provide some level of assistance and have a community presence during such events in the lodge's vicinity. Unbeknownst to recently raised Brother Perry Kaigler, who volunteered to take the lead, that an opportunity would come so soon to assist the community with an immediate need. By mid-summer, information was culminated and stored, complete with contact information regarding county emergency preparedness, local staging areas, etc. Ironically, the November tornado affected the very people and locations that were identified in area's severe weather contingency plan. The First Assembly of God Church was the designated location to accept, inventory and distribute the community donations. When contacted regarding community need, a request was made for assorted batteries, candles, flashlights and lanterns which the lodge graciously donated on November 7<sup>th</sup>.



# Christmas Parade

## *[Fundamentals through Frivolity]*

*(Rodney K. Hartfield, District Deputy, District #1)*

**HUGHES SPRINGS, TEXAS** – On the evening of Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Love Chapel Lodge #558 participated in the town's annual Christmas parade. The brand new trailer and customized F-150 was lent to the lodge by a friend of Brother Carl Holloman. Community kids were encouraged to participate with the brethren by waving and throwing candy to the crowd of parade goers. The kids gladly accepted this "job" and quickly volunteered "test" the many varieties of candy and other goodies being tossed to onlookers. The truck's sound system proved truly sensational as the lodge spread Christmas cheer with the sounds of the Fairfield Four's "Children Go Where I Send Thee" and the Temptations' "Silent Night", "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" etc.

Older Brothers reflected on times decades ago when their lodge forefathers frowned on the frivolity of participating in such things. Other Brothers laughed and commented on challenging the "old heads" of the significance of public displays of membership other than funerals. All got a good belly laugh when reminded of a conversation, years earlier, with Brother T.L. Morrow, the oldest member of the craft:

**Brother Morrow:** "Well, I must say something, men!"

**Brother Denmark:** "What's that T.L.?"

**Brother Morrow:** "That was the best parade that I have ever been in."

**Brother Bo Hopkins:** "Oh yeah?"

**W.M. Hancock:** "Hey T.L.!"

**Brother Morrow:** "Yeah, Bruh "Wishful"?"

**W.M. Hancock:** "Exactly, how many parades have you been in?"

**Brother Morrow:** "Well, Just one now!"





Comments were made that reminded the Brothers of the significance of such public participation. Many present had remembered from years earlier the surprised looks and straightened posture and prideful looks on the face of community members and kinfolks as they recognized the Lodge making its first appearance in such an event. As this sight was unforgettable, the feeling was undeniable. Just minutes earlier though, local newspaper personnel had seemed awestruck at the presence of the fully-regaled craft.

One young reporter reluctantly asked would the craft be singing or providing entertainment. Not offended by the question, the Worshipful Master seized the opportunity to enlighten the youthful reporter and the crowd that had seemed the gather with similar questions but dared to ask.

And there were other occasions when members of the other lodge in town would question members of the Love Chapel as to their location and longevity in the community. Amidst the fun and festivities of a parade, these occasions were/are seen as opportunities to educate the public on masonry in general, Love Chapel Lodge in particular and escalate its presence in the community.

# District 11

## TRUE SERVICE LODGE, UD #399 – LEADING THE WAY.

In the greatest uses of *-Fides, Spes et Caritas*



### "TRUE SERVICE LODGE"



"CHARITY SUFFERETH LONG, AND IS KIND; CHARITY ENVIETH NOT; CHARITY VAUNTETH NOT ITSELF, IS NOT PUFFED UP, AND NOW ABIDETH FAITH, HOPE, CHARITY, THESE THREE; BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS CHARITY."  
1 CORINTHIANS 13:4, 13 KJV



"EVERYTHING YOU DO AND EVERY DECISION YOU MAKE SHOULD BE FROM A PLACE OF GOOD. YOU SHOULD ALWAYS BE STRIVING TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE. "UNTIL THE GRAND CREATOR CALLS YOU HOME."



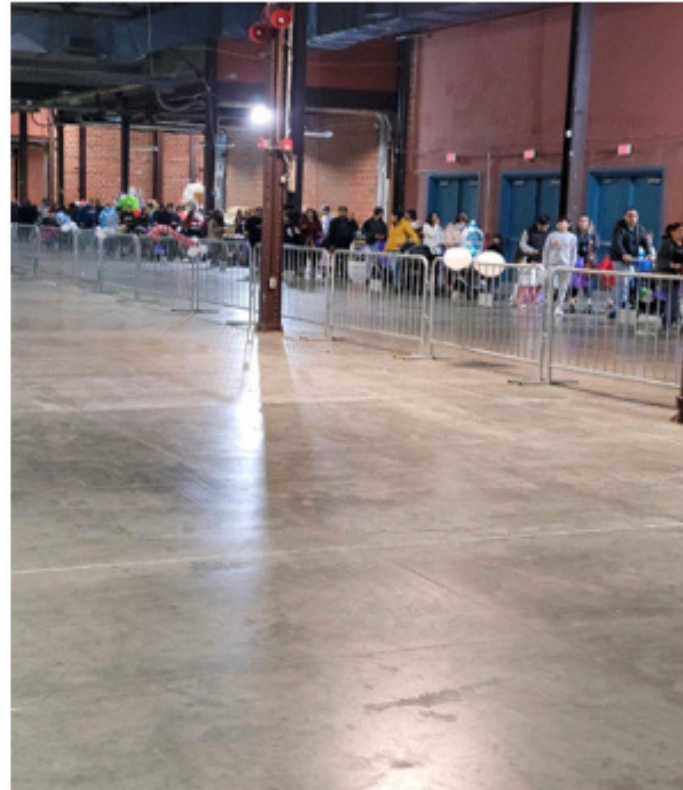
"Where cordiality knows no bounds"!

What is Cordiality? We should exhibit cordiality daily and it should be what binds us together as men of integrity and enlightenment. In a lodge, we as men, must handle cordiality through our thoughts and actions. I was told by a Past Master that "We as freemasons Govern ourselves by verse Psalm:133 1-3". Once enlightened, a Mason should never be bitter or vain in their quest to shape their rough edges and finding new ways to express and exemplify cordiality. This is such that we should constantly be in search of further light and shine light throughout our communities and places of worship. This collective manifestation of cordiality should be ongoing until you are peacefully placed in the bosom of the Grand architect's grace and civility. True Service Lodge reflects this light of cordiality and its best uses in its direct involvement in the community. This is done by serving and aiding those in distress and helping the downtrodden. These are the communities that don't have a voice and feel unheard. True Service lodge looks to help those that reflect the values and diversity that PHA was birthed to serve off the virtues of faith, hope and charity.



## FAIR PARK CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE GIVEAWAY

True Service Lodge partnered with Viola's House to provide for over 5,000 Dallas residents with toys, clothes, diapers, etc.



## MESQUITE MLK PARADE



Masonry is in fact a system of morality shaped in signs and symbols but is only validated when the good of the craft and the symbolism is exhibited and validated daily in cordiality. The work of the grand Creator should not be limited to family and friends; we must reach out to those who are lost without hope for or purpose. That lost and downtrodden could be your next Worshipful master or Grand master. In closing we at all lodges must practice cordiality in the best hopes of keeping of light and cordiality of the brotherhood concerning masonry and the communities in which we hold true.



## Voting Engagement

True Service Lodge takes pride in community engagement and civic matters due to our membership basis and commitment to our community.





