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THE PRINCE HALL VOICE



“GROWN MEN CONDUCTING GROWN MEN BUSINESS”

— TRUTH ~ MORALITY ~ BROTHERLY LOVE —

— HON. LYNWOOD F. GIVENS 33° —

28TH MWGM



From the Desk of the
**MOST WORSHIPFUL
GRAND MASTER**

It is with deep humility and sincere gratitude that I thank you, the members of this esteemed jurisdiction, for electing me as your 28th Most Worshipful Grand Master. I am honored by your confidence and entrusted with the responsibility to serve and lead during this important time in our history.

As we embark upon this new Masonic year, we do so with optimism and a shared commitment to progress. We are looking forward to a prosperous and productive year—one that reflects our collective dedication to excellence, unity, and the advancement of our beloved Craft.

It is truly an honor to represent the distinguished brothers across the eleven Masonic Districts of South Carolina. Each district contributes uniquely to the strength of our jurisdiction, and together, we form a brotherhood grounded in tradition, purpose, and service.

We are ever mindful that we stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us—men of vision, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to the principles of Freemasonry. Their legacy continues to guide us as we strive to uphold the values they so faithfully preserved.

As we move forward, we will do so under the guiding principle: “Grown Men Conducting Grown Men Business.” This motto reflects our expectation of professionalism, accountability, mutual respect, and disciplined leadership in all that we do.

We are also excited to present this edition of *The Prince Hall Voice*, the official publication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of South Carolina. This publication serves as a vital platform for communication, recognition, and the sharing of the impactful work taking place throughout our jurisdiction.

We encourage and look forward to continued submissions from across our jurisdiction, as we seek to highlight the outstanding efforts, achievements, and community contributions of our Craft. Your participation helps tell the story of who we are and what we represent.

On behalf of the Elected and Appointed Officers of this Grand Lodge, we extend our sincere appreciation for your continued support, dedication, and commitment to the principles of Prince Hall Masonry.

Fraternally Yours,

Lynwood F. Givens, 33°

28th Most Worshipful Grand Master
Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
of Free and Accepted Masons of South Carolina





Message From
**THE DESK
OF THE EDITOR**

PRINCE HALL VOICE

Our Heritage. Our Voice. Our Future.



Welcome to The Prince Hall Voice—your source for news, inspiration, and information from across our Grand Jurisdiction and beyond.

As Editor, my mission is to ensure that every issue reflects the strength of our unity, the richness of our heritage, and the impact of our service.

We are more than an organization; we are a legacy in motion—educating, empowering, and uplifting our communities.

Thank you for reading, supporting, and sharing in this journey. Together, let's continue to build, inspire, and leave a lasting mark.

Fraterally,

PM Russell H. Booker



INFORMED. INSPIRED. CONNECTED.

NBA Teen Skills Event

St. Peter Lodge #142 Partners with City of Rock Hill and Empower Eden to Mentor Local Youth

Submitted By: SW Lionel Williams

Rockhill, SC – On February 28, 2026, the brothers of St. Peter Lodge #142, Chester, SC proved once again that our labor extends far beyond the walls of the Lodge. We joined forces with the City of Rockhill Parks and Recreation, and the nonprofit organization Empower Eden to host the “Teen NBA All-Star Basketball Skills Event” held at the Boyd Hill

Recreation Center. The event provided local teenagers with a day of athletic training and personal development.

The event was opened with an invocation delivered by Worshipful Master, Franklin Thompson. Members of St. Lodge #142 served in various capacities, including skill station captains, guiding the youth through drills and basketball fundamentals. Beyond the court,

The brothers prioritized mentorship, engaged the youth in one-on-one conversations and participated in a Q&A panel focused on leadership and life skills.

Our Worshipful Master, Franklin Thompson, prioritized our goal as being visible, supportive, presence for the youth in our community. By partnering with organizations like Empower Eden, we provided the guidance and encouragement that the you men need to succeed.

Brothers in Attendance

- Franklin R. Thompson Jr. – Worshipful Master
- Hansrico Hutchinson - Past Master
- Michael Miles Jr. - Past Master
- Lionel Williams – Senior Warden
- Octavious Watson – Junior Warden
- Timothy Williams – Tyler
- Marcus Palmer – Junior Deacon

This event successfully strengthened our ties with the Rock Hill community and provided a meaningful platform for the Lodge to model leadership for the next generation.



