

EUREKA GRAND CHAPTER ORDER EASTERN STAR STATE OF NEW YORK, INC.



HISTORY

Prepared by:
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Mount Zion Chapter No. 59

HISTORY OF EUREKA GRAND CHAPTER

The Order of Eastern Star is an adoptive rite of Freemasonry with teachings based on the Bible and whose objectives are charitable and benevolent. The acknowledged founder of Order of the Eastern Star was Dr. Robert Morris, a lawyer and educator from Boston, Massachusetts, who was a Master Mason and Past Grand Master of the Jurisdiction of Kentucky. Dr. Morris originally intended his creation to become a female branch of Freemasonry, but he failed to overcome the great opposition this idea engendered.¹ After publishing his ritual in 1849-50, he became associated with Robert Macoy. In 1867 Macoy wrote and published a ritual based on the ritual first published by Morris.

The first Grand Chapter was organized in Michigan in 1867. In Mainstream Masonry, subordinate (local) chapters operate under a charter from state level Grand Chapters which are responsible to the General Grand Chapter at the International Eastern Star Temple in Washington, D.C. Members of the Order of the Eastern Star must be eighteen years or older and either Master Masons in good standing or a female who is properly related to a Master Mason in good standing. The latter category includes the wives, widows, mothers, sisters and daughters of Master Masons.

Each Chapter has eighteen officers, some elected and others appointed. Two officers are specifically male (the Worthy Patron and Associate Patron) while nine officers are specifically female (including Worthy Matron and Associate Matron). While the Worthy Matron is considered to be the presiding officer of the Chapter, the degrees cannot be conferred without the presence of a Master Mason (a Worthy Patron and/or an Associate Patron) presiding. Each Chapter retains the right to decide who shall be a member of the organization. Election to the degrees must be unanimous, without debate, and secret. The successful candidate must profess a belief in a Supreme Being and in Non-Prince Hall or Mainstream Eastern Star Chapters are initiated in five degrees, which are conferred in one ceremony.

When the organization of the Eastern Star was created, the initiation was intended to be conducted in a series of three degrees. The first was the Eastern Star or Initiatory Degree, the second and third degrees were the Queen of the South and the Order of the Amaranth, respectively. Most Prince Hall Eastern Star Grand Chapters still conform to the original model and only confer the Eastern Star or Initiatory Degree, the Queen of the South and the Amaranth Degrees. The members of the Order of Eastern Star require only the belief in a Supreme Being even though the degrees are based in both the Old and New Testaments. While non-Christians are not specifically barred from membership, it would seem to be difficult to be other than Christian and belong to the Order.

There are several versions of the origin of the Order of the Eastern Star in the Prince Hall Fraternity. The first, and generally accepted version by the Prince Hall Conference of Grand Matrons and Grand Patrons, states: On August 10, 1874, Past Master Thornton Andrew Jackson, a member of Pythagoras Lodge No. 9, of the Union Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia (now the MWPH, GL-D.C.) received the several degrees of the Rite of Adoption of the Order of the Eastern Star from Brother C.B. Case, a Deputy of Illustrious Robert Macoy 33°, who at the time was the Supreme Patron of the Rite of Adoption of the World. It also states, that P.M. Jackson received a letter from Bro. C. B. Case granting him the authority to establish Chapters of the Eastern Star among eligible black women.

On December 1, 1874, in obedience to the authority granted by M.W. William H. Myers, Grand Master, of the then Union Grand Lodge, Jurisdiction of the District of Columbia, P.M. Jackson established Queen Esther Chapter No. 1, the first Eastern Star Chapter among black women in the United States, in the home of

Mrs. Georgiana Thomas, 708-O Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. The first Worthy Matron of the Chapter was Sister Martha Welch and the first Worthy Patron was P.M. Jackson.

In December 1874, Grand Master William H. Myers and Deputy Grand Master William A. Talliaferro, of Union Grand Lodge, of the Jurisdiction of the District of Columbia, were invited to receive the androgynous degrees. They both accepted, thus further cementing the ties that bind the Masonic Family together.

And so it was approximately one hundred years after the founding of the first Black Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons (African Lodge No.1, 1876), Queen Esther Chapter No. 1, Order of the Eastern Star, was officially instituted in the City of Washington in the District of Columbia.² On April 28, 1890, Queen of Sheba Chapter No. 3 and on October 20, 1890, Gethsemane Chapter No. 4, Order of the Eastern Star, were established by P.M. Jackson within the Jurisdiction of the District of Columbia. He was also instrumental and helped to establish one (1) Chapter in Alexandria, Virginia, three (3) Chapters in Maryland and three Chapters in Pennsylvania. In each instance when a chapter was organized and established, it was adopted by a regularly constituted Masonic Lodge. Thus, Brother Jackson was able to bring about more unity within the Masonic Family.

