

**Prince Hall Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star
and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction**

Sister Linda Owens Neal
Grand Worthy Matron



Brother Reginald Y. Scott, 32°
Grand Worthy Patron

“Exalting the Star through Community Building, Education, and Service to Humanity”

Sister Mary M. Ennis
Grand Associate Matron

Brother Jermaine C. Nowline, 33°
Grand Associate Patron

Sister Artonya C. Scott
Grand Treasurer

Sister Tamiquia T. Simon
Grand Secretary

Sister Blanchie J. James
Grand Conductress

Sister Ella McGee
Grand Associate Conductress

Past Grand Matrons

Sister Joyce M. Durant
Sister Juanita D. Edwards
Sister Sheila B. Danforth
Sister Jeanette P. Singleton

Past Grand Patrons

Brother Fred Herriott, 33°
Brother Herman L. Rivers, 33°
Brother Lewis H. Nelson, 33°
Brother Terry B. Law, Sr., 33°

April 21, 2021

To: PHGC OES Executive Board, Grand Supervising Deputies, Grand Associate Deputies, Elected and Appointed Officers and members Of all local Chapters and any others owing allegiance to PHGC OES Rite of Adoption for the State of SC and Jurisdiction.

Greetings:

Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction is weathering the storm of Covid-19 Pandemic well. We have sought to perpetuate the work of Stardom in our great jurisdiction and have been successful in doing so. As we bring closure to our 112th year of Stardom, I celebrate with you the GRACE, MERCY and GOODNESS of the GREAT I AM. He has kept us and allowed us the opportunity to experience the here and now. For that, we say Thank You Dear Lord.

It has indeed been a pleasure to serve this great jurisdiction as the 16th Grand Worthy Matron. Thank you for your support. You have truly made this journey extremely rewarding. However, I regret to announce that the gathering for our 112 Grand Session, scheduled to be held in Columbia, SC, July 19- 21, has been officially canceled because of Covid-19. The health, safety and wellbeing of our membership is of utmost importance as we navigate the Covid-19 uncharted waters. Plans are being made to virtually commemorate our 112th year of Stardom and will be shared with you after they are finalized.

Please take note of the following information:

50 Year Membership: Each chapter should have completed the 50 Year Membership Form. Please double check your form for mistakes and send the correct information the first time. The form should be sent to, Sister Pearl Givens, the chairperson of this committee. The address is found on the bottom of the form. Please follow directions.

Local Chapter Audits: All chapter audits should be completed and presented to the chapter during the months of April and May.

May Chapter Elections: After much deliberation and because of the Pandemic situation, May elections in the local Chapters **are suspended for the 2021 year**. Under these special times, **for this year only**, officers who have reached their tenure will be allowed to serve an additional year. All previously elected officers will succeed themselves (continue in the same office). Chapters experiencing extenuating circumstances will be handled on an individual basis. Grand Supervising/Associate Deputies and the Grand Worthy Matron and Grand Worthy Patron will address these. GSDs are canvassing their chapters to identify these circumstances and will act under the direct supervision of the Grand Worthy Matron.

Souvenir Journal: We are soliciting ads from each member of the Executive Board, all districts (OES & Masonic), local chapters, Heads of Houses, businesses and anyone wishing to be a part of this publication. Please support us and take a page in this historical document- the **Pandemic Edition**. Thank you in advance for your support.

Grand Queen/ King Contest: The Grand Queen/King Contest for 2021 has been paused allowing the 2020 Grand winners and contestants to remain in place. We hope as the confines of the Pandemic are lifted that they will be able receive to the recognition that is due to them for their hard work. The district contestants that were selected for 2021 are the designated contestants for 2022. **It is All about the Scholarships.**

Scholarship Testing: Districts are persevering and well on the way of getting the job done. Thank you for all that you do. We have some of the brightest and best young people in the Jurisdiction of South Carolina who could benefit from a \$2,000.00 scholarship yearly to help with college cost.

Annual Reports: Annual Reports should be completed and sent to the Grand Secretary. **Please use the 2021 Form. Fillable forms are posted to our OES website.**

OES Burial Rites and Ceremony: The directive for the OES Burial Rites and Ceremony has not changed and will remain so until further notice. Please refer to the previous guidelines issued. Funeral home protocol has not changed. Your health, safety and wellbeing drive our decision making.

Chapter Meetings: Chapter meetings will continue to be held by teleconference and zoom. Zoom attendees must be dressed in white. **NO Ritualistic work performed.**

Media Policy: Please be mindful of what you post on social media. No degree work. No pictures of chapter rooms. When representing OES and /or wearing regalia, you must conform to the Dress Code. Your post, as a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, to social media will be highly scrutinized. You must be aware of that. *I would suggest that you do not post anything on social media that you would not want posted to **your** church's Sunday morning worship bulletin.*

Thank you for adhering to the afore stated guidelines and for supporting **YOUR Grand Chapter**.

Exalting the Star...

Linda Owens Neal, 16th Grand Worthy Matron