## The re-birth of True Service Lodge #399 (UD)

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 True Service Lodge #399 (UD) was set to work. Prior to being set to work a request to seek out the ability of petitioning for the creation of a new lodge or reactivation of True Service Lodge 399 (defunct) to serve in an untapped area within Dallas County. This area, we felt will benefit from what Prince Hall Freemasonry stands for as it relates to community service matters and as means to reach and engage potential members with our ability to strategically position ourselves to be visible and network with community leaders and businesses.





## PROJECT 319 FOOD PANTRY



Project 319 is a partnership with Shiloh Baptist Church, where bi-weekly groceries are given out in partnership with North Texas Food Bank, Walmart, & others to serve the community.







### Collaboration & Fellowship

True Service Lodge makes it a point to collaborate with and supporting lodges and their initiatives. "Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success." – Henry Ford

Feeding the Homeless in partnership with Celestial Lodge





# GOOD STREET BAPTIST LODGE #182 ANNUAL THANKSGIVING TURKEY DRIVE

*BROTHER ANTHONY ADAMS*

## **District 11**

**Dallas, Texas** – On this beautiful day of November 19, 2022, the brothers of Good Street Baptist Lodge #182 partnered up with the members of Good Street Baptist Church for its Annual Turkey Drive. A total of 200+ turkeys were handed out to families in need of assistance. The morning was full of laughter, joy, and fellowship as we assisted the Good Street Baptist Church members with station setup, traffic direction, and handing out Turkeys to cars as they pulled up.

A special thank you goes out to Sam's Club and Brother's on a Mission for their donations to our great cause. It was a great pleasure working with Store Manager Aline Vallien for Sam's Club, with their donations we were able to meet our goal to help as many families in need as we could.

Good Street Baptist Lodge #182 would also like to send a special thanks to Earl Logan (New Day #655), LaShall Ricks (New Beacon of Light #80), and Bobbie McGaughey (JD Cash #6) for joining us in this memorable event. Your help was greatly appreciated and duly noticeable. It was Brotherly and Sisterly Love at its finest. Thank you.

\*Brothers on a Mission is affiliated with Good Street Baptist Lodge #182



# District 15-A Marches in The Original 45th Annual Martin Luther King Parade of Houston

Christopher Houston, DDGM, 15-A



Houston, TX – On the Morning of January 16th, district 15-A came together to march in the “45th ANNUAL ORIGINAL MLK PARADE” which began at 10 a.m. downtown Houston starting at the intersection of Smith and Lamar street.

Mayor Sylvester Turner, served as the 2023 parade grand marshal alongside co-grand marshals Dr. Camille Cash (plastic surgeon) and Rev. Dr. Derek King (nephew of the late Dr. King). This year's parade also paid tribute to the late Houston civil rights and labor activist John Bland, who died in 2020 and was themed "Climbing the Mountain to a Better Future". The district participation in the parade was organized by PM Mike Tatum (3) who has spearheaded coordinating this event over the past few years. In addition, the brothers of Magnolia (3) graciously donated a trailer to assist those unable to walk the ability to still participate along with refreshments and candy for the children that lined the streets. The parade was immediately followed by a free MLK Festival at Hermann Park Square at Houston City Hall where as variety of food trucks, vendors, live music, DJs and youth activities were available until 5 p.m.





# LOGOS Lodge No.659 Welcomes New Members







## 2023 Matagorda County Martin Luther King Silent Unity March

*Bro. Jerry Manning (Worshipful Master Gulf Coast Lodge #272)*  
**District 15B**

**BAY CITY, TEXAS** – On Monday, January 16, 2023, Gulf Coast Lodge #272 joined with the Matagorda County Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee to celebrate the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This event is celebrated annually as we walk the streets of the town in silence and solidarity to commemorate the march that Dr. King led across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama.

**One of the goals of the Celebration Committee is to show unity and solidarity within the community that we all share.**

**We are able to achieve this goal by having participants from all demographics of our community.**

**This year's Silent Unity March included Gulf Coast Lodge #272, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Pastors, elected officials from the city and the county including the mayor, city council members, school board members, the superintendent of schools, coaches, teachers, a written letter from our state representative, business owners, law enforcement, first responders, a host of community volunteers, and this year's highlighted marchers, the youth of Matagorda County.**

**The Silent Unity March concluded at the Mother Zion Missionary Baptist Church where a short program was held, along fundraising activities from local vendors.**

**This year Gulf Coast Lodge #272 helped with set up of the march route, as well as participated in fundraising activities by selling pork chop sandwiches to help support our scholarship fund.**





2023 MLK Silent Unity  
March

# MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY SILENT UNITY MARCH





The work of the lodge is never done, but it is a labor of love

*BRO. GEORGE P. SHELL JR.*

***District 19***

**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS** – Christmas is the time of year where Santa comes to town and delivers toys to girls and boys. Therefore, in the Spirit of Christmas and Brotherly Love, the brothers of John T. Maxey Lodge #74 closed out 2022 by giving back to the community and distributed toys that were collected from their annual Toy Drive. Children who lived in the neighborhood where the lodge was located were able to come to the lodge and pick out 2 age-appropriate toys. The remainder of the toys that were collected were donated to San Antonio's Battered Women's Shelter as well as Cleft of the Rock Church. It is often said that it is better to give than to receive. However, when you give, you also receive because the gift is not the present that is given, but rather the smile on the face of the of the child that received the gift which warms "your" heart. The toy drive is just one of the years events that allows the lodge to exhibit the tenants of the masonic profession and the brothers of John T. Maxey are always looking for ways to make it an even bigger and better event.

John T. Maxey Lodge #74 kicked off the New Year with its participation in a multitude of events which covered the Dream Weekend. On January 14, 2023, lodge members attended the 94<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Celebration banquet that was sponsored by Roosevelt Tennessee Holy Royal Arch Chapter (UD) and San Antonio Northwest Civic and Social Club. This was a spectacular event that paid tribute to the memory of Civil Rights icon, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and was very well attended. Representing the Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter Holy Royal Arch Masons of Texas was the Most Excellent Grand Hight Priest, Michael Berry Sr. and from the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas was the Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden, Frank D. Jackson, who was the keynote speaker.



As members of District 19, on January 15, 2023, the brothers of John T. Maxey continued with their participation of MLK Dream Weekend events as the district laid their wreath at MLK Plaza in San Antonio, Texas. There were a host of organizations in attendance as well as San Antonio Mayor, Ron Nirenberg and Keynote speaker, Judge Calvin Williams of Montgomery, Alabama. Judge Williams was the first African American to hold the position of County Circuit Judge in Montgomery County.

On January 16, 2023, John T. Maxey Lodge #74 participated in the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual MLK March along with hundreds of thousands of San Antonians who took part in the 2 ¾ mile march from Martin Luther King Academy to Pittman Sullivan Park on the city's east side. This year's theme was "Together We Can Be The Dream" and a certain sense of pride and purpose could be felt during the march. San Antonio traditionally hosts the largest MLK March in the nation, however, this was the first time the march took place since the pandemic.

2023 is just beginning and there are a great many things on the horizon this year. Whether it be donating toys in the spirit of Christmas, participating in the remembrance of Civil Rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., or any other form of support, the brothers of John T. Maxey Lodge #74 look forward to standing in the gap with the community doing the work of charity in the name of brotherly love.





19<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>RD</sup> Masonic District celebrate MLK's dream with the biggest march in the U.S.-  
"Together We can be THE Dream."

