**Allocution
of the
Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief
of the Ohio Council of Deliberation
and Deputy for the Orient of Ohio**

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**October 28, 2023**

To Lieutenant Grand Commander Sidney D. Broadnax Jr. 33° representing the 20th Sovereign Grand Commander of The United Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction, USA, Inc. Sovereign Grand Commander Dr. Melvin J. Bazemore 33°; to the 66th Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, the Honorable Robert M. Estelle 33° and his Trustees; to the Assistant to the Deputy for the Orient of Ohio S.G.I.G. Louis C. Crocheron 33º; to the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General; to the officers of the Ohio Council of Deliberation; to the Grand Inspectors General; to all past and present Illustrious Commanders-in-Chief; to all Sublime Princes; and to all of our distinguished guests…

Good morning.

**Intro**

Before any important undertaking we should invoke the blessings of Deity.

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I would first like to thank my Creator and Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for His divine intervention for allowing me the strength and spirit to represent this Ohio Council of Deliberation for another year. I would also like to give thanks to Cheryl Williams, the First Lady of the Orient of Ohio, along with our daughters and grandchildren. Without their support there would be no joy in this labor of love that I have for this organization.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Sovereign Grand Commander, Dr. Melvin J. Bazemore 33º…



for his extraordinary leadership and for having the confidence to allow me to continue to be his representative serving as the 14th Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief of the Ohio Council of Deliberation and Deputy for this great Orient. I humbly and proudly serve to the best of my ability.

Bezaleel Consistory No. 15 and Bezaleel Assembly No. 19 have labored quite a bit in undertaking the preparations for this Annual Session. I thank you for all your sacrifices to get us to this place of achievement.

The officers of the Ohio Council of Deliberations and the Ohio Commanders of the Rite are worthy of praise for your efforts and successes during the past year.

**Necrology**

“Fold up the Tent” is a poem we know quite well, but we are never truly ready to see the tent folded. Nevertheless, the light of the campfire of life has been extinguished for a number of our Grand Inspectors General and Sublime Princes that will be recognized in our Memorial Service.

We also suffered the loss of, but heaven gained Sovereign Grand Inspector General Eddie Mallory 33°, King Solomon Consistory No. 20 and the 65th Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge for the State of Ohio, the Honorable, Grand Inspector General, a Brother, and friend to us all, Jerry R. Ellerson.

The Grand Architect of the Universe has also called from labor to refreshment my big brother Fr. Clarence E. Williams Jr. PhD., C.P.P.S. Though a limb has been truly severed from my body, I find solace in knowing that he is now with my mother and the Great “I Am” is allowing them to watch over me.

♦ ♦ ♦

**State of the Nation**

Man’s inhumanity to man once again reared its ugly head resulting in the death of Tyre Nichols of Memphis. Yet another life was cut short by members of the police force—only this time the perpetrators of the crime were the same color as the victim.

Former President Donald Trump continued being the gift that keeps on giving by embarrassing himself and the United States being indicted in four different states for a number or charges. President Joe Biden has also been found keeping classified documents and trying to steer clear of the serious issues his son is facing.

The United States suffered a downgrade in credit due to incessant partisan bickering about paying the Nation’s debt.

These are indeed trying times and as Illustrious Grand Prior S.G.I.G. Wilton E. Blake I 33° said during the church service at the 142nd Annual Session of the United Supreme Council, “We don’t need Proud Boys; we need praying boys!”

Just when we thought we were out of the woods as far as COVID is concerned we recently learned we are just standing on the edge of the field. There has been an uptick in cases across the country so we should remain vigilant.

Our meeting is always a short time before Election Day and every year I feel it is my duty to remind you to exercise your right to vote. How can we be so willing to vote for or against leadership in our in our fraternal world, but be hesitant in casting a vote for leadership in the real world?

Following 1 week after Election Day is Veterans Day. For those it concerns your willingness to do what others have not MUST be acknowledged. Because you did, we can!

