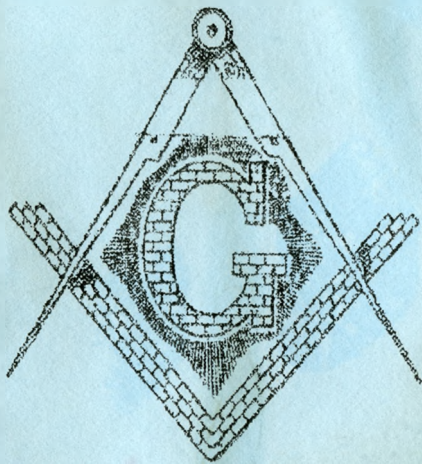


MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE
IOWA & JURISDICTION, INC.



Bursie Williams Jr
Most Worshipful
Grand Master

One Hundred and Ninth annual Communications

GRAND MASTER'S ANNUAL REPORT



Bursie Williams Jr
 Most Worshipful
 Grand Master

1995-1996
PRINCE HALL GRAND
LODGE, F & A.M.
 (FOR IOWA AND JURISDICTION)

- M.W Bursie Williams, Jr.....Grand Master
 R.W.D.G.M. Eugene Taylor.....Deputy Grand Master
 R.W Kenneth Collier Sr.....Grand Senior Warden
 R.W Donald AustinGrand Junior Warden
 R.W Henry ColtonGrand Treasurer
 R.W Terrance LewisGrand Secretary
 R.W Robert JosephGrand Lecturer

APPOINTED OFFICERS

- Bro. Ernest Marsh #2.....Senior Grand Deacon
 Bro. B Lloyd Bullock #35.....Junior Grand Deacon
 Bro. Jethro Cribbs #19.....Senior Grand Steward
 Bro. Willie Dixon #19.....Junior Grand Steward
 Bro. Lovie Caldwell #35.....Grand Chaplain
 Bro. James Sloan #2.....Grand Pursuivant
 Bro. William Roby #45.....Grand Tyler
 Bro. Roosevelt Taylor #35.....Grand Marshall
 R.W H. Robert Wilson #2.....C.C.F.C.
 Bro. Viviret Norman #35.....Director of Music

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Bursie Williams, Jr. #35.....M.W Grand Master
 Eugene Taylor #19.....R.W Deputy Grand Master
 Kenneth Collier Sr. #2.....R.W Senior Grand Warden
 Donald Austin #2.....R.W Junior Grand Warden

JURISPRUDENCE

- P.G.M. Cleo Morrison #2.....Chairman
 P.G.M.....P.G.M.....
 R.W.D.G.M. Eugene Taylor #19.....P.M. Herman Goodwin #19

COMMITTEES

Bro. Kenneth Collier, Sr # 30Ch.....Grand Auditor
Bro. Maynard Stovall #19-Ch.....Returns
Bro. Ernest Marsh#3.....Credentials
P.G.M. Leon Campbell #2.....Grand Master's Address
Bro. Robert Joseph # 19.....Appeals & Grievance
Bro. Willie Newman #35.....Appeals & Grievances
P.G.M. Leon Campbell #19-Ch.....Board of Custodians and Rules
PM Jessie Taylor #2.....Ch.....Scholarship

CODE UPDATE & REVISIONS

M.W Grand Master Bursie Williams, Jr. #3.....Chairman
C.C.F.C. H.Robert Wilson #2

Grand Master's Address One Hundred and Ninth Annual Communication

To The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Past Grand Masters, Past and Present Grand Lodge Officers,, Members and Distinguished Guests of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge A. & F. M of Iowa and Jurisdiction Inc.

Greeting:

I Ask that the Blessing of the Deity be with us during this session, and that our minds and hearts be filled with Love and that with His help we have a very rewarding session.

