



The Smooth Ashlar BULLETIN

Official Publication of the Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge F&AAYM

December 2022



Grand Master Samuel Meadows

Wishing All A Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

Grand East
6958 Main Street
Lithonia, GA 30058
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www.smoothashlargrandlodge.org

The Smooth Ashlar Bulletin is the official quarterly Newsletter publication of the Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge Free & Accepted Ancient Yorkrite Masons Prince Hall Origin-National Compact Jurisdiction of Georgia. It is for information and highlights the goings on within our jurisdiction. If you, your Lodges, Chapters, Auxiliaries and Departments would like to make a contribution to the Smooth Ashlar Bulletin, please submit your pictures and write ups to the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary Brother Christopher L. Belcher.

Email: grandsecretary@smoothashlargrandlodge.org



The Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge Free & Accepted Ancient Yorkrite Masons

Prince Hall Origin-National Compact Jurisdiction is an Affiliated Grand Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful National Grand Lodge F&AAYM Prince Hall Origin-National Compact USA & Bahamas, established

June 24, 1847 in Boston, Massachusetts.

Honorable Cedric Lewis
National Grand Master



Honorable Samuel Meadows 33° Grand Master of Masons

**The Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge
Free & Accepted Ancient Yorkrite Masons
Prince Hall Origin (COMPACT)
Jurisdiction of Georgia**

Bro. Roderick Moore 33°
R. W. Deputy Grand Master

Bro. Christopher L. Belcher 33°
R. W. Grand Secretary

Bro. Kenneth House 33°
R. W. Grand Senior Warden

Bro. Robert Marts 32°
R. W. Grand Treasurer

Bro. Hardy Blash 32°
R. W. Grand Junior Warden

Bro. Herschel Grangent, Sr. 33°
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Bro. Patrick Mills
R. W. Grand Tyler

Reverend Daniel Dickson 32°
Grand Chaplain

December 19, 2022

**TO ALL BROTHERS AND SISTERS UNDER THE JURISDICTIONS OF
THE MOST WORSHIPFUL SMOOTH ASHLAR GRAND LODGE GEOR-
GIA, ITS AUXILIARIES AND GRAND DEPARTMENTS**

Greetings Smooth Ashlar Family,

On behalf of all and in the Spirit and Reason for the Season, I would like to wish you all and your families the Happiest of Holidays. Due to the way this season falls on the calendar, and that this is a month with a fifth Saturday, I hereby declare that there will be no District Meetings or any other activities under this jurisdiction on December 31, 2022 (New Year's Eve). Please take this time to reflect and be with your families. District Deputies please feel free to reschedule any meetings after the new year begins. Again Season's Greetings and peace and blessings to you.

Please take due and timely notice to this call and govern yourselves accordingly.

Sincerely,

Samuel Meadows 33°

Samuel Meadows
Grand Master of Masons





Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge

Free & Accepted Ancient Yorkrite Masons

Prince Hall Origin-National Compact

Jurisdiction of Georgia

2023 GRAND LODGE SESSION



Scan QR Code
to
Register



September 21-23, 2023

Cottonwood Suites

Savannah Hotel & Conference Center

301 Governor Treutlen Dr

Pooler, GA 31322

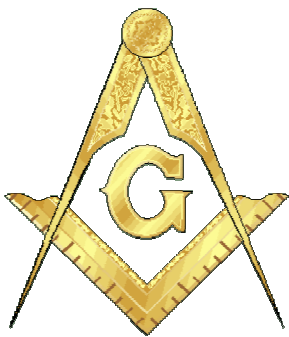
Exodus Lodge No. 314

Macon, Georgia

On Sunday, December 18, 2022, the brothers of Exodus Lodge No. 314 of Macon, Georgia held their annual blanket and socks give-away to Cherry Blossom Health and Rehabilitation Nursing Home of Macon, Georgia. Cherry Blossom Health and Rehabilitation is a short term and long term care center designed to be as person and comfortable as possible. For that reason, they offer many of the comforts of home and community as well as activities to keep the entertained and energized. Hats of to Exodus Lodge No. 314 for making the day brighter for the residents of the facility.