*Sidney H Thompson, SDDGM (19)*

**San Antonio, Texas** –The 19<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> districts in partnership with the city of San Antonio Martin Luther King Jr. commission was invited to take part in the largest march of the nation. The 36<sup>th</sup> Martin Luther King, Jr. march and Celebration took place on Monday January 16, 2023. The celebration began with the in-person march kickoff at 10 a.m. at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy, 3501 Martin Luther King Drive, and ended at Pittman-Sullivan Park, 1101 Iowa St. Hundreds of thousands of people turned out at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day March and busload after busload brought people from one of three park-n-ride locations and dropped them off at the Freedom Bridge at Martin Luther King Park. The march made its way over more than three miles to Pittman-Sullivan Park for a celebration that included speeches, performances, a health and wellness area, a youth area, and food and merchandise vendors.

Both districts represented by Master Masons and the head of the appendant and concordant bodies joined together to honor the slain civil rights leader returned for the first time since the pandemic began.







D19 Wreath Laying SDDM Clary Glover presenting wreath to City of San Antonio



Members of Districts 19 & 23 Concluding MLK March at Pittman Sullivan Park



# District 23 PHA Masons First Annual Christmas Gift Give-Away

*Cliff Massey, District 23 District Deputy*

**PHA Brothers of District 23 Spread Holiday Cheer in Schertz, Seguin and Lockhart, Texas**



*Seguin ISD for Toy Giveaway*

*Historic Carver High School for Giveaway*

**Schertz, Seguin and Lockhart, Texas** – The Brothers of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Masonic District held its First Annual Christmas Gift Giveaway in District 23 footprint on December 10th, 2022, at two locations, supporting three cities. The event held in Seguin and Lockhart, Texas, was born from The Prince Hall Masonic Family Annual Christmas Giveaway. According to the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas website, The Prince Hall Masonic Family of Texas and Jurisdiction Annual Gift Giveaway tradition started 14 years ago and currently chaired by Brother Robert B. Calloway.

## **Ask and We Shall be Answered!**



*SW Betton and SDDGM Jenkins Preparing Gift Card Bags*

Gifts are available if we ask with a faithful heart, and seek them, not for personal reasons. Senior Warden Darius Betton of J Washington Lodge No. 191 asked a simple question in open district session. "Why can't we give away gifts in our communities and soliciting partners from our community?" We posed the question to Brother Robert B. Calloway and Most Worshipful Grand Master Wilbert M. Curtis. Their immediate response was, "we encouraged you to set aside a day and give." We advertised D23 First Annual Giveaway was in conjunction with the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual MWP HGL of Texas Giveaway scheduled for December and set aside a date one week before the state-wide event.

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*Happy Family at Lockhart Gift Giveaway*

It was an enormous success! In less than 30 days we received donations from Mike Clarkson of The Jordan Clarkson JC Cares Foundation, Brother Terrence Woodley from Seventh Sense Consulting in Virginia and CTIW-Central Texas Iron Works, in addition to, donations from D23



lodges and district funds. We earmarked families in Schertz, Seguin and Lockhart, Texas, by coordinating with The Pastor of First Baptist Church in Lockhart, Texas, and the Director of Community Outreach, Seguin Independent School District to share in the spirit of the season before our walk-up first-come-first-serve giveaway. We proudly distributed \$5K in toys and \$1K gift cards to youths and parents in Schertz, Seguin and Lockhart, Texas.

The Brothers of District 23 PHA Masons of Texas express our sincere gratitude to The Jordan Clarkson JC Cares Foundation, Seventh Sense Consulting in Virginia and CTIW-Central Texas Iron Works. Their generous contributions helped change the lives of families! Children received toys such as bikes, board games, basketballs, footballs, remote control cars, dolls, books and more. What was done to reach youths and parents were amazing!



*Mike Clarkson of JC Cares Foundation*

Recently, we were contacted by a community leader who was present at the Lockhart giveaway, she stated, "I want to thank you Masons from the bottom of my heart for all that you do; the toys you gave and gift cards to parents were the only gifts some received." You Masons "MADE" a favorable impact on our community at Christmas.

The price of gasoline per gallon, \$ \$3.12, the price of a dozen eggs, \$3.59, the smiles on the parents and youth faces ... PRICELESS! Thanks to everyone that made District 23 First Annual Holiday Giveaway successful creating a magical holiday for family and youths.





# District 23, Prince Hall Masons Restoring a Legacy of Lodge and Community

*Dr. Asley Moye, District 23, Special District Deputy*

**District 23, Cibolo, Texas**



*Vocational High School built in 1923 was once occupied by Royal Feast Masonic Lodge #214, Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas*



*Recorded as Texas Historic Landmark in 2008 is located at 1104 East Market Street, Lockhart, Texas*

The philanthropy of Julius Rosenwald in collaboration with Booker T. Washington is believed to be one of the most significant contributions to the education of African Americans. For the millions of African Americans without adequate schools, books and other necessities, the Rosenwald Foundation helped fund thousands of schools across the American South during the first half of the 20th century. Where Booker T. Washington of the Tuskegee Institute helped to bring about the building of several small schools, first in rural Alabama. It was the Carver Vocational High School for African Americans in Lockhart, Texas. Built nearly one hundred years ago in 1923, Carver Vocational High School was not just the single choice for education for local African Americans, but it was also considered a safe space. A



place where children would find their identity, discover their purpose, all while escaping the struggles of the time. A place where dedicated teachers nurtured and encouraged African American children to excel.



*Pictures of Graduating Classes Proudly Displayed over Windows*

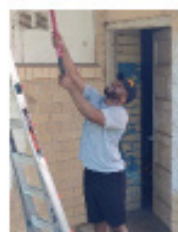
In 1964, the school witnessed its last graduating class, as it closed that year due to public school integration. The school had been the home of the local Head Start Program and Royal Feast Masonic Lodge #214, Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas. Aging membership of Royal Feast Masonic Lodge #214 led to its inactivation and the building has become the subject of vandalism and graffiti.



*Vandalism and Graffiti constantly requires painting and cleanup.*

### The Legacy of Lodge and Community

With the support of the Prince Hall Charitable Foundation, local community members and Carver graduates, Prince Hall Masons continue to keep the grounds and conduct repairs. This has helped a great deal to counter the vandalism and mitigate the other damages from wear and



*Brother R. Thompson of Grandville C. Coggs #668 Painting and Removing Hornets Nests*

tear. The periodic clean ups and repairs often became an "all hands" efforts from people and agents from surrounding areas. Efforts which have allowed local community members to host community wide events at the Carver Vocational High School, with continued hopes of someday soon, having the school restored to function as an Archives, Museum and Learning Center. The most recent event was a community Health Expo lead by Mrs. Hattie Carter, which became the genesis of discussions for a possible Juneteenth event in 2023.

Under the guidance of Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master Michael T. Anderson, the restoration of the Carver Vocational High School has been a focal point of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Charitable Foundation, District 23 PHA Masons, local community leaders and alumni. The



*Committee Members of District 23 Taking a Break from Labor*

leadership of the community, alumni, and Prince Hall Masons has called for the establishment of a committee, with the charge of carrying out efforts necessary to restore the building, while memorializing the grounds, maintaining the history of the Carver Vocational High School, and revitalizing Prince Hall Masonry in the Lockhart and surrounding areas.

The Prince Hall Charitable Foundation, which is a (501c3) community-based service-oriented organization whose goal is to restore the formerly G.W. Carver High School to a mixed-use space that builds community recovery and resiliency in Caldwell County, Lockhart, Texas by partnering with helping agencies to meet the needs and address challenges. The building would house training programs supporting community and commercial entities that will improve mental, physical, technical, social, and economic resilience.