A second and little known version of the origin of the Eastern Star among African Americans appeared in "The Pacific Appeal", on October 25, 1873, a newspaper that was published between April 5, 1862 and June 17, 1880 in San Francisco, California. The article was written by Bro. Joshua David Kelley, a Past Master of Morning Star Lodge No. 48 of Philadelphia, who also served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Jurisdiction of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (1888) and as the Sovereign Grand Commander, of the United Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, of Freemasonry, Northern Jurisdiction (1899 thru 1910). He stated in the article that Past Master Thornton Jackson received the degrees of the Order of the Eastern Star from the Worthy Grand Patron of the Province of Canada, and on September 25, 1873 conferred the degrees on ten members of the Grand Lodge of the Jurisdiction of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, thereby establishing Morning Star Chapter No. 1.

It is to be noted that the article was written, fifteen months before P.M. Thornton Jackson was believed to have established Queen Esther Chapter in the District of Columbia, and eleven months before he was alleged to have received the degrees from a Brother C.B. Case. According to the article Morning Star Chapter No. 1 was the first known Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star among African Americans in the United States³. Isabella Melvina Kelley is listed as its Worthy Matron, Bro. Kelley as its Worthy Patron. The other officers were: Mrs. T. B. Cape, Associate Matron; Mrs. J.T.B. Wise, Treasurer; Mrs. Anna Kent, Secretary; Mrs. Mary A. Hall, Conductress; Mrs. J. Miller, Associate Conductress; Mrs. Frederick Richardson, Warder; Bro. Frederick Richardson, Sentinel; and Bro. Jonathan Miller, Past Worthy Patron,

The third version of the origin of the Order of the Eastern Star within the Prince Hall fraternity, was advanced by Bro. Joseph Walkes in his book, "The History of the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of North Carolina." Bro. Walkes stated his research had determined that the first Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star among African American women was established in the "Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of the State of North Carolina." That Grand Lodge is now known as the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of North Carolina. As to what date the first Eastern Star Chapter was established in North Carolina, he has no precise date. But he stated; "Hand written Minutes attached to some early proceedings (possibly Grand Lodge) established that Jephtha Chapter No. 1 was working in Washington, North Carolina before August 3, 1872."⁴

It is important to note that Walkes states that the 1872 and 1873 Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of the State of North Carolina are not available, and may not have been printed, or if they were printed no copies are currently available.⁵ Walkes also provided excerpts from what he

claimed were Minutes of meetings of Jephtha Chapter on September 20, 1872, November 1, 1872 and November 8, 1872. Walkes also stated that Bishop James Walker Hood of the AME Zion Church and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of North Carolina sanctioned the establishment of the Eastern Stars in North Carolina. He also became a member of Jephtha Chapter No. 1, the first Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Stars in that State. But unlike the establishment of Queen Esther Chapter in the District of Columbia which traces the establishment of the Eastern Star in that jurisdiction to the authority granted through Robert Morris, Walkes does not show an original authority for the original Chapters of the Order of the Eastern Stars in the State of North Carolina.

An Eastern Star Grand Chapter is the governing body in a State or territory. It sets up local Eastern Star Chapters or establishes or constitutes them. By today's standards, an Eastern Star Chapter that was not established by a Grand Chapter (original authority) is usually considered Bogus or Clandestine. Author and Masonic researcher David Gray agrees with the premise that the first Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star among African American women was established in Washington D.C. But Gray agrees with Walkes that the first Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star (The Most Eminent Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star of North Carolina) among African American women was established in the State of North Carolina in 1880. Julia Foy was its Most Eminent Grand Matron and the former Grand Master of the State of North Carolina, Bishop James Walker Hood was its Most Eminent Grand Patron.^{6 7}

At the age of 29, James Walker Hood became an ordained minister in the AME Zion Church. After the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, Rev. Hood a Mason and member of the Grand Lodge that is now the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of New York, was sent by the AME Zion Church to North Carolina as a missionary to minister to the newly freed African American residents in the State. In addition to his work as a missionary, which resulted in his becoming the first AME Zion Bishop in the Carolinas, as the District Deputy Grand Master of the Jurisdiction of New York for the Carolinas he organized the first Masonic Lodges among African Americans in the State of North Carolina. This among his other accomplishments resulted in his becoming the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted A.Y.M. of the State of North Carolina. As previously stated that Grand Lodge is now the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of North Carolina. Grand Master Hood is also credited with being instrumental in the establishment of the Order of the Eastern Stars in the State of North Carolina.⁸