**Cherry Blossom
Health and Rehabilitation**
3520 Kenneth Dr,
Macon, GA 31206
(478)781-7553
cherryblossomhealth.org



Brothers of Exodus Lodge No. 314

Macon District No. 4

At The Macon-Bibb Christmas Parade



The Honorable Clim Davenport

The “Big Mason” of Georgia



The Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons Prince Hall Origin National Compact Jurisdiction of Georgia is a jurisdiction under the Most Worshipful National Grand Lodge that shares a warm and robust history and likes to profess that it is one of the touch bearing jurisdictions in the Compact. The Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge could in no way be what it projects with out the leadership of one of her best leaders. That leader was the Honorable Clim Davenport. Past Master Davenport “The Big Mason”, as he was called in the Compact was the longest serving Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge and did so much to leave an indelible legacy and enormous shoes to fill.

The Honorable Clim Davenport was raised a Master Mason in Westside Lodge No. 420 in Atlanta, Georgia. On May 17th 1940. According to Past Grand Senior Warden Donald “Pops” Summerlin, who was raised by Clim Davenport in 1947, Clim

Davenport was a successful neighborhood Grocery Store owner. A warrant was granted to Royal Ark Lodge No. 574 by Past Grand Master the honorable Dr. Lyndon Marcus Hill and Clim Davenport served as the first Worshipful Master. He was elected Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of Smooth Aslar Grand Lodge in 1943. He organized Royal Arch Chapter No. 11 and Royal Commandery No. 4 Knights Templar in 1945. The Honorable Clim Davenport was elected Grand Master in 1947. Also in 1947, the Honorable Clim Davenport helped to organize the Neziah Grand Temple of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. The Temple was warranted by the Imperial Council in 1948 and Clim Davenport served as its first Grand Potentate. In 1956, he established the Clim Davenport College Scholarship Awards for Graduating high school seniors whose parents were members of the Order. He was elevated to the office of National Deputy Grand Master in 1963.

A LEGACY ETCHED IN GRANITE

No man nor Mason who travels the state of Georgia and has the blessing to visit many of the African American churches, can deny, if they pay attention to the Cornerstones laid at many of these are in fact laid by Grand Master Clim Davenport. There is a old wives tale here in Georgia that only Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge Yorkrite Masons are the only ones allowed to lay cornerstones. Our brothers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia take exception to this. However, one could easily see, through traveling through the state, that Clim Davenport has probably laid more cornerstones during his administration that all that have been laid by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Georgia. The legacy of Clim Davenport is etched in granite in the vast number of cornerstones laid during his administration. The following are just a small sample of the many laid under the auspices of the Most Worshipful Smooth Grand Lodge.

Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge Cornerstones laid under the administration of Clim Davenport

BEULAH GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
 ORGANIZED 1914
 REV. J. H. EVANS PASTOR
 OTHER PASTORS
 REV. O. C. PARKER REV. P. K. KELLEY ACTING
 REV. W. W. WEAVER REV. S. A. JENNINGS
 PRESENT STRUCTURE BUILT 1951 & 1952
 REV. B. I. VERNON PASTOR
 CHURCH OFFICERS
 DEACON BOARD TRUSTEE BOARD
 L. KEY, CHAIRMAN T. JENKINS, CHAIRMAN
 W. ALBEA L. EDNEY
 H. HIGGINS L. GOLPHIN
 S. BROWN W. COCKRELL
 K. NORMAN W. BURNETT
 W. HOWARD N. JORDAN
 J. WILLIAMS A. GREEN
 I. MCAUTHOR W. GLOVER
 W. WATSON MRS. V. B. ALBEA, CLERK
 REV. B. I. VERNON, PASTOR
 LAID BY F & A. A. Y. MASON
 CLIM DAVENPORT, G. M.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH
 CONSTITUTED 1875 LOCUST GROVE, GA.
 OFFICIALS OCT. 4, 1964
 REV. W. M. MAYNARD, PASTOR-SISTER D. WATKINS, CLK.
 DEACONS: T. L. SOLOMON, CHMN.
 I. S. TILLER T. L. SOLOMON, JR. B. F. SIMS
 W. E. WATKINS W. T. WATKINS C. L. SOLOMON
 A. D. SOLOMON R. SOLOMON R. L. LASTER
 L. PHELPS J. COMPTON A. JINKS
 CORNERSTONE LAID BY CLIM DAVENPORT, G. M.