Quoting Ziggy Marley, "The African-American community still needs to come together as one and stand up for rights of the people and of what's happening in their culture, their community." The Brothers of District 23 under the direction of Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master Michael Anderson, Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden Frank Jackson and "The Prince Hall

Charitable Foundation's goal is to go beyond the physical edifice but together with the community work towards the revitalization of a safe space to initiate and support programs that strengthens the community, by providing a place to acquire new skills, to preserve and protect its historical records and memorabilia while transcending the exigencies of the times. We want to invest in the potential of community residences and provide a new space to the community. The Prince Hall Charitable Foundation Committee will continue working diligently with volunteers, local community leaders, alumni, historic district developers, organizations, and donors to secure funding for this revitalization project. Contact the committee members of Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Michael Anderson, Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden, Frank Jackson, Chairman of the PHCF, Willie (High) Coleman, or District 23 District Deputy, Cliff Massey inquiring about support or donations.





# Pride of Killeen Lodge #620 Hosted their 1st Wives Appreciation Dinner

Story by: PM Kenneth B. Jones Sr.

The Brothers of Pride of Killeen Lodge #620 hosted and participated in their 1st ever Appreciation Dinner for their wives on 28 January 2023 from 3-6pm which also included several of our Widows. This event was hosted at their lodge hall located at 410 North 8th Street in Downtown Killeen, Texas. The lodge sent out invites by mail and email to all members wives and widows. The menu included a steak dinner with a loaded baked potato, salad, and cheesecake. Worshipful Master Johuntas Hawkins stated, "At this event the men will cater to the ladies throughout your time here." This was well received by all the ladies present.



The members, their wives, and widows socialized for the 1st hour introducing themselves to those they had not had the opportunity to meet yet. Many made new friends while others rekindled old relationships of many years. While the social hour was ongoing, the last of the steaks were being completed on the grill. Ladies had their choice of a T-Bone or Ribeye.



**Meanwhile Worshipful Master Hawkins introduced himself and let all within the sound of his voice know the occasion of why we were here. Everyone was welcomed to the event; the food was blessed in prayer and dinner was served.**

**Upon completion of dinner, there were a couple of presentations made. 1st the members presented each of the ladies with a long stem red rose. Senior Warden Adrian Davenport then read the poem named "A Masons Wife" and each member presented the ladies with a copy of the poem. The ladies gave a round of applause after receiving these presentations. Lastly, each husband had the opportunity to express his appreciation for his wife in front of all present much to the delight of each one of the ladies.**

**There were closing remarks given by Worshipful Master Hawkins, members, wives, and widows and all were in sync that this was an event that was a resounding success. Past Master Willie Fields Sr. stated, "In my 38 years of being a member of this lodge, this is the 1st time we have ever done something like this for our wives and I hope we continue to do so." The lodge should take that advice and ensure they keep the success of this event a part of their calendar for years to come.**



# 620 In The Community

We the members of Pride of Killeen #620 set up on the corner of Gray and College St in the Boys and Girls parking lot. Patrons were happy and eager to see us come to deliver a small-time blessing that met a lot to them. We distributed 50 meals consisting of chicken noodle soup bowls, doughnuts, chips, bottled water and hot fresh coffee. Everyone was appreciative and many returned for second portions. They were comforted with seasonal Christmas music while they fellowshiped with us and their friends. We were also joined by our very own Brother and Chief of Police of Killeen, Bro Charles Kimble and local councilman Riokos Adams who thought our concern and passion for the disadvantaged residents of historic downtown Killeen was heartfelt and a tactic of selfless service for the community. Our community initiative gives us a stronghold and positive pillar in the community.



"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

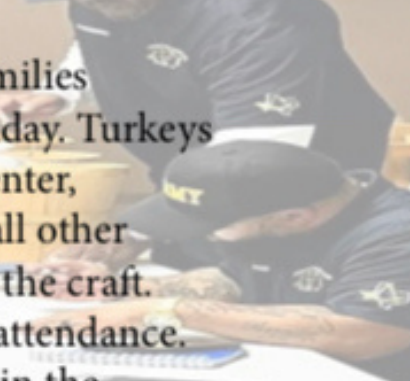
1 Corinthians 13:13








# 620 In The Community



On December 20, 2022, Pride of Killeen Lodge No. 620 provided 54 deserving families with food baskets for the Christmas Holiday. Turkeys were provided by the local Food Care Center, PM Landrum supplied the baskets, and all other items were donated from the brothers of the craft. DDGM Levi and SDDGM Ford were in attendance. Both felt we are doing outstanding work in the community. SDDGM Dubose of District 14 was also able to come out. He commended us for being able to accomplish this event in such great magnitude. The event was headed by JW Nash with the assistance of SW Davenport, several Past Masters, and brothers of the craft. WM Hawkins greeted families making their way to pick up baskets. His goal was to provide baskets to more families every year. We have been blessed to do just that.

Written by JW Kenneth M. Nash Sr.



I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first. - Revelation 2:19



## **Pride of Killeen Lodge #620 Hosted Central Texas PHA Meetup on the Fort Hood, Texas Military Installation.**

Story by: PM Kenneth B. Jones Sr.

**Killeen Texas**-The Brothers of Pride of Killeen Lodge #620 hosted and participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Central Texas Prince Hall Affiliated Meetup for lunch and fellowship of the year on 20 January 2023. Which started at 11:30am and went on til 1pm. The weather was perfect in the Central Texas area and allowed many to come out. It was very welcoming for everyone that attended.

Pride of Killeen Lodge #620 hosts this event twice a year on the Fort Hood military base at the Main Post Exchange Food court located off Clear Creek Road. It is hosted once in January and once in July every year. The primary goal when hosting this event is to try and bridge the gap between a vast amount of sojourning active Duty Military Master Masons, Eastern Stars and other members of the Masonic PHFamily whose daily activities are only limited to the confines of the military base and its amenities. Many never travel outside of the installation. They mostly only go from their workplace on the base, to the Main PX and back to their home and families. It is the sincere intent of the lodge to meet and fellowship with those who attend and help create and build strong bonds while encouraging and assisting them in become active in the Central Texas Masonic community. It is always a work in progress and always successful on many levels.





There were 20 or more in attendance on this date. To include the Special District Deputy Grand Master of Pride of Killeen #620, Alphonso Ford. SDDGM Ford was very welcoming as he shook hands and spoke with everyone in attendance. We had the pleasure of having some of our Eastern Star and Heroines of Jericho ladies attend and support as well. All around we had a very nice time in fellowship with each other. While some were able to stay the entire time, unfortunately others had to depart and return to their work place and homes. Overall we had a great time breaking bread and will be looking forward to the next opportunity.

Our next event will be in July 2023. We will send invites via social media to target many of our military members as well as our local community. This will continue to be a milestone event. One which will help Pride of Killeen Lodge #620 and the Central Texas Masonic family grow and be the bridge to assist many who think they are traveling alone.



# Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227

## Working Hard in the Community

Story written by Gregory Benton,  
PM, Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227

**Belton Texas- November 9, 2022, the members of Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 attended midwinter session where three young men were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason at the Grand Lodge in Fort Worth Texas.**

**On November 11, 2022, WM Sammie Jordan, DDGM Tommy Levi and several members of Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 were invited and attended the Mt Zion UM Church 148th Anniversary celebration in Belton TX. WM Jordan and DDGM Tommy Levi gave words of praise for allowing Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 to be part of their community celebration. The church service was great, and it gave Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 a chance to be represented in the local community. WM Sammie Jordan presented Pastor Patrick Russell with a small token of appreciation on behalf of Nolan Creek Lodge # 227.**



**WM Sammie Jordan with the members of Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 visiting Mt. Zion UM Church for their 148th Church Anniversary**



**Nolan Creek hosted its annual Thanksgiving baskets giveaway for needy families on November 22, 2022, at 7:00pm. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, Nolan Creek proceeded with its Thanksgiving basket giveaway in-accordance with CDC guidelines. Instead of the recipients coming into the Lodge area, Nolan Creek members gave the baskets to families by means of a drive-by. The members of Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 placed the items into the trunk of the recipients' vehicles. Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 gave out a total of 26 baskets and delivered baskets to our widows. The families were thankful and grateful to receive a Thanksgiving basket. After the Thanksgiving basket giveaway, the members of Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 took the time to visit their wonderful widows.**



**WM Sammie Jordan with the members of Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 preparing Thanksgiving baskets to give out to the community**





WM Sammie Jordan with the members visiting the widows of Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227



On December 21, 2022, Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 held its annual Christmas basket give-a-way. Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 followed the same CDC guidelines as it did for Thanksgiving. Nolan Creek Lodge No. 227 gave out a total of 13 baskets to needy families. The families were very appreciative in receiving their baskets. We also had a visit from one of the pillars in the community, Ms. Estella Lulu Murray.



**Members of Nolan Creek lodge No. 227 along side with Ms. Estella Lulu Murray at Nolan Creek annual Christmas Basket giveaway 46**



# Prince Hall Masonic Family Celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Story written by PM Alphonso Ford

## **District 24**

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’” - **Dr. Martin Luther King**

**Killeen Texas-**Martin Luther King, Jr., original name Michael King, Jr., (born January 15, 1929, Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.— died April 4, 1968, Memphis, Tennessee), Baptist minister and social activist who led the civil rights movement in the United States from the mid-1950s until his death by assassination in 1968.”

On November 3, 1983, 15 years after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. assassination. President Ronald Reagan signed a bill marking the third Monday of January, as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, In January 1986, the first national Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday was observed.

On January 16, 2023, the Killeen Branch of the NAACP continued the celebration of this most important holiday by sponsoring the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. march that was held in Killeen Texas. The March started at approximately 9:00am with local community organizations in attendance which included the Prince Hall Masonic family. The theme for the 2023 MLK holiday march was “Keep Marching: We’re Not There Yet.”

After the march, participants gathered around the steps of city Hall for a closing prayer.





From Left to Right WM Scott Johnson, SW Adrian Davenport, HP Ray Baldwin, REC Cornelius Marshall leading the way with the Prince Hall Masonic family in the 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King



Prince Hall Masonic Family at the 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. March



# Temple Masonic Family Observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day hosted by Temple Branch NAACP

*Wilbert M. Curtis, Treasurer, St James Lodge No. 71*  
**District 24**

**Temple, Texas** – St. James Masonic Lodge No. 71 and the Temple Masonic Bodies attended the Martin Luther King Jr. Observance program at Mt. Zion Baptist Church on Monday, January 16, 2023, along with guests from around District 14 and District 24. The observance included the installation of the Temple Branch NAACP Officers, and a tree planting dedication. At the end of the program, the brothers and sisters of the Masonic family went and toured the nearly completed St James Lodge Hall

The program was hosted by the Temple Branch NAACP, with Dr. Zoe Grant, President-Elect serving as Mistress of Ceremony. The program opened with a prayer followed by the occasion given by Dr. Grant. City Council and Mayor Pro-Tem Judy Morales read a proclamation from the City of Temple.

A portion of Dr. Martin Luther King's "I have a dream message" was given by Dr. George R. Harrison followed by a musical tribute and a praise dance by the Community Praise Dancers.

A NAACP Scholarship Collection was taken with brothers of St James Lodge No. 71 serving as ushers. It was followed by another praise dance rendition. Rev. Dr. Charles Maze gave a spirit filled sermon.

Immediately following the program, the newly elected officers and executive committee of the Temple Branch NAACP were installed by Judge Paul Motz, Bell County Court of Law No.1. This was followed by corporate prayers covering the NAACP and community.





**Masonic Body at the Program**



**Rising Sun Court HOJ at the Program**



**Masonic Body taken a tour of the newly built Lodge at St. James Lodge No. 71**





**NAACP Installations ceremony**



**MWGM Curtis Addressing The Audience**



**Masonic Leaders visiting the newly built Lodge at St. James Lodge No. 71**



St James Masonic Lodge No. 71 was one of four organizations that was recognized as a Life Member of The Temple Branch NAACP. The other three were Mt Zion Baptist Church, St James UM Church and Victory Baptist Church. Final remarks were given by the President.

After the close of the program with a prayer, all assembled for the Tree Planting Dedication across the street. The City Park Department has donated a tree to each of the four Life Member organizations to be planted where they designate. A Tree Planting Ceremony was performed for Mt Zion Baptist Church tree. WM Gaylon Sandles represented the Lodge and shoveled dirt on the tree. Plans are being made for planting the Lodge's tree at the Lodge Hall.

Following the end of the program, members of the Masonic Family went to the Lodge Hall and was given a tour of the building that is still under construction.

For those who were still around at the end were treated to lunch by our most gracious DDGM Tommie Levi.

Thank you, WM. Sandles, HP. Marvin Yarber, MAM Hardeman, CIC Benton, GTIM Lilley, Kt. Shider, DDGMs Levi & Adderley, the brothers. from Killeen, Copperas Cove, Belton, Round Rock and Austin for fellowshiping with the brothers of St James Lodge No. 71 and the community of Temple, Texas.

Fraternally yours,  
MWGM Wilbert M. Curtis  
St James Lodge No. 71  
MWP HGL of Texas



# Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No.45 Contributes Toys to Operation Blue Santa

By David Featherston, Worshipful Master THK45

**Round Rock, TX** - Thomas H. Keithley Lodge #45 (THK45) collected toys for the Round Rock Police Department's Operation Blue Santa program on December 20, 2022.

This was THK45's third year participating with the Operation Blue Santa Program. THK45 donated two barrels of toys this year. During the three years of donating toys, THK45 has contributed over 100 toys to Operation Blue Santa.

Operation Blue Santa is a nonprofit program supported and organized by the Round Rock Police Department. Since 1978, Operation Blue Santa has assisted thousands of Round Rock families and children in need.

Pictured is RR Police Lieutenant Joseph Claypool, WM Featherston, and Bro. Nik Shanklin.





## Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No.45 Assists George Washington Museum Ambassadors

By David Featherston, Worshipful Master THK45

**Austin, TX** - Thomas H. Keithley Lodge #45 (THK45) assisted the George Washington Carver Museum Ambassadors (Ambassadors) in decorating the lobby of the museum by helping to install a 20-foot Christmas tree on November 28, 2022.

The Ambassadors is a fundraising organization that supports the Carver Museum by donating works of art, funding museum programs, and issuing scholarships to area students.

WM Featherston is a longtime member of the Ambassadors and is currently Vice-President of the organization. Other District 24 members of the Ambassadors include: DDGME Art Sauls (founder), PM Jerrett Robinson, and Special Deputy Robert Wright.