Iva Lodge Kicking Off the “Season of Giving”

Submitted By: Bro. Stephen Matthews

Iva Lodge # 408, located in the Iva Community of Piedmont District 3, led the season of giving off to a great start with donations to Homeland Park Primary School where Mrs. Nicole Torbert-Moorer, is the Principal and Mrs. Ashinique Owens is the Assistant Principal. Homeland Park began educating students during the 1954-1955 school year. The school drew students from Gluck Mills, Roberts, McLeese, Southside, and Kennedy Street Schools. In 1959, a new wing was added which included four classrooms, a book room, and two restrooms. In 1990-1991 a second combined renovation and addition was completed. In 2010-2011 a third renovation was completed along with a new wing. The new wing includes an art room, music room, Mac lab, science lab, four restrooms, and four classrooms. The 2012-2013 school year was Homeland Park's first year as Homeland Park Primary, educating students in grades K-2.



Iva Lodge #408 also made donations of a variety of Turkeys and Ham to Mt. Carmel CME Church located in Anderson, SC where Rev. Nathaniel Poole serves as the Pastor.



PHamily in the Upstate Blazing a Trail of Service

Submissions By: Bro. Alex Jefferson, W.M. White Horse Lodge #200

To use the phrase, "Teamwork, makes the Dream Work" would be an understatement for the



positive strides WM Jefferson as well as the Prince Hall Family of the Upstate are making bringing smiles to many faces and changing lives of the Greenville and surrounding areas. The trailblaze of service kicked off with clothing donations to various kids at Tanglewood Middle School where Mr. Leroy Platt serves as the principal. The vision of Tanglewood Middle School is to equip students with the 21st Century skills and people skills necessary to become the best version of themselves. The Mission of Tanglewood Middle School is to educate, to motivate, and to inspire every student every day. Organizations supporting this endeavor were: VFW Post #6734 where Charles F. Gandy Jr., serves as

Captain, Greenville Signet #55 Holy Royal Arch Masons, Jerusalem Council #3 Royal & Select Masters, Knights Templar, and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc.

The trek of service continued with partnering with the Mt. Pleasant Community Center and Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church who sponsored a Community Easter Egg Hunt. Many thanks to WM Brown of Mt. Pleasant Lodge #389 who coordinated with the Masonic Houses to join forces and support this auspicious occasion. Organizations that participated in this event



were: Mt. Pleasant Chapter #252 OES, Blue Ridge Chapter #115 OES, Lowndes Hill Chapter #164, Mt. Pleasant Lodge #389, Laurel Creek Lodge #332, White Horse Lodge #200, Azah Court #101 DOI, and Azah Temple #140 AEAONMS Inc.



The next stop on the Service Train was made to Prisma Health Cancer Center Institute where White Horse Lodge #200, Lowndes Hill Chapter #164, Red Cross Lodge #223, April Showers Chapter #184 OES, Tuscan Lodge #21,



Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Greenville Signet Chapter #55 HRAM, Greenville Signet Commandery #11, and Jerusalem Council #3 R&SM, and Hopewell Lodge #263.



“Here comes Peter Cottontail...hopping down the bunny trail with Lowndes Hill Chapter #164 and White Horse Lodge #200 who participated in the Lowndes Hill Baptist Church Easter Egg Hunt which concluded with arts and crafts for the youth! The history of Lowndes Hill Baptist Church reveals many mountain

top experiences. These momentous events were the results of God’s leadership of a resolute people. The aim and mission of Lowndes Hill Baptist Church is to conduct the great commission of our Lord as recorded in Matthew 28: 19—20. This we shall do through worship, prayer, God’s spoken word, stewardship, teaching, training, mission activities, music, and fellowship in Christian love.



Lowndes Hill Baptist Church was born in 1871, beginning with a little group of six members: Alex and Stacy James, Billy and Harriett Booker, and Jack and Mary Elijah. Undaunted by wars, sorrow, hardship and privation, this little group sang a hymn followed by prayer in a little old log cabin.