A Prayer for the New Year

Eternal God, before whom we are creatures of the day and children of the hour, I lift my prayers to you, as I stand in the shadows of the fleetingness of time, the transience of my being. So much has happened to me during the year now so rapidly slipping away: so much of hurt and happiness, of loss and gain, of hope and fear. I did not expect the sorrow that was thrust upon me. I was surprised by the turn of events that changed my life. I look back. I remember how different life a year ago was. The slow, quiet erosion of the days has gone on, and I am not quite the same person I was, for better or worst. I have had a whole year to grow in love or to fall out of love, to turn away in idleness. I have had a whole year, and now it is almost gone. No matter what I have done or failed to do, O Lord keep me from dwelling on it too much. If I have failed, help me put my failure behind me. If I have done well, help me to be glad but not complacent. There are other hills to climb and new hopes to be realized. I know, O God, you understand my need to look back for a while, wistfully peering at the past. But start me looking forward. I do not know what events are ahead, but I do know You are there, and I am Grateful. Amen.

Necrology

During the past year The Supreme Master in His infinite wisdom has seen fit to summon thirteen (13) Brothers from our midst. In that number was P.G.M. DeEdwin White, Although mere words cannot make amends for the great loss we have sustained, the necessary action have been taken to ensure proper tributes to their memory and that their record of loyal service will be preserved in the achieves of this Jurisdiction.

As we pick up the working tools of those that have gone before and search for strength to carry on. Here we should turn our thoughts to the life beyond the grave, and ask the question, "WHERE WILL WE SPEND ETERNITY?" While we meditate, may our

reflections bring us nearer to our duty we owe the Grand Master of the Universe who holds our destinies.

State of the Order

Of all the Brothers that were issued demits from the defunct Lodges, none has followed up and paid Grand Lodge dues. We are losing more than we're taking in, Brothers this is something that we must address, we are down to Seven (7) Lodges and one of those are not in very good standing as you will see later in this report. It is very sad to see Lodges that once had a membership of over one hundred (100) now down to less than half that, and some that no longer here. With regrets I can not honestly say that the State of the Order is in very good shape. It is something that must be addressed and it will take all of us to improve it.

WORSHIPFUL MASTERS

THE WORSHIP MASTER is directly responsible for the planning and presentation of ACTIVITIES that will inspire and inform the brethren of his lodge and thus assure its growth and development.

A WORSHIPFUL MASTER should give some thought to the development of a friendly atmosphere among the members of his lodge. Some one should be charged with the duty of welcoming brethren and visitors. This is especially helpful to newly raised Brethren.

Worshipful Masters should give some thought to that percentage of the members who have no real interest in the fraternity. This lack of interest stems from various causes. Men sometimes join Masonry out of Curiosity or because of a mistaken idea that the order is a glorified club, where men sit around and, drink, smoke and play cards, a sort of twice a-month holiday from the demands of home life. With men like this in your lodge, it is no wonder that when they learn the true meaning of Masonry, that the interest lags.

The CONSCIENTIOUS MASTER, should consider these men a CHALLENGE, - a real challenge to see that they properly indoctrinated and their drive and initiative used in the work of MASONRY

"The position of a Worshipful Master of a Masonic Lodge is draped with honor, clothed with authority, clothed with responsibilities and it offers, to the WORTHY a wealth of experience. To the WEAK it lends strength, to the STRONG it teaches humility, to the VAIN it offers glory and to the FAITHFUL an opportunity to serve mankind."

"No man is born to the East, he arrives at that EXALTED station through diligent effort and a faithful service, by unselfish devotion to the principles and tenets of the order and by a true belief in the BROTHERHOOD of MAN under the FATHERHOOD of GOD. Truly it is a labor of love and no one should aspire to this high office unmindful of the qualifications

the STATION demands, the responsibilities it ENTAILS and the ex - acting duties he must perform in order to achieve success as a leader of a BLUE LODGE."

THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER is the presiding officer of his lodge. the importance of electing men well suited for a particular office, cannot be stressed too much. No lodge can rise any higher than its officers. For example, a Worshipful Master who is stagnant, -- who refuses to grow is a detriment to his lodge. We must be certain that the men Elected to serve an office, possesses Qualifications and Ability to perform the duties of the office, to which he is Elected.

I cannot emphasize to EMPHATICALLY that a man is chosen for a certain office -- The office is not set - up for a certain man.

Adoptive and Appendant Rites

A harmonious relationship exists between our Grand Lodge and all of its Adoptive and Appendant Bodies.