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH
 GOD WITH US
 ORGANIZED JAN. 26, 1958
 BENJAMIN W. BICKERS, FOUNDER,
 PASTOR
 TRUSTEES
 ROBERT BENTON, SR. MRS. ANNIE LEARY
 JOHN BROWN, SR. MRS. JOAN MEADOWS
 MRS. JULIA M. JONES, MRS. LUCY SPENCE
 CLIFFORD L. WALTON, CHAIRMAN
 LAID 10-4-59
 F & A. A. Y. MASON
 CLIM DAVENPORT G. M.

FORTRESS AVENUE
 BAPTIST CHURCH INC.
 REV. P. T. PERKINS, PASTOR
 MRS. SARAH AMMONS, CLERK
 EST. 1924 - REBUILT 1954
 TRUSTEES
 JULIUS W. HURT, CHAIRMAN
 CLEVELAND FRAZIER
 U. L. HUNT
 CORNERSTONE LAID, MAY 22, 1955
 SMOOTH ASHLAR
 GRAND LODGE
 F & A. A. Y. MASONS
 CLIM DAVENPORT G. M.

GREATER VINE CITY
 BAPTIST CHURCH
 ORGANIZED OCT. 15, 1946
 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
 TRUSTEES & BOARD OF DEACONS
 REV. JUNIOR H. DANIEL MINISTER
 BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, F. & A. A. Y.
 MASONIC LODGE NO. 534
 CLIM DAVENPORT, GRAND MASTER

THE
 B. JOSEPH JOHNSON
 RELIGIOUS CENTER
 BUILT - 1947
 REV. B. JOSEPH JOHNSON
 A. B. B. D. D. PASTOR
 BUILDING COMMITTEE
 GENERAL RUSH W. C. BURDEN
 W. T. CARTER N. PROTHRO
 E. D. STEPHEN ALLEN LEWIS
 OSCAR HUIEL PRINCE DANSON
 LAID BY F & A. A. Y. M.
 CLIM DAVENPORT G. M.

HOLLEY GROVE A. M. E. CHURCH
 FAYETTEVILLE, GA.
 1877 1958
 FOUNDED BY BRO. WASHINGTON ARNOLD
 REMODELED BY THE STEWARDS AND TRUSTEES
 REV. J. T. ROBINSON, PASTOR
 P. E. T. J. DAVIS, D. D. M. D.
 BISHOP W. R. WILKES, D. D. L. L. D.
 STONE LAID MAY 25,
 A. E. A. A. Y. MASONS H. L. BROOKS, W. M.
 C. L. M. DAVENPORT, G. M.
 HOLLY GROVE
 A. M. E. CHURCH

The Honorable Clim Davenport passed away on May 8, 1974 and was laid to rest at Southview Cemetery in Southeast Atlanta, Georgia. Grand Master Davenport left a lasting impression on York Masonry in the state of Georgia as well as the National Compact. He was the hero and champion of enterprise. He was the template of Faith, Hope and Charity through his work. It is hard to mention the Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge and talk about its history and legacy and not mention the name Clem Davenport, Grand Master of Masons.



Address of Grand Master Clim Davenport

At the Grand Lodge Session of
The Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge
Dublin, Georgia
September 23-26, 1962

It gives me rare pleasure to you upon this most auspicious occasion , to be permitted to look into your faces, and to hope that our fellowship, for the few days we shall deliberate together, will be characterized by good-will, brotherly love and affection.

By the all-wise providence of God, we have been permitted to assemble ourselves together on the 97th Annual Communication to review the work of Craftsmen during the past year, and lay plans for the carrying forward, successfully, the work of the Order in the future. The very fact that so many of us who were present One Year ago are present now and see each other face to face, is an evidence of God's goodness and tender mercies towards us, and is sufficient cause for Thanksgiving.

While we have been spared, scores of our Brother Master Masons throughout the jurisdiction have been summoned to lay down their working tools and to appear before the Grand Master of the Universe to give an account of their stewardship here below. The further fact that we are all subject to this summon.

Sooner or later, should constrain us all to be good and true Master Masons.

Permit me to say, in this connection, that the kind of Order we shall have in the future will be determined, largely by the kind of men out of which the Order is built. If the Order be built of men who are good and true, we shall have an Order that is good and sustainable. If our men, for the most part , are honest, truthful and law abiding, our Fraternity will stand fro Law and Order. If, on the other hand, we be men who are inclined to acts of dishonesty, and who do not regard Law and Order, our Fraternity will take likeness after these kind of men.