**State of the Rite**

Through use of the [Constant Contact email platform](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/IFsjWR4); the [USC NJ website](https://uscnjpha.org/); [USC NJ Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/groups/403105910267366); and communications from the Cathedral trickled down through the Deputies, the membership has remained informed and engaged.

The Loyal Ladies are still enjoying a renewed focus through the pointed involvement of the Sovereign Grand Commander and the creation of the Order of the Golden Circle Working Group, and they are loving it. It is said behind (or alongside) every good man is an even better woman.

In the wake of last year’s Statement of Unity signing our United Supreme Council has established fraternal relations with the Supreme National Council of France; Supreme Council of Greece; and the Supreme Council of Romania. Our fraternal footprint is expanding, and we are achieving true interest in the greater Scottish Rite world.

Toward the end of the year, we endured the loss of a masonic giant in S.G.I.G. William R. Stark 33°. He served as the Illustrious Grand Minister of State for the United Supreme Council.

The State of the Rite is strong.

**State of the Orient**

*Voter Awareness*

The voter awareness initiative chaired by G.I.G. Joseph Clark Jr. 33° and G.I.G. David C. S. Whitehead 33° has been plenty, productive, and promising. These Fraters are the embodiment of the motto “Engage, Educate, and Mobilize!” There were many successful events held throughout the Orient. Voters were registered, issues explained, and contacts made.

*Scholarships*

The listing of scholarships awarded by our Council of Deliberation is included in the book of reports. The members of our Council of Deliberation continue Ohio’s strong tradition of masonic philanthropy ensuring that future generations have a decent beginning to their college careers free or partially free from the financial burden often incurred in pursuing higher education. This year we have awarded more than $21,800 to 33 worthy students.

We must ensure that our scholarship funds remain generously funded and our students phenomenally resourced. Between the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, Ohio Council of Deliberation, and the United Supreme Council I know the financial resources are available for their success.

The Ohio Council of Deliberation has awarded more than 500 scholarships totaling in excess of $450,000 throughout the past 50-plus years and we look forward to many more!

*Inspections*

Inspections have been performed in-person for all five Consistories and all five Assemblies. All the fiscal books of the respective officers are sound and will survive an audit. The equipment is in good condition, and the works of the Rite are performed adequately. All bodies have met their obligation to the Orient of Ohio and our United Supreme Council. I want to thank all the officers of the various Consistories and Assemblies for the courtesies extended to me this past year.

*Mentoring program*

Now that the nation is largely free from the COVID–19 pandemic we can get back to actively and personally investing in our future.

*Website*

In August we suffered the loss of our webmaster G.I.G. Brad J. Stallworth 33°. He had sole access to the website and because of that we had to create a new website. Our new webmaster is G.I.G. James J. Johnson Jr. 33°. Please visit our new [website](https://www.facebook.com/groups/313708537961117/). Through the efforts of the website development team, we have a first-class product, and we operate one of only seven Council of Deliberation websites in the jurisdiction. Response to the website has been positive and encouraging. Please continue to check it for news and information.

*Commanders of the Rite*

Led by S.G.I.G. Gregory S. Snead 33° the Ohio Commanders of the Rite remains on a steady course. Favorable reports were received from all Valleys.

Please keep in mind that ALL Sovereign and Grand Inspectors General are members of the Commanders of the Rite. It is up to the Valley Secretaries to collect the dues. It is disheartening to hear the reports of the Valley Vice Presidents indicated there is *X* number of Grand Inspectors General in their Valleys, but only *Y* number of Grand Inspectors General are dues-paying members.

*Programs*

***Raffle***

The second Ohio Council of Deliberation raffle concluded this past December. The drawing was held, and all prizes were distributed. Many thanks go out to G.I.G. Gregory L. Allen 33° and his team.

The third version was launched this past June. Tickets are one for $2 or 3 for $5. Please see your point of contact in your Consistories or you can buy some tickets at this Council of Deliberation. All tickets have been distributed and at this point we only want money in return. It is very necessary that we get excellent participation in this. The funds generated help to offset expenses of the Council of Deliberation. I will let it be known that we have not raised taxes for 35 years.