Regional Grand Masters Conference

Did not attend this session because of sickness.

Foreign Jurisdictions

During the past year we have had contact with many of our sister jurisdictions.

Spring Conference

We had a very good turn out for our Spring Conference this year. The Grand Lecture had a very fine program for all that attended.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That all actions taken by the Grand Master during the past year to protect sovereignty of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Iowa, be sustained.

2.

Conclusions

It was recommended at Spring Conference that we have a brain storming session on how we can regain and enlist new members. I would say that if we all became more active in our

local Lodges and put on programs that included our youths, or any type of program we wouldn't need these type of sessions. When was the last time any of you have had a program to raise money for anything other than building funds? What about scholarships, sending some child off to summer camp, buying clothes for some needy family, giving some widow a helping hand. We all have time for ourselves but that's as far as it goes.

We set in meetings and argue about little things that don't amount to a hill of beans, but when someone wants to do something that will improve things, we have all the answers on why it will not work and everything else that could go wrong instead of helping to see that it works. Everybody wants to be a talker and not a worker. We spend far too much time on things that we cannot change and so little on the things we could do so well at, if we put our minds to it. You would be surprised at what men could do if they didn't care who got the credit. BROTHERS, BROTHERS, LETS BE BROTHERS.

Fraternally,

Bursle Williams Jr.
Most Worshipful Grand Master

Attachments:

Vouchers Written
General Fund
1995 - 1996

Date	Voc #	Check #	Reason	Amount
7/17/95	16	664	G. M. Williams Office Exp & Per Diem	\$811.52
7/17/95	17	665	H Colton Office Exp. & per Diem	\$245.00
7/17/95	18	666	D Austin Office Exp & Per Diem	\$230.00
7/17/96	19	667	K Collier SR Per Diem	\$45.00
7/17/95	20	668	H R Wilson Per Diem	\$45.00
7/17/95	21	669	Walter Arnaud Per Diem	\$45.00
7/17/95	22	670	E Taylor Per Diem	\$45.00
7/17/95	23	671	T. Lewis Per Diem	\$45.00
7/17/95	24	672	R Joseph Per Diem	\$45.00
7/17/95	25	673	C Yeager Per Diem	\$45.00
				\$1,601.52
All of the above were written at Grand Lodge				
8/8/95	26	674	Hotel Fort Des Moines GL Session	
8/13/95	1	675	Brooks & Lussen - Bond	\$100.00
8/13/95	2	676	B Williams Cont Fund	\$250.00
8/13/95	3	678	T. Lewis -Cont. Fund	\$200.00
8/13/95	4	679	H. Colton Cont. Fund	\$200.00
8/13/95	5	680	R Joseph Cont. Fund	\$75.00
8/13/95	6	681	H R Wilson Cont. Fund	\$50.00
9/8/95	7	682	B Williams Code & Const.	\$68.97
9/19/95	8	683	B Williams Code & Const.	\$200.00
10/31/95	9	684	Hotel Fort Des Moines	\$216.54
	10	685	Grand Lodge Storage	\$232.60
3/5/96	11	686	B Williams Code & Const.	\$100.00
Total				\$1,693.11
Grand Total				\$3,294.63

Vouchers Written
Widows & Orphans Fund
1995 - 1996

Date Of Death	Voc #	Check #	Reason	Amount
8/15/95	1	180	James Clark St John #35 Ms Eula Byrd - Daughter 313 N Barclay St Waterloo, IA 50703	\$400.00
8/6/95	2	181	Hubert Ross Sr. Sumner #3 Juanita Porter- Daughter 400 lucas Burlington, IA	\$400.00
8/24/95	3	182	Lawrence O James North Star #2 Clifton Slaughter - Step Son 1529 32nd St Des Moines, IA 50311	\$400.00
8/24/95	4	183	Benjamin H Gordon North Star #2 Michelle McFalls 16652 E Prentice Circle Aurora, CO 80015	\$400.00
10/18/95	5	184	Aruty Henderson St John #35 Paul W Henderson - Brother 736 Willow ST Waterloo, IA 50703	\$400.00
11/22/95	6	185	Garold E Bryson North Star #2 Jack Bryson 1122 12th St Des Moines, IA 50314	\$400.00
11/14/95	7	186	William Hill Hiram #19 John Hill - Son 403 Crestridge DR Waterloo, IA 50702	\$400.00