On April 17, 1887, under Bishop James Walker Hood, then a Past Eminent Grand Patron of the Most Eminent Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Stars of the State of North Carolina (now the Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Stars for the State of North Carolina) and Bro. Joseph Stills Curtis a resident of New York and a Past Master of Celestial Lodge No. 3, who was also a member of the Most Eminent Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Stars of the State of North Carolina, acting pursuant to the authority of the then Most Eminent Grand Patron of North Carolina established Alpha Chapter in the City of New York. This was the first Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star that was established in what is now the Prince Hall Fraternity in the State of New York. The first Worthy Matron of Alpha Chapter was Sis. Annie E. Johnson and the first Worthy Patron was Bro. William Lawrence.⁹

In 1890 the name of the Grand Chapter in North Carolina was changed to the Supreme Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star for the State of North Carolina and Jurisdiction.¹⁰ By the year 1895, there were five Eastern Star Chapters under the Jurisdiction of the Supreme Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Stars for the State of North Carolina and Jurisdiction operating in the State of New York, they were: Alpha Chapter in the City of New York, Omega Chapter in Elmira, Sheba Chapter, in Binghamton, Sunlight Chapter in Saratoga and Starlight Chapter in Utica. On October 18, 1895 pursuant to the authority of the M.W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York (now the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of New York), M.W. Edward B. Irving, Grand Master at the time presiding, the above five Chapters plus Rebecca Chapter of Montclair, New Jersey which was also a subordinate Chapter of the Supreme Grand Chapter of the

Order of Eastern Star for the State of North Carolina and Jurisdiction were warranted and organized as Eureka Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star for the Jurisdiction of New York. The first Grand Officers of Eureka Grand Chapter were: Worthy Grand Matron, Mary E. Reed, Worthy Grand Patron, Joseph Stills Curtis, Associate Grand Matron, Anna E. Johnson, Associate Grand Patron, Norman Van Buren, and Grand Secretary, Catherine Johns.¹¹

The original Chapters at the establishment of the Grand Chapter were numerically designated according to the dates of their organization. They were listed as Alpha Chapter No. 1, Omega Chapter No. 2, Sheba Chapter No. 3, Sunlight Chapter No. 4, Rebecca Chapter No. 5 and Starlight Chapter No. 6. On January 29, 1903, the first Eastern Star Chapter in the Second District of Eureka Grand Chapter, Queen Esther Chapter No. 9 was established at the Ionic Masonic Temple, 165 Claremont Ave. in Brooklyn.¹² Very little is known about the history of Queen Esther Chapter No. 9.

Sis. Fannie A. Lewis succeeded Mary E. Reed, and was the second Grand Matron of Eureka Grand Chapter. In 1906 the Grand Chapter was re-warranted by the M.W. Grand Lodge, M.W. Henry A. Spencer, was the Grand Master at the time. In that year Anna E. Johnson who, at the Grand Session that year was elected Worthy Grand Matron died in office and was succeeded by Hattie Brown. The only other Grand Matron to serve Eureka Grand Chapter between 1906 and 1912 was Clarissa Evans. On September 11, 1907 with 19 Eastern Star Grand Chapters existing in what is now the Prince Hall fraternity, most of whom were inserting their own interpretation of the work and ritual, the Supreme United Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star was organized in Boston, Massachusetts. It was formed as an advisory organization to bring about uniformity of interpretation of the ritual and the ritualistic work.¹³ In 1910 the name was changed to the Interstate Conference of Grand Chapters. In 1924 the name of the Conference was again changed to "The International Conference of Grand Chapters, Order of the Eastern Stars, Prince Hall Affiliation"¹⁴ "The International Conference of Grand Chapters, Order of the Eastern Stars, Prince Hall Affiliation", was dismantled in Colorado Springs, Colorado in May of 1976 by the Prince Hall Conference of Grand Masters. It was then reorganized as the "Prince Hall Grand Conference of Grand Matrons and Grand Patrons, Order of the Eastern Star of the United States, Canada and Foreign Jurisdictions" as the advisory organization consisting of Grand Matrons and Grand Patrons to the Prince Hall Grand Chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star.

By the year 1913 there were five Eastern Star Chapters that had been warranted by Eureka Grand Chapter operating in the State of New Jersey. They were Rebecca Chapter No. 5 in Montclair, Queen Esther Chapter No. 12 in Jersey City, Adah Chapter No. 15 (now Atlantic Chapter) in Atlantic City, Queen of Sheba Chapter No. 16 in Teaneck and Bethsaida Chapter No. 17 in Morristown. In June of 1913 the above five Chapters requested to be released from Eureka Grand Chapter. On June 24, 1913, having been released by Eureka Grand Chapter, along with three Chapters of an opposing Grand Chapter also operating in that State, with the assistance of the Officers and members of Eureka Grand Chapter and pursuant to the authority of M.W. Hayes J. Burnett, Grand Master at the time presiding of the United Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. for the State of New Jersey (now the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge for the State of New Jersey) were organized as Oziel Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star for the State of New Jersey.