***Robes***

In an effort to promote uniformity of dress across the Orient I authorized a robe initiative. These robes can be worn at funerals, local Consistory meetings, and Council of Deliberation meetings. The robes are black, made of a lightweight material, and will have either the 32nd degree emblem embroidered on the back, or the 33rd degree patch stitched on the back.

G.I.G. Jason V. House Sr. 33° is leading the robe initiative. Five dollars ($5) from each sale is rebated to the Consistory of the Frater who purchased a robe; $5 will be directed to the state Commanders of the Rite; and $5 will be directed to the Ohio Council of Deliberation.

***Polo shirts***

Polo shirt sales are still ongoing. The polo shirt is a joint venture between the Ohio Commanders of the Rite and the Ohio Council of Deliberation. Please note that a rebate of $5 for the Council of Deliberation; $5 for the Ohio Commanders of the Rite; and $5 for the Consistory to which the Frater belongs is included in the price. This is a winning situation for all involved! Class of 2023, I hope you have ordered your shirts. Just saying.

*Order of the Golden Circle*

Per the Sovereign Grand Commander, the edict remains in effect that all women who are members of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Heroines of Jericho, may join the Order of the Golden Circle. Please encourage the eligible ladies in your life (mothers, sisters, wives, *etc*.) who are not members to pursue membership. Just so there is a complete understanding and no ambiguity, female relatives are able to join the Order of the Golden Circle **without** first joining the Order of the Eastern Star due to the temporary suspension of bloodline requirement to join the Order of the Eastern Star in some of the states in our jurisdictions.

*Fraternal Relations*

In November 2022, I, S.G.I.G. Jerry D. Springer 33°, and S.G.I.G. Darryl R. Smith 33° attended the masonic and civil services for Illustrious William R. Stark 33°, past Illustrious Grand Minister of State. He had a good home going.

Also in November, I attended the 141st Annual Session of the Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation. As always, it was a great time in our Mother Orient.

On Saturday, March 25, 2023, in the Valley of Columbus, L.D. Easton Consistory No. 21, (along with Fraters from Bezaleel Consistory No. 15 and King Solomon Consistory No. 20) joined together with members of our counterparts in the Valley of Columbus (Northern Masonic Jurisdiction) to perform the “Exemplification of the 20th Degree” at the Northwest Masonic Temple. Prince Hall Fraters performed our version of the 20th degree—*Master Ad Vitam*—with Prince Hall as a central character. The degree was followed by a break for dinner and degree work resumed with the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction Fraters performing their version of the 20th degree—*Master Ad Vitam*—with Benedict Arnold as a central character. The only regular and recognized Orients in Ohio worked together and exemplified their respective versions of the 20th degree outstandingly!

This joint degree work is a continuation of both Orients working together during the first statewide Reunion in October 2019 which included the performance of the 20th degree. This was a historic event and one of many to come which showcase a long history of collaboration and mutual respect in the Orient of Ohio.

I attended our counterpart Ohio Council of Deliberation Annual Session this past June. It was a very nice affair. They have a new Deputy for the Orient, and it was good to fellowship with my counterpart.

The United Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction’s Annual Session and Sovereign Grand Commander’s Testimonial was held in the Valley of Huntsville, Orient of Alabama. Under the leadership of Sovereign Grand Commander Dr. Corey D. Hawkins Sr. 33° the Southern Jurisdiction is in great hands. The testimonial was a gala affair.

The Orient of Ohio remains in lockstep with the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, and we strive to have no daylight between us.

The Orient of Ohio maintains excellent relationships with the Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Ohio Royal Arch Masons; Most Illustrious Prince Hall Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters; Prince Hall Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, State of Ohio; Desert of Ohio; and the AEAONMS. Furthermore, we have combined efforts with the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio and the Desert of Ohio as it relates to voter awareness efforts under the leadership of G.I.G. Joseph Clark Jr. 33° as the chairperson.