10/27/95	8	187	De Edwin F White - Sumner #3 James R White - Brother 155 Horbor Dr. Apt 3001 Chicago, IL 60601	\$400.00
11/30/95	9	188	Horace T Weldon Sumner #3 Charlotte A Weldon - Wife 521 S8th St Burlington, IA	\$400.00
2/10/96	10	189	Neil Jackson - Hiram #19 Ms Teneall Lloyd - Niece 1815 Foster Muscatine, IA	\$200.00
2/10/95	11	190	Neil Jackson - Hiram #19 Mrs. Margaret Beechum - Grand Niece 1815 Foster Muscatine, IA	200.00
4/29/96	12	191	Eddie Fuller - Decatur #14 Willie Fuller - Wife 713 W 6th Sioux City, IA 51103	\$400.00
4/14/96	13	192	James Ewing - Hiram #19 Bessie Ewing - Mother 414 W 10th St Davenport, IA 52803	\$400.00

Grand Total \$4,800.00

TRIPS 1995 -96

DATE COST	TOWN	REASON	MILES	TOTAL
08/09/95	Burlington	Bro. H. Ross (Service)	378	\$94.50
11/1/95	Burlington	P.G.M. DeEdwin White	378	\$94.50
04/13/96	Davenport	Spring Conference	266	\$66.50
07/10/96	Davenport	Grand Lodge	266	\$66.50
TOTAL			1288	\$322.00

Grand Master's Expenses 1995/96

05-Jun-96		
Office Supplies	(Receipts Attached)	\$462.61
Stamps & Bulk Mail	(Receipts Attached)	\$49.47
Phone Charges 1995/96	(Receipts Attached)	\$79.49
Secretarial Service		\$100.00
Trips (.25 per mile)	(Listing Attached)	\$322.00
Printing of Grand Master's Address		\$35.00
Per Diem		\$45.00
Total		\$1,093.57
Money Received	Contingency	\$250.00
	For Code & Con.	\$200.00
	For Code & Con.	\$100.00
	Totals	\$550.00
Amount owed to the Grand Master		\$543.57

LODGE OFFICERS

NORTH STAR LODGE #2
STEPHEN BANKS W.M.

DES MOINES IA S03103

SUMNER LODGE #3
HOWARD PAYNE, SECRETARY
1334 SOUTH LEEBRICK
BURLINGTON IA 52601

GOLDEN STAR LODGE #4
WILLIE NESBIT W. M.
SECRETARY
P.O. BOX 1334
OTTUMWA IA 52531

DECATUR LODGE #14
LEE THOMAS, W.M.
1913 21ST ST
SIOUX CITY IA 51103

MT OLIVE LODGE #17
TONEY SMITH W.M.
1716 D AVE NE
CEDAR RAPIDS IA 52402

HIRAM LODGE #19
JETHRO CRIBBS W.M.
3662 TAM-O-SHANTER
BETTENDORF IA 52722

ST JOHN LODGE #35
SAMMIE DAY JR
208 CONGER ST
WATERLOO IA 50703

NORTH STAR LODGE #2
H.R. WILSON, SECRETARY
2700 WEDGEWOOD
DES MOINES IA 50317

SUMNER LODGE #3
ERNEST MARSH W. M.
902 LINDEN
BURLINGTON IA 52601

GOLDEN STAR LODGE #4
ANTHONY GALLOP,

P.O. BOX 1334
OTTUMWA IA 52531

DECATUR LODGE #14
WILSON BARNES, SECRETARY
4132 HICKORY LANE
SIOUX CITY IA 51106

MT. OLIVE LODGE #17
KENNETH REED SECRETARY
4228 TOPAZ AVE SE
CEDAR RAPIDS IA 52405

HIRAM LODGE #19
MAYNARD STOVALL, SECY
1418 BELLE AVE
DAVENPORT IA 52803

ST JOHN LODGE #35
B LOYD BULLOCK
3849 SEAGER AV
WATERLOO IA 50701