Brethren, we must over keep in mind the fact the supreme purpose of Masonry is the building of Moral Character and that the monetary side of Masonry is more adjunct. If we succeed in building up a great financial institution at the expense of Moral Worth, we will have greatly over-shot the mark of Masonry. Therefore, I urge you Worshipful Masters to stress the Moral Development of your men. Teach this by your own personal example, even more than by precept.

Let us dedicate our Order more fully to the work of Moral Uplift among our fellowmen, but more, especially , among the brethren of the Craft. While I emphasize the necessity of developing the Moral side of our Brothers, the nature of our Order makes it very necessary that we build stronger and stronger our financial side. For as we grow numerically, our financial obligations increase proportionately, obligations that must be met as long as we stay solvent.



THE MASONIC TEMPLE BUILDING Jones - Photo 1959
The Masonic Temple at 60 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, Ga., built from the ground up under the administration of Clim Davenport. It served as home to the MW Smooth Ashlar Grand



Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge F&AAYM 2022-2023 Calendar

Registration for Grand Lodge Session Opens
December 3, 2023

(\$100 December 3rd-May 31st) (\$125 June 1st-August 31st) (\$150 September 1st- Onsite)

Department Heads & Auxiliary Head Meeting
January 14, 2023 @ 9:15am

North Georgia Town Hall Meeting
January 14, 2023 @ 10:00am

Kelsey-Alcock Burrell Center
41 Washington Drive
Rome, GA 30161

2nd Grand Lodge Quarterly Meeting & Statewide Workshop
March 3-4, 2023

Sweer Home Missionary Baptist Church
280 Oak Street
Hiram, Georgia 30141

ALL MEMBER LODGE DUES ARE DUE BY MARCH 31, 2023

3rd Grand Lodge Quarterly Meeting

SAGL Fellowship Cookout

June 10, 2023 @ 9am-Until

Lake Oconee Park
1530 Old Salem

Greensboro, Georgia 30642



Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge F&AAYM 2022-2023 Calendar (Continued)

Statewide St. John's Day
June 25, 2023 @ 3pm
TBA

Most Worshipful National Grand Lodge Session
July 20-23, 2023
Hilton Greenville
45 West Orchard Park Drive
Greenville, South Carolina 29615
(864) 232-2000

August 31, 2023 End of the SAGL Financial Masonic Year

2023 Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge Session
September 21-23, 2023
Cottonwood Suites
Savannah Hotel & Conference Center
301 Governor Treutlen Drive
Pooler, Georgia 31322

Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge Banquet
National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Building
175 Bourne Avenue
Pooler, Georgia



Bright Hope Lodge No. 465 Celebrates 50 Years of Freemasonry in Inman, Georgia

272 Weldon Road
Fayetteville (Inman), GA 30215
www.brighthope465.org

On November 12, 2022, Bright Hope Lodge No. 465, Inman, Georgia celebrated its 50th Anniversary, with its Dinner and Installation Program. On the tenth day of November 1972, a Constitutional number of worthy Master Masons in and around the vicinity of Inman, Georgia in Fayette County received a petition to erect a Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons Prince Hall Origin National-Compact. Those Master Masons were to wit: Willie Hand, Lee Hand, Donald T. Hand, Walter L. Forts Jr., James C. Gresham, Samuel Coggins, Marvin Hand, Russell Welch, Joe Stargell, Leroy Welch, Rufus Prayor, Curtis Cheney, H. L. Brooks, Charles Price, Sylvester Gay, McArthur Prayor and Kelley Charleston.



Past Master Marvin Hand
Charter Member



Grand Master Samuel Meadows
Member



Bro. Joseph Powell
Long Time Senior Deacon



Bro. John E. Wright
Long Time Secretary

Smooth Ashlar OES Participates In Annual Turkey Giveaway

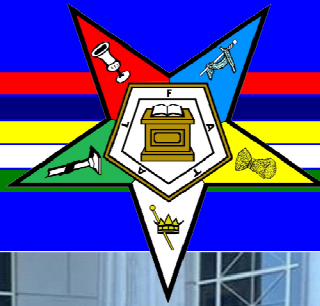
Summary by Brother Heschel Grangent Jr.