The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry is alive and well in the Orient of Ohio and the state of the Orient is strong.

**United Supreme Council**

*Annual Session*

The 142nd Annual Session was held in the Mile High City of Denver.

*Class*

This year’s Class was named the **William R. Stark** **Class of 2023**.

Illustrious Stark was a long-time member of Ionic Consistory No. 70 in the Orient of Wisconsin. He was serving as the Illustrious Grand Minister of State at the time of his death. There are 114 Fraters in the Class of which 13 are members of the Orient of Ohio.



Two Fraters from the Orient of Ohio were reclassified. Please congratulate Illustrious Lawrence E. Coleman Sr. 33° and Illustrious Howard Daryl Melvin 33° who are now Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Emeritus grade.

Illustrious Coleman has replaced longtime USC Music Director S.G.I.G. Barrington Lessene 33°. Illustrious Howard Daryl Melvin has joined his brother, Illustrious C. Keith Melvin, in the USC Medical Department. As I mentioned last year it is becoming increasingly more difficult to move to the next level. What you do and how you support is being closely monitored.

A change in the usual schedule of activities during an Annual Session allowed for the awarding of the Gold Medal of Achievement—the highest award presented by the United Supreme Council—during the first executive session. Assistant Convention Director S.G.I.G. Embie R. Bostic 33° was recognized. It was certainly earned and appropriately recognized.

On Saturday morning, May 27, following the presentation of the name of the Class by Sovereign Grand Commander Bazemore, Grand Historian S.G.I.G. Reginald B. Stewart 33° provided further enlightenment on S.G.I.G. William R. Stark 33°—the Class name honoree.

Saturday afternoon was highlighted by G.I.G. Eugene W. Greenfield 33° facilitating a thorough explanation of the 32nd degree, Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, complete with a demonstration of the passwords and signs.

On Sunday morning, May 28, newly reclassified S.G.I.G. Lawrence E. Coleman Sr. 33° led the USC Mass Choir in a number of selections.

Illustrious Grand Master of Ceremonies S.G.I.G. Jerry D. Springer Sr. 33° introduced the pastor for the sermon. Illustrious Grand Prior S.G.I.G. Rev. Dr. Wilton E. Blake I 33° delivered the Preached Word to the assemblage—“Trusting God in Hard Times”.

On Monday, G.I.G. Lonnie Jones II 33° assumed his newly appointed role as Illustrious Grand Standard Bearer succeeding S.G.I.G. Kenny Lewis 33° in the position.

Also, the Gold Stole of Honor was introduced. Active members who have served honorably for at least 9 years (three trienniums) are able to receive it. The first Fraters are S.G.I.G. Charles A. Downes 33° and one of our very own S.G.I.G. Rev. Dr. Otis Moss Jr. 33°.

*Allocution*

Sovereign Grand Commander Bazemore delivered a motivational, inspirational, and informative allocution covering the last year of activity of the United Supreme Council. It was delivered in person and augmented by a video presentation. For the first time ever the members of the Order of the Golden Circle were allowed into the chamber to listen. Highlights included—

* Establishing recognition with the Supreme Councils of Argentina, Canada, Haiti, and Mexico;
* Establishing the Interchange of Scottish Rite Activities Agreement to facilitate visitation between the two United Supreme Councils; and
* Educational grants issued to each Grand Assembly.

*Banquet*

The banquet was robustly attended by all. Lifetime Members enjoyed a seating section all their own. The banquet was so well attended some Fraters did not have seats to sit! In response to suggestions, the length of the banquet was shortened due to the Gold Medal of Achievement being awarded during executive session. New to the banquet were two very large screens playing a video montage from Annual Sessions from the past few years and photos taken during this year's session. A few members of the Orient of Ohio were prominently displayed. The Class President delivered a speech and made a significant Benevolent Foundation donation on behalf of the Class. LL Ruth Stark-Jordan, daughter of Illustrious William R. Stark 33°, addressed everyone and gave thanks for the support. Notable, is the Vice President of the Class is one of our very own—G.I.G. Cortez L. Bogard 33°.