The Ambassadors also sponsors *The Silver Bell Social* and *The Santa Special*. The Silver Bell Social is a free jazzy Christmas musical featuring local headliners Pamela Hart and Dr. James Polk. The Santa Special allows neighbor children to receive Christmas treats and to take a free picture with a Black Santa Claus. THK45 has volunteered for both events in the past.

Bro. Rick Flowers is pictured with WM Featherston and Ambassador President Bernadette Phifer. For Ambassador membership information please contact WM Featherston.





# Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No.45 Conducts Winter Clothing Drive for Round Rock Area Serving Center

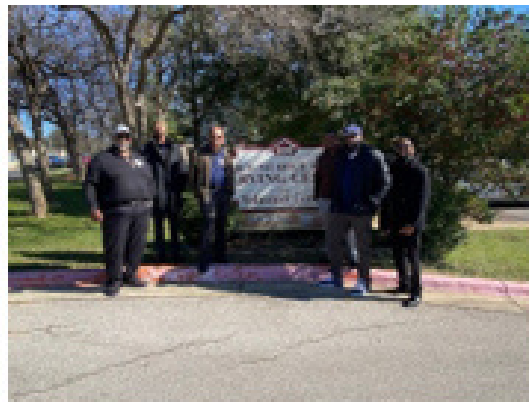
By David Featherston, Worshipful Master THK45

**Round Rock, TX** - Thomas H. Keithley Lodge #45 (THK45) conducted a Winter Clothing Drive in conjunction with Round Rock Lodge #227 on December 17, 2022, for the Round Rock Area Serving Center.

The two Masonic Lodges combined donated over 40 bags and boxes of gently used clothing, coats, and shoes to the Round Rock Area Serving Center. The Round Rock Area Serving Center is located on 1099 E. Main Street, Round Rock, TX 78664.

The Round Rock Area Serving Center provides assistance to those less fortunate in the Round Rock area. This includes providing clothing for the homeless, battered women and children, and for people transitioning from incarceration. They also operate a food pantry and provide financial assistance for utilities and rent. Tours of the facility are available upon request.

This was the first joint community service activity between THK45 and RR227. Pictured with THK45 is RR227 WM Tom Macaluso.





## Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No.45 Conducts Church Visit in Killeen Texas

By David Featherston, Worshipful Master THK45

**Killeen, TX** - Thomas H. Keithley Lodge #45 (THK45) did a church visit at A Servant's Heart Restoration Ministry in Killeen, TX on January 29, 2023. SW Octavio Washington gave The Word during the service.

SW Washington spoke on "A House Divided" based on the famous Abraham Lincoln speech where President Lincoln declared that "A house divided against itself, cannot stand." SW Washington cited the benefits of working together as a church, country, community, and organization. His word was well received by the congregation.

Pastor Daryl Hollis moderated the service and Brother Byron Evans provided the Welcome. WM David Featherston and JW Mike Owens were also in attendance.

A Servant's Heart Restoration Ministry was founded by Pastor Hollis and his wife in El Paso, TX in 2012. They started a second ministry in Georgetown, TX two years ago and relocated that ministry to Killeen last August.





Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668, honoring Dr. Granville C. Coggs and family with wreath laying at JBSA-Ft. Sam

*Victor "Doc" Hendricks, Worshipful Master*

**JBSA-Ft. Sam Houston, Texas** – The Gentlemen of Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668 participated in Reefs Across America 2022. Brothers Harris, Brown, Thompson, Themann and Kinzey stand in honor and solitude at the memorial site of Dr. Granville C. Coggs, an Original Tuskegee Airman. The family of Dr. Granville C. Coggs yield their support to the Master Masons of Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668, dedicated in his honor to lay a reef at his memorial site annually.





# Texas Masonic Apron Presentation in Maryland

*Patrick Brathwaite, District Deputy Grand Master*

**OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND** – During the 174<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland and Jurisdiction, Inc., the Honorable Emanuel J. Stanley, Past Most Worshipful Grand Master of Maryland was presented with a Texas embroidered white apron. The apron was presented by Past Assistant Regional Deputy R.:W.: Jerwon Bethel, and on behalf of the Honorable Wilbert M. Curtis, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Texas.

In 2019, R.:W.: Jerwon Bethel was invited by members of Key West Lodge # 257 to attend the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas Annual Session, where his father Paul Bethel was to receive his Past Master degree as the newly elected Worshipful Master of the lodge. After obtaining approval from then, MWGM Stanley and upon sending proper notification to the Texas Jurisdiction, R.:W.: Bethel was able to attend our session in support of his father.

At the Texas Annual Session, R.:W.: Bethel brought greetings on behalf of MWGM Stanley. MWGM Curtis then proceeded to make R.:W.: Bethel an honorary member of the jurisdiction of Texas and also, presented him with a Texas embroidered apron.

Due to the COVID pandemic and work requirements, R.:W.: Bethel was not able to attend earlier sessions. However, during their 174<sup>th</sup> Annual Session, held 1-4 December 2022, R.:W.: Bethel was finally able to present the apron to, now, PGM Emanuel J. Stanley.







Shiloh Royal Arch Chapter No. 16  
2022-2023

## SHILOH HRAC No. 16 Answers the call!

*Sidney H. Thompson, PHP*

**San Antonio, Texas** – Michael Berry, Sr., Most Excellent Grand High Priest, of The Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons, by proclamation called all Companions aforementioned, to assemble at our 141st Grand Convocation, February 3, 2023, Killeen, Texas held at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel.

Answering the call made by MEGHP Michael Berry Sr. to lead and support within and outside our organization, several Shiloh HRAC No. 16 Companions were recognized for not only leading but providing tangible results.

The Grand Chapter recognized and awarded South Region District Grand High Priest Kenneth G. Carnes as COMPANION OF THE YEAR. He earned this award for the leadership guidance, knowledge, and hard work in assisting Roosevelt Tennessee HRAC No.

148 receive their charter, managing and leading his assigned South Region chapters, serving, and leading Shiloh HRAC No. 16 as Excellent High Priest. RDGHP Carnes was re-appointed as South Region DGHP, elected as Vice President of the Order of the Priesthood and recipient of Certificate of Achievement for Gold Contributor Pledges (\$100) toward the Grand Chapter's Ways & Means Scholarship Fundraiser.

PGHP Ben Burleson was instrumental and a linchpin in ensuring Roosevelt Tennessee UD received their charter and developing to become Roosevelt Tennessee HRAC No. 148 by providing sound wisdom, advice, training, and encouragement. Although he is a member of Shiloh No. 16, he is also a honorary charter member of R.T. No 148. His dedication to his duties as a mentor and providing wise council kept the members of Roosevelt Tennessee encouraged and motivated.

PGHP Anthony L. Davis was awarded a plaque and certificate of recognition for not just performing his job as Grand Treasurer, but working above and beyond that which was required. He expanded methods of payment for the Grand Chapter and all subordinate chapters. He streamlined and improved bookkeeping, designed and developed a database enabling the Grand Chapter leadership with daily, monthly, and annual roll-up reports of its financial status, this resulted in the Grand staff to make real time decisions in the best interest of the Grand Chapter and zero deficiencies during the annual audit. He was awarded Certificate of Achievement for Gold Contributor Pledges (\$100) toward the Grand Chapter Ways & Means Scholarship Fundraiser and re-elected as Right Excellent Grand Treasurer.