On Nov. 19, 2022, Sis. Aimee Wallace-Hodo, Grand Worthy Matron for Smooth Ashlar Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, and her cabinet participated with charitable organization Splendors of Africa and the brothers and sisters of Districts 10 & 12 in Splendors of Africa's annual turkey drive.

The event was held at the Douglas County Courthouse in Douglasville, GA, and the concept was simple: drive your car to the courthouse, receive a free turkey.

A line of cars had already formed an hour before the 10am start time, prompting the group to start giving out the turkeys early. Once the receiving line was set into motion, each car was entitled to one fresh frozen turkey. With the help of the Grand Cabinet and all volunteers in attendance, more than 350 turkeys were given out.

Splendors of Africa Inc. was established as a non-profit corporation in 2010 as a platform to create a world where all people have opportunity and capacity to participate in steering their social, economic, and environmental factors by being appropriately empowered.



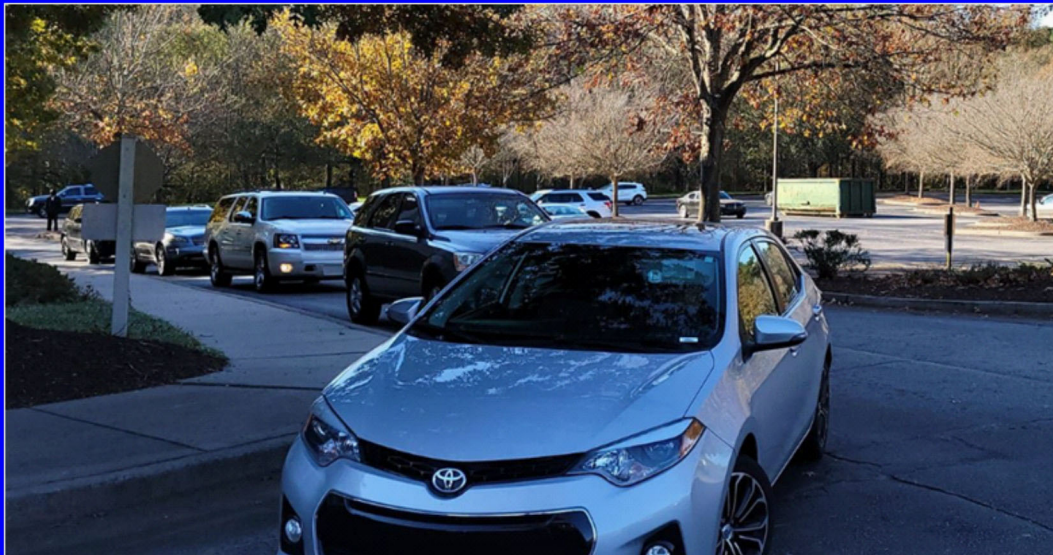
OES Grand Cabinet & Douglasville District #10



*Founders of Splendor of Africa
Brother Steven Thomas and Wife Alice Thomas*



The assembly line for passing out turkeys



The line of cars before 10 am.

Saving Grey Inc. Toy Drive

Saving Grey Inc. is a non-profit organization headed by National Youth Supervisor Sister Jacqueline Brengettsy-Gresham. Saving Grey Inc. held its Annual Toy Drive December 22 & 23 and provided Toys to needy families. Brothers and Sisters came out to lend support and most importantly Santa Claus was in the building. Saving Grey Inc. would like to thank all who helped make the Christmas a little brighter. A special shout out to Sister Mary Price with a healthy donation to the toy drive.



We can only remain solvent so long as our income is sufficient to meet our current and outstanding obligations. These outstanding and ever increasing obligations in the nature of Death Claims, which are incident to the mortality of the human family cannot be checked not regulated by human power and skill, but human minds and power must provide the necessary income to meet these obligations when they come due. And to make wise and adequate provision. Our entire membership throughout the jurisdiction must fully and promptly co-operate with the Grand Lodge Officers in their efforts to meet these obligations and thereby discharge the duties you yourselves have assigned to them.