Initiatives

*Reclamation*

One of the Sovereign Grand Commander’s priorities is reclaiming inactive members. A reclamation committee is in effect and the waiver on reclamation fees for Sublime Princes at the Consistory level is in effect until April 30, 2024. Please inform our disconnected Fraters they can come back in the fold and truly enjoy the enhanced Scottish Rite experience they are missing.

*Lifetime membership*

The second opportunity for the lifetime membership program has closed. The Orient of Ohio has gained 6 more members in this exclusive group. Thank you for investing in your United Supreme Council!

To date the program has met and exceeded the million-dollar mark.

To the 18 members of the Orient that participated I thank you for your support.

For those who need a bit more information and those who wish to participate during the next open window please keep in mind that each Lifetime Membership creates a small-scale endowment for that member with their dues being paid into perpetuity even after the member is deceased thereby creating a “legacy.” One generation plants the trees and another gets the shade. The cost to participate during the next open window has not yet been announced.

*Scottish Rite Reflections*

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Volume 3 of this series was released in May to rave reviews. Once again, Fraters from the Orient of Ohio contributed mightily and assisted with ensuring this educational offering is a success. G.I.G. Samuel E. Lindsey 33° served on the submission review team. He also contributed an interview of S.G.I.G. Charles L. Davis 33°—“A Worthwhile Endeavor.” S.G.I.G. Reginald B. Stewart 33° served as an Assistant Editor for the project and contributed a piece as well—“Is it Yours?”

*The Dove and The Quill*

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The highly anticipated first installment of “The Dove and The Quill was published in the beginning of April. This book highlights the thoughts and experiences of the Loyal Ladies of the Order of the Golden Circle throughout the jurisdiction. The Loyal Ladies of the Orient of Ohio were represented in grand fashion. LL Dorothy Gordon submitted a piece reflective of her experiences and LL Vivian Hawkins served as an Associate Editor.

*Walk of Fame Brick Paver Program*

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There is still room available in the Walk of Fame Garden at the Cathedral. You will find the form on the Council of Deliberation website. Phase 1 and 2 of the project has been completed and Phase 3 is now ongoing.

The Orient of Ohio was represented in large numbers during both phases of the project, and I thank the Fraters and Loyal Ladies of the Orient of Ohio for participating.

When I was Most Worshipful Grand Master, I had a saying—“Grand Lodge officers support Grand Lodge programs.” Well, here I am saying it again with a little twist—“Scottish Rite Masons support Scottish Rite programs.” Support is paramount to success.

Also please be advised you may stay abreast of the happenings of our United Supreme Council thought the website—[www.uscnjpha.org](http://www.uscnjpha.org)—on our Facebook page.

If you have not yet done so, please sign up for [Constant Contact emails](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/IFsjWR4). You can do so on our [United Supreme Council website](https://uscnjpha.org/). You will receive all relevant updates about Annual Session and other important information directly.

**For the Good of the Order**

Fraters, please submit newsworthy articles to the United Supreme Council’s [*Bulletin*](https://uscnjpha.org/usc-bulletins/). It is printed twice yearly—spring and fall. All articles must be sent through me. Also, please submit articles to the Grand Lodge’s *Lamp*. Spread the good news of Scottish Rite freemasonry and its members!

**Recommendations**

It is my recommendation that the Orient of Ohio—Consistories and Assemblies—continue to comply with all directives issued from the United Supreme Council, the Sovereign Grand Commander, and the Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief of the Ohio Council of Deliberation and Deputy for the Orient of Ohio.

It is my recommendation that $1,000 be donated to the United Supreme Council’s Benevolent Foundation on behalf of the Ohio Council of Deliberation.

It is my recommendation that **G.I.G. Dwight Morton** **33**° be awarded the MeritoriousServiceAward (for the tireless care, protection, and assistance provided to G.I.G Jerry R. Ellerson 33° in his time of need).