At the Annual Grand Session of Eureka Grand Chapter in June of 1912, Sis Alice Campbell was elected Worthy Grand Matron. Sister Campbell has the distinction of having served Eureka Grand Chapter as its Worthy Grand Matron for 25 consecutive years. No other principal officer of either the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Eureka Grand Chapter or any of the Concordant or Appendant bodies of the Prince Hall Fraternity in the State of New York has served in an elected position for that length of time. During Sis Campbell's administration, a Chapter, Queen Esther Chapter No. 3 of the New England Jurisdiction was operating in the City of Yonkers. In 1916 it requested to be released from that Jurisdiction, petitioned to, and was admitted to Eureka Grand Chapter as Terrace City Chapter No. 26. Sunshine Chapter No. 34 was the second Eastern Star Chapter to be organized in the Second District. On June 5, 1922 at the Ionic Masonic Temple 165 Claremont

Ave. in Brooklyn the then Worthy Grand Matron, Sis. Alice Campbell and her cabinet issued a Charter to 40 ladies (the wives, widows, mothers, sisters and daughters of Master Masons) to work and act as Sunshine Chapter No. 34. In 1925 Silver Queen Chapter No. 43 was organized in the West Brighton Section of Staten Island. It was the third Eastern Star Chapter to be organized in the Second District. Most of the charter members of the Chapter were also members of St. Phillips Baptist Church on Staten Island. The first officers of Silver Queen Chapter were: Gertrude Clayton, Worthy Matron and Thomas Butler, Worthy Patron. The fourth Eastern Star Chapter to be established in the Second District was Victoria Chapter No. 45. The warrant to establish the Chapter was issued on November 17, 1923. The first officers of the Chapter were Sis. Mereta Green, Worthy Matron; Bro. William Tebuce, Worthy Patron and Sis. Mabel Eubanks, Associate Matron.

In 1937 a schism developed between Worthy Grand Matron Alice Campbell of Eureka Grand Chapter, and Grand Master George E. Marshall of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of New York. Consequently Sis. Campbell and her supporters declared their independence from the Grand Lodge and attempted to organize an independent Eastern Star Grand Chapter.¹⁵

According to information obtained from an article published in the New York Age newspaper on June 5, 1937, in 1906 the records of the origins of Eureka Grand Chapter up to that time were destroyed in a fire in the warehouse where they were stored.¹⁶ When Past Worthy Grand Matron Alice Campbell and her supporters withdrew from the Grand Chapter, they took with them all of the remaining records of Eureka Grand Chapter from 1906 to 1937. With the withdrawal of PWGM Campbell and her supporters most of the subordinate Chapters of Eureka Grand Chapter, Deborah Chapter No. 31 of Hempstead among them, elected to remain affiliated with Eureka Grand Chapter.¹⁷ However the divided loyalties of Eureka Grand Chapter's officers its membership caused members of some of the Chapters to leave the fraternity. In Jamaica, Queens, 14 members of Celestial Chapter No. 29, including the financial officers left the Chapter, taking with them all of that Chapter's records, paraphernalia and savings.¹⁸ The same situation at the time also occurred in what was then Samson's Chapter No. 41. The remaining members of Samson's Chapter No. 41 petitioned the Grand Chapter, and was granted permission to change the name of the Chapter to Gardenia Chapter No. 41.¹⁹ On September 10, 1937, during the administration of M.W. George E. Marshall, Grand Master at the time presiding, Eureka Grand Chapter was reorganized and re-warranted as Eureka Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliated. The Principal Officers of the Grand Chapter at the time of the reorganization were: Araminta Taylor of Alpha Chapter No. 1 who was designated the Worthy Grand Matron and Roland R. Johnson of Sunshine Chapter No. 34, Worthy Grand Patron.²⁰ The withdrawal from the Prince Hall Fraternity by the then Worthy Grand Matron Alice Campbell and her supporters also divided the loyalties of the members of Queen Esther Chapter No. 9, the first Eastern Star Chapter established in Brooklyn. Some of the members of the Chapter including some of the Principal Officers chose to leave Eureka Grand Chapter and align themselves with Sis. Campbell's new organization. Eventually with the reorganization of Eureka Grand Chapter, those members of the Queen Esther Chapter No. 9 who remained loyal to Eureka Grand Chapter petitioned the new Worthy Grand Patron, Bro Roland Johnson to form a new Chapter. On November 7, 1938, pursuant to the powers vested in him, Past Grand Patron Johnson, issued a Charter to the remaining members of Queen Esther Chapter No. 9 who remained loyal to Eureka Grand Chapter to work and act as Fidelity Chapter No. 54.²¹ The first officers of Fidelity Chapter No. 54 were Monica Harrison, Worthy Matron and Emma Mitchell Associate Matron.