EHP Victor Rodrigue Sr, PGHP Ben Burleson, PGHP William “Billy” Paige, PHP Steve Crayton, PHP Stacy Foushee, King Kevin Mathews, and PMEGHP Marcus Smith were all recognized as recipients of the Certificate of Achievement for Gold Contributor Pledges (\$100) for their generous contributions toward the Ways & Means Scholarship Fund.

All Shiloh HRAC No. 16 members are involved one way or another, individually and collectively in achieving the Grand Chapter’s mission statement by supporting the surrounding community in helping our local churches, local library, youth mentoring programs and school districts.

Shiloh is infatuated with leading, supporting and becoming a model Holy Royal Arch chapter within the Texas jurisdiction. Our members believe and demonstrate, “**Masonry has no boundaries.**”

# Roosevelt Tennessee Royal Arch Chapter No. 148 Receive Its Charter

*Cliff Massey, Excellent High Priest Roosevelt Tennessee RAC No. 148*

**CIBOLO, TEXAS** – Quoting the Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu; “The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step”. Roosevelt Tennessee HRAC (UD) was set to work in a ceremony held on March 12th, 2022, under the authority of The Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons of Texas and its Jurisdiction, Most Excellent Grand Chapter High Priest Michael E. Berry, Sr. The chapter is named in honor of Past Grand High Priest and Honorary Past Grand Master, Roosevelt Tennessee.



*Figure 1 Past Grand High Priest Roosevelt Tennessee.*

This was an exciting challenge for 19 Companions to start a journey toward achieving the objective of becoming an active and influential Holy Royal Arch Chapter and carry the legacy of a masonic icon in the San Antonio Metropolitan Area and PHA Masonry in the MWPHGL of Texas and Jurisdiction.



*EHP Cliff Massey Receiving Charter from MEGHP Michael Berry Sr.*

It was a lot of work administratively, ritualistically, and establishing roles and objectives. In eleven short months, we initiated activities and programs in line with the MEPHGC of Texas mission statement for health awareness, voter's registration, and support to higher educational institutions. We dived into community assisting, supporting, and helping District 23 PHA Masons of Texas during their First Annual Holiday Toy Giveaway in Cibolo and Lockhart, Texas. We co-hosted the city-side Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, 94<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Celebration Banquet with San Antonio Northwest Civic and Social Club. We added a 5K Fun Walk/Run in Cibolo for health awareness, sponsorship for the newly established Buffalo Soldiers Knights of Pythagoras Council No. 20 to our immediate upcoming trestle board for 2023. We used the MEPHGC of Texas mission statement and methodologies as our rule and guide that molded us into a Holy Royal Arch Chapter. On February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, during MEPHGC 141st Grand Convocation, under the hand of MEGHP Michael Berry, Sr., Deputy Grand High Priest Keith

McMurray, and Grand Secretary Victor Wiggins, Roosevelt Tennessee Holy Royal Arch Chapter No. 148 was awarded our charter to be known and designated on the register of The Prince Hall Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Texas. Holiness to the Lord.

Now the next steps begin. The journey of each additional step lead Roosevelt Tennessee RAC No. 148 into the future while carrying on the legacy of PGHP Roosevelt Tennessee.



# Lone Star Grand Commandery of Texas- Knights Templar (PHA)

## 133rd LSGC Grand Conclave Photos







Douglas Burrell Consistory No. 56 A.A.S.R., PHA  
Orient of Texas  
Valley of Houston



Cordially invites you to attend our

*"Annual Meet & Greet"*



**JOINT SCOTTISH RITE AWARDS BANQUET, PHA**  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2023





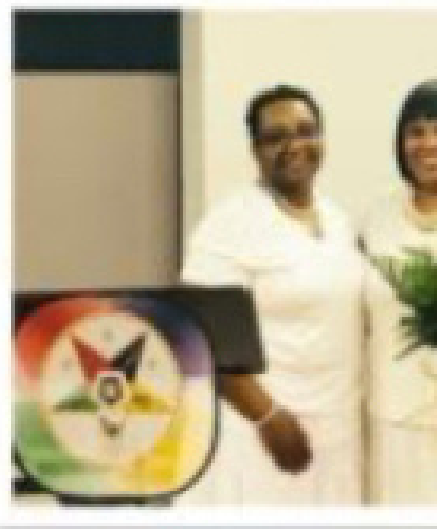
# Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter's 25 Years Service Award

Worthy Matron Sandra Alexander and Stars of the Sun Chapter No 6, El Paso, Texas celebrated with members who received the Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter's 25 Years Service Award. These members have had 25 years of continuous service with this Grand Chapter in El Paso, Texas.









# Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Stars

Worthy Matron Benetris Edwards along with members of Stars of Gate City #57 in Orange, Texas celebrated Prince Hall Americanism 2022 with all Masonic bodies in the area. Due to all of her hard work, WM Edwards was presented a Proclamation at the Chapters Thanksgiving Banquet where they also presented two families with Thanksgiving baskets. Stars of Gate City members showed off their Breast Cancer awareness shirts at their quarterly District Meeting in October. The Chapter has adopted a street in Orange, Texas which they are responsible for maintaining.







Worthy Matron Jeanette Brown along with members of Cubie Horton Chapter #14, San Antonio, Texas made a donation to Trulight Ministers Children Shelter for their food pantry; Supported breast cancer awareness by participating in a 5K walk & run. Congratulations to WM Brown who is a survivor; Delivered Thanksgiving baskets to four families; The Chapter closed out the year with toys and a visit to the Children's Cancer Hospital.





Mellie Arps ~ Living Stream  
Court #195  
Heroines of Jericho

Presents

# Big Hats



and

# Bow Ties

Brunch



July 29, 2023  
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

**Saturday**  
**July 29, 2023**  
**The Potpourri House**  
**3320 Troup Hwy. Suite 300**  
**Tyler, TX 75701**

For more information contact  
Sonya Baker 903-283-8215  
Shakendra Hawkins 903-521-8754

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## Mellie Arps/Living Stream Court #195, Tyler Texas

Story and Pictures by Heroine Sonya Baker, MSW, MS  
Edited by Heroine Yvonne Shuler, PhD, CP

Mellie Arps/Living Stream Court #195, Tyler, Texas, excitedly shared the joy and the gift of the love of God during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season.

The Court's compassion was shared within the Court as well as in the community.

Melli Arps/Living Stream and Dewitt lodge started a traditional event in Tyler, Texas. They served an early Thanksgiving dinner to residents and the resident's families at a local nursing home in Tyler, Texas.

The joy did not stop there. Melli Arps/Living Stream started another tradition during the Christmas season. The Court took on the project of providing coffee to East Texas Hospice every quarter. The first of such great events was December 6, 2022. East Texas Hospice only had three (3) jars of coffee in the pantry and Most Ancient Matron wanted to add a little more to their possession, so Melli Arps/Living Stream donated many jars to East Texas Hospice.



(L-R)

*Myrtle Sherman  
Most Ancient  
Matron*

*Shakendra Hawkins  
Senior Matron*

*Patricia Durst  
Junior Matron*

*Sonya Baker  
Junior Attendant*

As previously mentioned, the Court didn't just support the community. Melli Arps /Living Stream delivered Christmas goodie bags to their own sisters of the Court locally and mailed gift cards to members in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area who now reside with family members in the DFW metroplex, but they still maintain membership in our local Heroines of Jericho court.