**Conclusion**

I have now arrived at the end of another allocution. The time for reflection is upon us once again.

* Remove from your circle those who want to be in charge of everything and responsible for nothing.
* Recognize collaboration is sometimes better than competition.
* Understand that decision making is not necessarily problem solving. Wisdom *does* dwell in contemplation.

Action is *key* in leadership so how do we handle this? It is imperative that we begin with the proper preparation.

If we are aiming for and achieving an *awesome* status that means everything was done right and in order. However, the result will be an *awkward* status if the execution is flawed. We can be certain it will be an *awful* status if those in charge have no idea what they are doing.

The elder statesmen of the Scottish Rite must ensure that we transfer the care, custody, and control of this glorious institution to a younger generation of leaders in a responsible fashion. Part of success is leaving a successor. At this point in time, we have more sheep than shepherds and we are losing our flock.

When the Grand Architect of the Universe removes stalwarts, vacancies may be created, but prayerfully, voids will not be. The presence of the lessons learned by past leadership will hopefully live on in the next generation of those who choose to wear the heavy crown.

Fraternally,

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Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief
of the Ohio Council of Deliberation
and Deputy for the Orient of Ohio

**OFFICIAL ACTS AND VISITATIONS**

**October 22–23, 2022** Presided, 113th Annual Ohio Council of Deliberation, DoubleTree by Hilton Columbus/Worthington, Columbus, Ohio

**October 24, 2022** Attended, 50th Annual Ohio Grand Assembly, DoubleTree by Hilton Columbus/Worthington, Columbus, Ohio

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**November 4–6, 2022** Attended masonic and civil service, S.G.I.G. William R. Stark 33°, St. Mark African Methodist Episcopal Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

**November 11–13, 2022** Attended 141st Annual Session, Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation, Crowne Plaza Philadelphia-King of Prussia, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania

**November 16, 2022** Attended meeting, Bezaleel Consistory No. 15, El Hasa Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

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**December 21, 2022** Attended meeting/virtual Reunion, Bezaleel Consistory No. 15, El Hasa Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

**December 18, 2022** Attended St. John the Evangelist Day celebration,
7th Masonic District

**December 25, 2022** Attended Christmas Observance, Emmanuel Commandery No. 32, FSLC building, Cleveland, Ohio

**December 27, 2022** Presided, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General teleconference

**December 28, 2022** Presided, Grand Inspectors General teleconference

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**January 2, 2023** Presided, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General teleconference

**January 13–15, 2023** Mid-Year Deputy meeting, United Supreme Council, Cherry Hill, New Jersey

**January 18, 2023** Attended elections, Bezaleel Consistory No. 15 / Bezaleel Assembly No. 19, El Hasa Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

**January 30, 2023** Presided, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General teleconference

**January 31, 2023** Presided, Grand Inspectors General teleconference

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**February 15, 2023** Attended meeting, Bezaleel Consistory No. 15, El Hasa Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

**February 27, 2023** Presided, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General teleconference

**February 28, 2023** Presided, Grand Inspectors General teleconference

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**March 15, 2023** Attended meeting, Bezaleel Consistory No. 15 / Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal, El Hasa Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

**March 18, 2023** Attended inspection with SGLLR Janice Bostic, LaPaz Assembly No. 35, Toledo, Ohio

**March 19, 2023** Attended inspection with SGLLR Janice Bostic, Dove Assembly No. 35, Cincinnati, Ohio

**March 25, 2023** Attended Exemplification of the 20th Degree, Northwest Masonic Temple, Columbus, Ohio

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**April 15, 2023** Performed inspection, Miami Consistory No. 26, Dayton, Ohio

**April 16, 2023** Performed inspection, Miami Assembly No. 22, Dayton, Ohio

**April 17, 2023** Attended corporate meetings, United Supreme Council, Northern Jurisdiction, VIRTUAL

**April** **19,** **2023** Attended meeting Bezaleel Consistory No. 15 / Bezaleel Assembly No. 19, El Hasa Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