This was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alex James, the grandparents of Mrs. Ella Thomas and Mrs. Emma Byrd. As God would have it, through loyalty, sincerity, and steadfastness on the part of “this little group”, prayer meetings were started. The meetings were held twice a week on Wednesday night and Sunday afternoons. At these meetings people came, walking miles to be in attendance.



WM Jefferson and Senior Deacon Michael Council wrapped up the journey or service with mentoring at Thomas E. Kerns Elementary School in the Greenville School District where they provided tools, advice and encouragement to youth that would equip them with a positive and bright future! The mission of Thomas E Kerns Elementary School is to develop successful, responsible, and respectful lifelong learners.



Pride of McDaniel Chapter #334 Celebrates 70 Years in Stardom

Submitted By: Sis. Juanita D. Edwards, Past Grand Matron

70th Chapter Anniversary ~"Where Education and Charity Unite"



Worthy Matron Jackie P. White and Worthy Patron Kelly Wingate. On Saturday, May 16, 2026, Pride of McDaniel Chapter Celebrated their 70th Chapter Anniversary with



an honors banquet at the Ridgeville Community Center.

The chapter

gave honor to all Past Matrons, Past Patrons, all deceased members, and their families.

The chapter was honored with the presence of Grand Worthy Matron Mary Ennis, Grand Treasurer Pearl Givens, GSD Sharon Coakley, GAD Bernice Turkvant, and many other distinguished guests from Districts 1, 2 and 10.

Partnership Through Giving...

Submitted By: WM Alex Jefferson, White Horse Lodge #200



There is POWER in numbers", especially when it comes to giving and Laurel Creek Chapter #165, Holly Springs Chapter #31, Lowndes Hill Chapter #164, Hopewell Lodge #263, and White Horse Lodge #200 join together to make donations of shirts and socks to Miracle Hill Ministries of Greenville, SC. Miracle Hill Ministries is a nonprofit organization in the

Upstate of South Carolina dedicated to providing extensive services to adults in the form of food, shelter, clothing, counseling, personal development, and addiction recovery. We also serve children who were removed from their families through our foster home community and residential foster care program.



Community Recognition for Service and Partnership

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of South Carolina is honored to have been recognized by the South Carolina Cancer Alliance for our outstanding service and commitment as a valued community partner.

This recognition reflects the dedication of our brothers and the collective efforts of our jurisdiction to make a positive impact throughout the communities we serve. We remain committed to supporting initiatives that promote health, wellness, education, and the overall betterment of our citizens.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the South Carolina Cancer Alliance for this recognition and look forward to continuing our partnership in the fight against cancer and in service to the people of South Carolina. "Service is the rent we pay for the privilege of living on this earth."



The mission of the South Carolina Cancer Alliance is to

reduce the impact of cancer on all South Carolinians. The South Carolina Cancer Alliance is a multi-disciplinary network bringing cancer prevention practices and life-enhancing resources to everyone in the state of South Carolina. Founded in 2003, the Alliance is strong with more than eight hundred members and led by

a dedicated board of directors. The leadership works with cancer experts statewide to develop the data-driven cancer plans, goals, and objectives, then member volunteers design and implement strategies to roll out the plan in communities across the state.



Equipping & Preparing our Youth for a Successful Future

-Supporting and Encouraging our Knights of Pythagoras and Mary B. Thomas Girls Youth Circle During Their Annual Sessions-

What an amazing and successful session for both our Knights of Pythagoras and our Mary B. Thomas Girls Youth Circle, for which both sessions was held in June! We give special thanks to our Grand State Mother Advisor, Sister Regina Fore Mack, our Grand State Director for the Knights of Pythagoras, Brother Mark Easterling, all District Mother Advisors, District Deputies for KOP, subordinate Mother Advisors, Mother Helpers, and Council Chairmen and Sir Knights who willingly sacrifice their time and efforts to give our Companions and Knights their best so they can be their best!



We extended sincere congratulations to our Companions and Knights that participated in all activities and various programs throughout their respective sessions. Your hard work, discipline, and dedication are commendable, and we celebrate all winners and those recognized for your outstanding achievements!



Save the Date

117th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

of the

PRINCE HALL GRAND CHAPTER
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
RITE OF ADOPTION

for the State and Jurisdiction of SC



JULY 20-22, 2026

VISITATION FOR

Masonic Brothers and Concordant Bodies

VISITATION IS

Tuesday, July 21st