Melli Arps/Living Stream and Dewitt Lodge serving an early Thanksgiving dinner at local Tyler, TX nursing home







*Heroine Dorothy Langley receiving Christmas gift bags presented by Most Ancient Matron Myrtle Sherman for herself and Heroine Liz Pierce*



*Heroine Bernice Jones received a goodie bag as she recuperates at home after hospital dismissal.*



*Heroine Magnolia Biggs. "I'm always glad to see you and I appreciate everything y'all (the Court) do for me."*



*Heroine Faye Hill and Most Ancient Matron Myrtle Sherman*







Mellie Arps/Living Stream Court #195, Tyler Texas  
November Community Service Thanksgiving Food Basket Project

The week before Thanksgiving, Melli Arps/Living Stream Court #195 delivered food boxes to several families in the community. The food boxes were filled with all the fixings/trimmings for a full Thanksgiving dinner to include a turkey, stuffing, and pumpkin pie.



*'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few:*



*therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'*

*Matthew 9:37b-38*



# Lone Star Grand Guild 2023



Happy New Year!! From the Grand Princess Captain Monique Calbert.

The 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Grand Conclave started out a little icy and some members couldn't make it due to the inclement weather, but the members that were able to make it came out in big numbers. South Central Guild #39 warmly welcomed all Guilds and guest to Killen, TX. Along with GPC Monique Calbert. Below are some highlights of a great 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Grand Conclave. The 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Grand Conclave was very successful and informative. Planning is under way for the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Conclave and all Guilds and guest can't wait.



One of the favorite highlights was the Queen's Contest and the winner is Joanne Wilson of Alston Kennedy #10 of El Paso, TX.





South Central Guild #39 was given an award from GPC M. Calbert







GPC Calbert talking to PPC Cowin



The big smiles on the princess's face





The Grand Royal Advisor Andre McGaughey





Grand Musician Edwina Edwards and Emerita PGPC R. Lucille Camille



Grand Commissary and Grand Asst. Commissary

Lone Star Grand Guild ended York Rite 2023 with **Texas Themed Western Dance** that everyone kicked backed and had a great time.



# St Cecil Guild#2 Kicking off York Rite weekend in Killeen Texas, the Country of Texas Style!

After two years in dealing with a Pandemic, St Cecil Guild #2 Fort Worth Texas is back and at it again! We started out 2023 at our 93<sup>rd</sup> Lone Star Grand Guild Conclave in Killen Texas with our very own Grand Princess Captain (St Cecil Guild#2) Presiding. St Cecil Guild#2 alone with South Central Guild#39 tied at first place for most members present of 11 princesses each. Our 93<sup>rd</sup> Lone Star Grand Guild Conclave ended on Saturday with the "Texas Theme Western Dance." York Rite 2023 was successful and everyone had a great time we can't wait for York Rite 2024 and St. Cecil is declaring that we will win the most members for at York Rite 2024. Below are some pictures from York Rite 2023.



# Texas Themed Western Dance

Lone Star Grand Guild









## Junior Bethel Youth Palace #103

Tyler Texas

Submitted by Queen Anetha Francis



Once again, Junior Bethel Youth Palace #103, Tyler, Texas exhibits another virtue, "Charity." During the 2022 Christmas Season, and as the first Saturday monthly meeting was fast approaching, Queen Anetha Francis decided that Junior Bethel would serve the community by "Ringing the Bell" for Salvation Army's Angel Tree. For almost three hours at a local Chick-fil-A, members of Junior Bethel greeted and thanked many donors who contributed to the kettle.



L-R: Princess Ashlyn Thatcher, Ancient Secretary; Brittany Thatcher, the parent; Princess Aaliyah Thatcher, Ancient Princess; Heroine Anetha Francis, Palace Queen.





## Walker's Village Palace #28, Huntsville, Texas

Story and Pictures by Heroine Debra Johnson, Queen Assistant  
Edited by Heroine Yvonne Shuler, PhD, CP

Meet Prince Bruce Johnson, member of Walker's Village Palace #28, Huntsville, Texas, under the leadership of Queen Cassandra McNeil and Queen Assistant Debra Johnson. Bruce participated in the virtual Prince Hall Youth Family of Texas Soulful Christmas on December 11, 2022. He was asked to share what Christmas means to him...



I'm Bruce Johnson and I serve as the Chief Marshall of the Grand Youth Palace. I wish to share with you what Christmas means to me.

Christmas is not just about getting presents but to celebrate the birth of Jesus. But we all know presents are a bonus.

Christmas is a time to spend with my family.

Christmas is a time to show gratitude.

Christmas is a time to make others feel happy.

Christmas is a time to thank God.

Our family traditions on Christmas Eve are we bake cookies, and we always leave two cookies and a glass of milk for Santa. Our family always wear matching pajamas for Christmas, and we always take lots of pictures.

Christmas is a time when mama puts our elf on the shelf. His name is Scotty. Each morning, I wake to see where Scotty has moved throughout the house.

Christmas is a time for family bonding and to bring a message of joy, peace, and hope to everyone.





## Venus Ambrister Court #17, Luling, Texas Willie's Peak Youth Palace

Submitted by Queen Annice Brawley  
Edited by Heroine Yvonne Shuler, PhD, CP

Compassion! The sympathetic awareness of others' distresses together with a desire to alleviate those distresses. Compassion is what moved the Willie's Peak Youth Palace to donate toys to less fortunate children during the Christmas Season.

At a time of year when most youth are focused on what they want and what they would desire to receive, it is surprising and impressive to find youth interested in ensuring others are being blessed during the season of gift-giving.

Willie's Peak Youth Palace partnered with Retired Nurses' Group of Caldwell County to donate toys to the Legacy Ranch Kids, a non-profit Licensed Foster Care and Adoption agency located in Caldwell County, Texas.



Two of the Willie's Peak Youth Palace members, under the adult supervision of Junior Matron Karen Brown bagged the gifts and the gifts were whisked off to Legacy Ranch Kids by a Retired Nurses of Caldwell County volunteer.

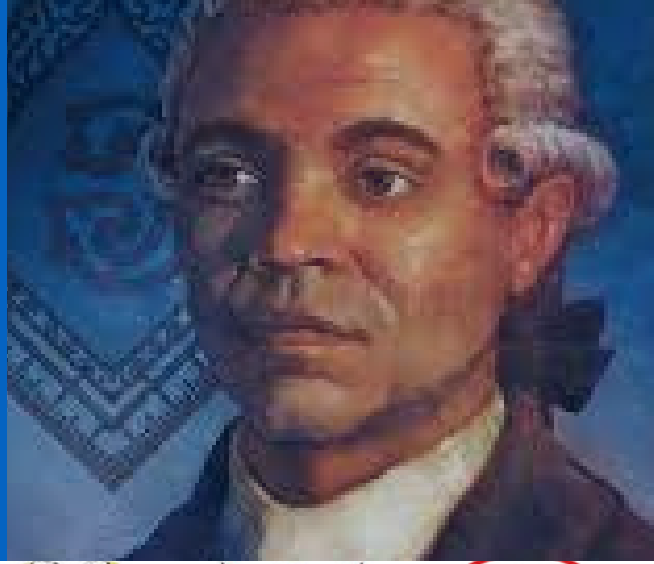
Willie's Peak Youth Palace also partnered with Retired Nurses Group of Caldwell County and a local church to collect and give toys to children in Caldwell County. It was a glorious haul! Many children were blessed by these gifts.





# T.P.H.F.M

THE TEXAS PRINCE HALL  
FREEMASON



M.W. PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE  
F. & A. M.  
STATE OF TEXAS  
ORGANIZED AUGUST 20, 1875  
STONE LEVELED JUNE 23, 1986