At the **44th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 1940, Sister Octavia Giles Stitt, of Sunshine Chapter No. 34 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Samuel I. Greene of Victoria Chapter No.45 was elected Worthy Grand Patron. It was during this administration, pursuant to the authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, M.W. William Carter, Grand Master at the time, that Eureka Grand Chapter was incorporated. The incorporation was finalized by the State of New York on December 10, 1940.²²

At the **46th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 1942, Sister Edith Daniels of Rebecca Chapter No. 23 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Thomas Lofthouse of Rebecca Chapter No. 23 was elected Worthy Grand Patron. During this administration the Youth Council of Eureka Grand Chapter was organized, and a large number of the Sisters who originally left the Grand Chapter with the former Worthy Grand Matron Alice Campbell were reinstated.

At the **49th Annual Grand Session** held in June of 1945, Sister Rosa B. Daniels of Celestial Chapter No. 29 was elected Worthy Grand Matron. Bro. Lofthouse was elected to serve a third term as Worthy Grand Patron.

At the **50th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 1946, Sister Pearl I. Hamilton, of Ruth Chapter No. 8 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Arthur S. Campbell of Antioch Chapter No. 44, was elected Worthy Grand Patron. It was during the administration of Sis. Hamilton and Bro. Campbell, that Eureka Grand Chapter discontinued the requirement that the Fez should be worn during official Eastern Star functions, with the exceptions of Church Services and Funerals. It was also during this administration, that Omega Chapter No. 2 of Elmira was reactivated and re-warranted after having previously surrendering its Charter.

At the **54th Annual Grand Session** held in June of 1950, Sis. Frances E. Francis of Terrace City Chapter No. 26 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Charles C. Quander of Euclid Chapter No. 48 was elected Worthy Grand Patron. Bro. Quander was subsequently re-elected to seven additional terms as Worthy Grand Patron, serving in that office until 1958.

In 1947 Mount Zion Lodge, a Lodge that was a member of the Hiram Grand Lodge of New York sought information on becoming affiliated with the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of New York. Having applied and conformed to the requirements of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge, on October 15, 1948, with Grand Master Louis Fair presiding and the Officers of the Grand Lodge present, the members of the Lodge were warranted as Mount Zion Lodge No. 90. During that same period, there were female relatives of the members of Mount Zion Lodge who were members of an Eastern Star Chapter, under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Chapter of New York, the female auxiliary of the Hiram Grand Lodge. With Mount Zion Lodge having become a part of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of New York, 14 members of that Mount Zion Chapter applied to Eureka Grand Chapter to be admitted as a Chapter. On June 5, 1951 during the second administration of Worthy Grand Matron, Sis Frances E. Francis and Worthy Grand Patron, Bro. Charles C. Quander, those females were chartered/warranted as Mount Zion Chapter No. 59 as a subordinate Chapter of Eureka Grand Chapter. The first Worthy Matron of Mount Zion Chapter No 59 was Sis. Lillie Abernathy and the first Worthy Patron was Bro. James Evangelist Fraser.

At the **58th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 1954, Sis Eva C Horton of Ruth Chapter No. 8 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Charles C. Quander of Euclid Chapter No. 48 was elected Worthy Grand Patron. On July 31, 1955 during this administration, Eureka Grand Chapter established Camp Eureka at Roscoe, N.Y.

At the **76th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in 1972, Sis. Olive J. Campbell of Terrace City Chapter No. 26 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Harold Gonsalves of Mizpah Chapter No. 13 was elected Worthy Grand Patron. It was during this administration that the six Chapters in the Bahamas that had been established by Eureka Grand Chapter, requested to be released to form a Grand Chapter. The Chapters composing the new Grand Chapter in the Bahamas were: St. Hilda's Chapter No. 50 which was warranted by Eureka Grand Chapter on February 26, 1926, in Nassau, Morning Light Chapter No. 52 at Palmetto Point, St. Mary's Chapter No. 55, at Tarpum Bay, Eleuthra, Sheba Chapter No. 56 at Nassau, St. Margaret Chapter No. 61, at Alice Town Hatchet Bay, Eleuretha and St. Anne's Chapter No. 73 at James

Cistern, Eleuretha. It was also during this administration that the first Eastern Star Chapter, Sarah Memorial Chapter No. 78 was organized in the Country of Barbados, the West Indies.

In June of 1975 at the **79th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter, Sis Phyllis McKoy of Mizpah Chapter No. 13 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Leslie L. Thomas of Mt. Tabor Chapter No. 35 was elected Worthy Grand Patron. During this administration with the assistance of Worthy Grand Matron McKoy and Worthy Grand Patron, Thomas, and the officers and members of Eureka Grand Chapter, The Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas was organized.