Permit me to say further that the Grand Charity Fund that was instituted and held in trust for the specific and exclusive payment of Death Claims of the Brethren as they fall by the way from time to time; and cannot legally be used for any other purpose. The property valued at more than \$300,000, we own, is a mere security on every Policy issued by the Order, and, under the Law, is held for the payment of these policies. Therefore, the purport of the Grand Charity Fund and the property we own, are one and inseparable, as I view it. That being true, our membership is just as much bound to support the one as the other, and the call for money to support one is just as mandatory upon the membership as a call to support the other.

I have been asked repeatedly, at meetings where I addressed the brethren, why I did not discuss Religious Organizations. My judgement is that we need have little fear of the enemy on the outside, if we properly concern ourselves about the enemy on the inside. The biggest problem before us is not a question of numbers, of wealth, of fine Temples, or perfection in the work. What Masonry needs today is MEN; real men, men of vision, men of unselfishness, both of mind and body. If we measure our applicants by these standards, we need have no fear of the future. We must get back to the fundamental principles of our Ancient Time-honored institution, that we may be able to transmit to posterity the heritage which has been placed in our keeping.

Although the growth has not been as large this year as for several years preceeding, I deem this a healthy condition. We have been, in the last few years, growing with abnormal rapidity. Too many are knocking at our doors and gaining admission to our Lodges who have but a faint conception of the real purpose of Freemasonry.

The laying of cornerstones offers a most splendid opportunity for impressing the public with the importance of our institution. The ceremonies for such occasion are the most beautiful and profound. Therefore, I suggest that the subordinate Lodges encourage Building Committees in your Districts to have you lay Cornerstones for them when they are erecting a New Building. Remember however, that it is only the prerogative of the Grand Lodge to lay Cornerstones. Therefore, always send a written request to the Grand Master for permission to do this kind of Masonic Work, so that you get proper instruction.

It has been a great pleasure to me to have served you in the capacity of Grand Master. The office affords me splendid opportunities to serve the needs of our people and to give much needed instruction to them. Their believe in the power of the Grand Master to solve so many of their difficult problems and to remove the cause of so many of their troubles strikes the chords of deepest sympathy.

I have striven hard to render satisfactory service and if I have made mistakes that merit criticism; if I have done wrong in any connection; and have given the cause for offense to anyone; I have done it in an effort to do what I thought at the time was best and right. I am sure when you have time to reflect, you will exercise charity towards me that all Masons are taught to have towards one another, since we all human and knowing that it is human to err.

I wish to again thank you for the confidence you placed in me One Year ago by bestowing the highest honor you can bestow.

I ray God's choicest blessings on each of you, my Brethren, while here and his special love and protection of our loved Ones at home, during our absence.

BLACK PANTHER WAKANDA FOREVER



Afrocentricity, love of self and love of culture were truly the assignments for the evening when Smooth Ashlar Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star sponsored a screening of Marvel's blockbuster "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever" on November 12, 2022.

Atlanta's Regal Atlantic Station had a sold-out theater full of moviegoers showcasing their best African attire and their beautiful Black selves.

The Grand Chapter planned the event so that children from the Smooth Ashlar Youth Department could have a chance to see the new movie and enjoy the fun and pride of wearing-and seeingff their friends and family in-African attire.

In addition to the movie, the event featured T'Challa himself in full costume for photo opportunities as well as a red carpet.

See more pictures on Facebook Group Smooth Ashlar Grand Chapter OES (must be a member and answer membership questions).

Summary by Brother Herschel Grangent Jr.



Sister Windy Brooks, Grand Financial Secretary, Sister Tawania Grangent Grand Conductress, Sister Aimee Wallace-Hodo, Grand Worthy Matron, Sister Leola Hatcher, Grand Associate Matron and Sister Linda Hinton, Grand Associate Conductress (Left to right) OES Grand Cabinet Members

Sister Mawakana White, District Matron #15 Lithonia District



*Sister Vikki Smith, District Matron #12
Cartersville District*



Sister Yeshurun, Grand Trustee to Treasurer and son



Sister Windy Brooks, Grand Financial Secretary, Sister Tawania Grangent Grand Conductress, Sister Aimee Wallace-Hodo, Grand Worthy Matron, Sister Leola Hatcher, Grand Associate Matron and Sister Linda Hinton, Grand Associate Conductress (Left to right) OES Grand Cabinet Members



Sister Donna Delaney, District Matron #1 Atlanta District