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**May 17, 2023** Attended meeting, Bezaleel Consistory No. 15, El Hasa Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

**May 23–May 31, 2023** Attended 142th Annual Session, United Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction, USA, Inc., Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Denver, Colorado

**June 3, 2023** Attended Ohio Council of Deliberation, Holiday Inn Cleveland South, Independence, Ohio

**June 4, 2023** Attended Whit Sunday program

**June 21, 2023** Attended meeting, Bezaleel Consistory No. 15, El Hasa Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

**June 28, 2023** Performed inspection, Capital Assembly No. 36, St. Mark’s Lodge, Columbus, Ohio

**June 26, 2023** Attended Seventh Masonic District St. John the Baptist Day observance, St. John AME Church, Cleveland, Ohio

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**July 13, 2023** Attended masonic service, G.I.G. Elijah Mitchell Jr. 33°, Calhoun Funeral & Cremation Services, Cleveland, Ohio

**July 14, 2023** Attended civil service, G.I.G. Elijah Mitchell Jr. 33°, Second Ebenezer Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio

**July 19, 2023** Attended meeting, Bezaleel Consistory No. 15 / Bezaleel Consistory No. 19, El Hasa Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

**July 25, 2023** Presided, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General teleconference

**July 26, 2023** Presided, Grand Inspectors General teleconference

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**August 4–8, 2023** Attended 172nd Annual Communication, Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, Renaissance Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio

**August 19–22, 2023** Attended 2023 Biennial Session, Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction, Washington Hilton, Washington, DC

**August 26, 2023** Attended masonic and civil service, G.I.G. Bradford Stallworth 33°, Newcomer North Chapel, Dayton Ohio

**August 28, 2023** Presided, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General teleconference

**August 29, 2023** Presided, Grand Inspectors General teleconference

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**September 11, 2023** Attended Prince Hall Americanism Day services, Mt. Zion Congregational Church, Cleveland, Ohio

**September 17, 2023** Attended, Bezaleel Consistory No. 15, Commanders of the Rite meeting, W.D. Packard Music Hall, Warren, Ohio

**September 20, 2023** Attended meeting, Bezaleel Consistory No. 15 / Bezaleel Assembly No. 19, El Hasa Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

**September 26, 2023** Presided, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General teleconference

**September 27, 2023** Presided, Grand Inspectors General teleconference

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**October 6–11, 2023** Attended 137th Annual Session, United Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Southern Jurisdiction, USA, Inc., Embassy Suites, Huntsville, Alabama

**October 12, 2023** Attended masonic service, G.I.G. Jerry Ellerson 33°, Prince of Peace Baptist Church, Akron, Ohio

**October 12, 2023** Attended civil service, G.I.G. Jerry Ellerson 33°, Prince of Peace Baptist Church, Akron, Ohio

**October 19, 2023** Attended meeting, Bezaleel Consistory No. 15, El Hasa Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

**PROCLAMATIONS**

CAW 1–23 Ceremony of Renewal and Remembrance
March 16, 2023

CAW 2–23 Whit Sunday
June 4, 2023

CAW 3–23 114th Annual Session, Ohio Council of Deliberation/52nd Annual Session, Ohio Grand Assembly
October 22–23, 2022

CAW 4–23 52nd Annual Session, Ohio Grand Assembly
October 22–23, 2022

Ff Earle B. Turner Day

**DIRECTIVES**

Letter of Commission issued to S.G.I.G. Thomas Graham 33° to represent the office of the Deputy for the Orient at the 156th Annual Grand Convocation of the Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter of Ohio Royal Arch Masons

**RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT**

S.G.I.G. William R. Stark 33°

G.I.G. Elijah Mitchell Jr. 33°

G.I.G. Bradford J. Stallworth 33°

Reginald Todd Broadnax

Pearl B. Lewis

S.G.I.G. Eddie L. Mallory 33°

G.I.G. Jerry R. Ellerson 33°