At the **80th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 1976 Sis. Gladys I. Jones of Victoria Chapter No. 45 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. William C. Madison of Mt. Tabor Chapter No. 35 was elected Worthy Grand Patron.

At the **84th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter in June of 1978, Sis Mildred E. Swift of Lewis Hayden Chapter No. 47 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Marion C. Harris of Antioch Chapter No. 44 was elected Worthy Grand Patron. It was during this administration that M.W. William Richardson, Grand Master of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the Jurisdiction of New York at the time presiding, instituted an edict, implementing the suggestion by the Conference of Grand Masters that was held in Washington, D.C. on May 9-10, 1977, that no female can become a member of an Appendant body of the Prince Hall Fraternity in the State of New York, unless she was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

On April 27, 1980 WGM Swift and WGP Harris and 13 members of the Grand Chapter travelled to Guyana, S.A. and warranted Mt. Marian Chapter, U.D. En-route back to New York, they stopped in Barbados and visited Sarah Memorial Chapter.

At the **92nd Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 1982, Sis Alvia S. Jones of Electa Chapter No. 14 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Walter Howell of Gardenia Chapter No. 41 was elected Worthy Grand Patron. It was during this administration, that Emerald Chapter No. 81 was warranted in Brooklyn. From May 6th through May 9th 1986 this administration was also favored with being the hostess to the 67th Conference of Grand Masters Inc., and the 38th Annual Session of the Prince Hall Conference of Grand Matrons and Grand Patrons Inc.

On Wednesday June 1, 1994, Sis. Vera Dickens of Alpha Chapter No. 1 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Floyd Lewis of Twilight Chapter No. 28 was elected Worthy Grand Patron. It was their privilege to serve Eureka Grand Chapter as its principal officers during its Centennial year. On April 24, 1996, during the administration of Worthy Grand Matron Vera Dickens and Worthy Grand Patron Floyd Lewis, Eureka Grand Chapter released the three Chapters in Barbados: Sarah Memorial Chapter, Beacon Light Chapter and Electa of Judea Chapter, and assisted those Chapters in organizing The Rita G, Grand Chapter, Prince Hall Order of the Eastern Star of the Caribbean. The members of the new Grand Chapter of the Caribbean selected the name 'Rita G Grand Chapter' to honor P.M. Rita Goddard, of Fidelity Chapter No. 54, of Eureka Grand Chapter, O.E.S. of the State of New York, whose tireless efforts culminated in the establishment of that Grand Chapter.

At the **101st Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 1996, Sister Wilma Johnson of Prince Hall Chapter No. 27 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. William Banks of Ionic Chapter No. 79, was elected the Worthy Grand Patron.

At the **103rd Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 1998, Rosemarie Day of George Washington Carver Chapter No. 65 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. Charles Bowens of Prince Hall Ashlar Chapter No. 71 was elected Worthy Grand Patron.

At the **105th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 2000, Sister Macie E. Greer of Lewis Hayden Chapter No. 47, was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. George Robinson of Poinsetta Chapter No. 76 was elected Worthy Grand Patron.

At **107th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held at the Huntington Hilton Hotel, June 5, 2002, Sister Inez Thomas, Beacon Light Chapter No. 58, was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. James B. Usher, Sunshine Chapter No. 34 was elected Worthy Grand Patron. It was during this administration, pursuant to an edict by M.W. Daniel W. Simmons, Grand Master of the M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge, the requirement that a female be related by blood to a Prince Hall Mason to become a member in a subordinate Chapter was discontinued.

At the **109th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 2004, Sister Mamie J. Stephens of Beacon Light Chapter No. 58 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. William A. Dyson, of Lewis Hayden Chapter No. 47 was elected Worthy Grand Patron.

At the **110th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 2005, Sister Marshan I. Mason of Mt. Tabor Chapter No. 35 was elected Worthy Grand Matron and Bro. David J. Minor of Meridian Chapter No. 67 was elected Worthy Grand Patron.

At the **112th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held in June of 2007, Sister Phyllis Kemp of Gardenia Chapter No. 41 was elected Grand Worthy Matron and Bro. Harvey Ross of Beacon Light Chapter No. 58 was elected Grand Worthy Patron.

At the **114th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter Session held at the Rye-Town Hilton Hotel on June 1 2009, Sister Julia F. Holland of Mount Zion Chapter No. 50 was elected Grand Worthy Matron and Bro. William McCarthy of David W. Parker Chapter No. 64, was elected Grand Worthy Patron.

At the **116th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter Session held in June of 2011, Sister Viola Smalls of Joppa Chapter No. 30 and Bro. Daniel Dicks of Red Rose Chapter No. 66 was elected Grand Worthy Patron.

At the **118th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held on June 3, 2013, Sister Barbara Outlaw-Barmore of Antioch Chapter No. 44 was elected Grand Worthy Matron and Bro. Matthew Teah Wulah of Prince Hall Chapter No. 27 was elected Grand Worthy Patron.

At the **120th Annual Grand Session** of Eureka Grand Chapter held on June 1, 2015, Sister Lisa D. Horton of Ruth Chapter No. 8 was elected Grand Worthy Matron and Bro. Nigel J. Cudjoe of Prince Hall Chapter No. 27 was elected Grand Worthy Patron.

Prepared by:
Bro. Ludwick S. Hall
Past Patron
Mount Zion Chapter No. 59

HONORARY PAST GRANDS

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



Honorary Past Grand Matron
Bettie Barbour (45)



Honorary Past Grand Matron
Bettie Barbour (45)



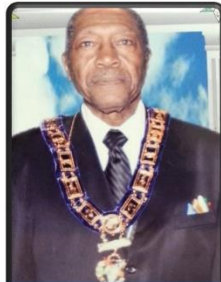
Honorary Past Grand Matron
Lela Barlow (66)



Honorary Past Grand Matron
Marie Garrison (26)



Honorary Past Grand Patron
Fred D. Parris (34)



Honorary Past Grand Patron
Northern Wilcher (8)



Honorary Past Grand Patron
Ruffin Bumpass (82)



Honorary Past Grand Patron
Solomon Wallace (44)

PAST GRAND MATRONS

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



Past Grand Matron
Alberta M. Clark (41)
1958-1960



Past Grand Matron
Alvia S. Jones (14)
1984-1986



Past Grand Matron
Araminta Taylor (1)
1937-1940



Past Grand Matron
Barbara Outlaw Barmore (44)
2013-2015



Past Grand Matron
Brice Simmons (58)
1980-1982



Past Grand Matron
Carolyn R. Bartee (18)
1986-1988



Past Grand Matron
Delmore L. Goode (32)
1968-1970



Past Grand Matron
Ethel B. Ross (23)
1952-1954



Past Grand Matron
Eugenia V. Griffin (48)
1970-1972



Past Grand Matron
Eva C. Horton (8)
1954-1956



Past Grand Matron
Floretta K. Andrews (44)
1982-1984



Past Grand Matron
Frances E. Francis (26)
1952-1954



Past Grand Matron
Geraldine McMillian (66)
1990-1992



Past Grand Matron
Gladys I. Jones (45)
1976-1978



Past Grand Matron
Inez Thomas (58)
2002-2004



Past Grand Matron
Josephine Fortune (23)
1992-1994



Past Grand Matron
Julia F. Holland (59)
2009-2011



Past Grand Matron
Louise B. Moore (57)
1962-1964



Past Grand Matron
Macie W. Greer (47)
2000-2002



Past Grand Matron
Mamie Stevens (58)
2004-2006



Past Grand Matron
Marie Kirby (35)
1966-1968



Past Grand Matron
Marjorie English (00)
1989-1990



Past Grand Matron
Marshan Mason Gainer (35)
2006-2008



Past Grand Matron
Maybelle Fitts Taylor (26)
1949-1950



Past Grand Matron
Mildred Swift (47)
1978-1980



Past Grand Matron
Olive J. Campbell (26)
1972-1974



Past Grand Matron
Olivia T.P. Salmon (48)
1964-1966



Past Grand Matron
Pauline Wiggins (25)
1956-1957



Past Grand Matron
Pearl L. Hamilton (8)
1946-1948



Past Grand Matron
Phyllis Kemp (41)
2008-2009



Past Grand Matron
Phyllis McKoy (13)
1974-1976



Past Grand Matron
Rosa L. Daniels (29)
1944-1946



Past Grand Matron
Rose Marie Day (65)
1998-2000



Past Grand Matron
Vera Dickens (1)
1994-1996



Past Grand Matron
Viola Smalls (30)
2011-2013



Past Grand Matron
Wilma Johnson (27)
1996-1998



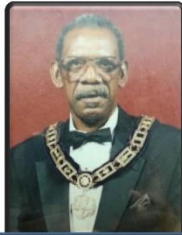
Past Grand Matron
Zada Pruitt (35)
1960-1962

PAST GRAND PATRONS

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



Past Grand Patron
Arthur S. Campbell (44)
1946-1948



Past Grand Patron
Charles Bowens (71)
1998-2000



Past Grand Patron
Charles C. Quander (48)
1950-1952



Past Grand Patron
Charles C. Quander (48)
1952-1956



Past Grand Patron
Charles C. Quander (48)
1954-1956



Past Grand Patron
Charles C. Quander (48)
1956-1957



Past Grand Patron
Charles Long (14)
1970-1972



Past Grand Patron
Charles W. Bowser (48)
1960-1962



Past Grand Patron
Clifford C. Salmon (48)
1964-1966



Past Grand Patron
Daniel M. Dicks (66)
2011-2013



Past Grand Patron
David J. Minor (67)
2006-2008



Past Grand Patron
Eddie L. Barham (58)
1989-1990



Past Grand Patron
Edwin R. Torrence (23)
1956-1958



Past Grand Patron
Edwin R. Torrence (23)
1958-1960



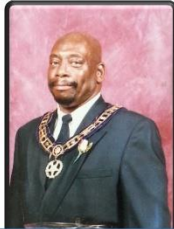
Past Grand Patron
Eugene Goddard (66)
1982-1984



Past Grand Patron
Floyd Lewis (28)
1994-1996



Past Grand Patron
Garfield Braithwaite (30)
1966-1968



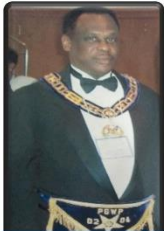
Past Grand Patron
George Robinson (76)
2000-2002



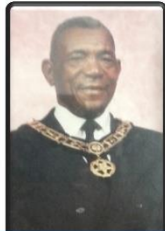
Past Grand Patron
Harold Gonsalves (13)
1972-1974



Past Grand Patron
Harvey Ross (58)
2008-2009b



Past Grand Patron
James B. Usher (59)
2002-2004



Past Grand Patron
James Fields
1990-1992



Past Grand Patron
John Kemp (57)
1980-1982



Past Grand Patron
Leslie L. Thomas (35)
1974-1976



Past Grand Patron
Lionel G. Goddard (27)
1962-1964



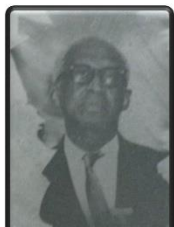
Past Grand Patron
Lloyd L. Langley (71)
1986-1988



Past Grand Patron
Marion C. Harris (44)
1978-1980



Past Grand Patron
Matthew Teah Wulah (38)
2013-2015



Past Grand Patron
Roland Johnson (34)
1937-1940



Past Grand Patron
Thomas Anderson (66)
1992-1994



Past Grand Patron
Thomas Lofthouse (23)
1944-1946



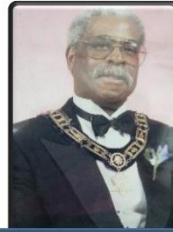
Past Grand Patron
Thomas Lofthouse (23)
1949-1950



Past Grand Patron
Thomas Lofthouse (23)
1956-1957



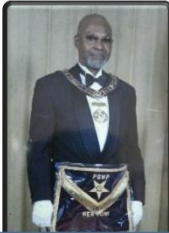
Past Grand Patron
Walter Howell (41)
1984-1986



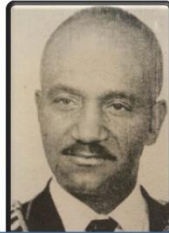
Past Grand Patron
William Banks Jr. (79)
1996-1998



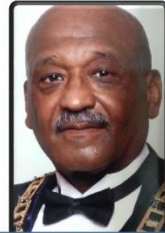
Past Grand Patron
William C. Madison (35)
1976-1978



Past Grand Patron
William Dyson (47)
2004-2006



Past Grand Patron
William L.P. Harmon (31)
1968-1970



Past Grand Patron
William McCarthy (64)
2009-2011

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- 5 Walkes, Joseph, North Carolina, ibid, Pg. 34
- 6 Gray, David L., "Inside Prince Hall", Pg. 165
- 7 Walkes, Joseph, North Carolina, ibid, Pg. 79
- 8 Walkes Joseph, North Carolina, ibid
- 9 Historical Journal celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Eureka Grand Chapter
- 10 Walkes Joseph, North Carolina, ibid Pg. 79
- 11 Historical Journal celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Eureka Grand Chapter, ibid Pg. 3
- 12 Historical Journal celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Eureka Grand Chapter
- 13 The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A. M. of Pennsylvania, Pg. 175
- 14 The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A. M. of Pennsylvania, Pg. 176
- 15 Historical Journal Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Eureka Grand Chapter (Gardenia Chapter No.41, historical sketch)
- 16 Historical Journal Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Eureka Grand Chapter, Pg. 1, (New York Age, June 5, 1937)
- 17 Historical Journal Celebrating, the 100th Anniversary of Eureka Grand Chapter
- 18 Historical Journal Celebrating, the 100th Anniversary of Eureka Grand Chapter
- 19 Historical Journal celebrating the 100th anniversary of Eureka Grand Chapter, (Gardenia Chapter No. 41, historical sketch)
- 20 Historical Journal celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Eureka Grand Chapter, Pg. 6
- 21 Historical Journal celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Eureka Grand Chapter ,
- 22 Historical Journal celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Eureka Grand Chapter (Crispus Attucks Chapter No. 36, historical sketch)