



*Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge*  
*Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity*  
*Free & Accepted Masons of*  
*Florida, Belize, Central America, Germany & Jurisdiction, Inc.*  
*Prince Hall Affiliated*  
*Founded 1870*  
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July 21, 2016

To: Past Grand Master; Honorary Past Grand Master; District Deputy Grand Master; Assistant District Deputy Grand Master; Special Deputies at Large; Past Masters; Worshipful Master; Senior and Junior Wardens; Secretary; Treasurer; Officers and Brethren,

Greetings,

***“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”*** – Ephesians 4:4-6 NKJV

Subject: 2016 Grand Lodge Workshop Report

It was my pleasure to attend the 2016 Grand Lodge Workshop held on July 15-16, 2016 in Jacksonville, FL at the Grand East. This correspondence will provide you with most of the information that I captured during the several presentations.

**Day – 1, Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup>**

The Workshop was opened with devotion by Rev. RW Donald McBride the Grand Chaplain with a powerful message; “It’s all in your mind”. He expressed the four types of mind: (1) Metamorphous – he spoke on this from a passage in the book of Romans 12:1-2; (2) Meditative - he spoke on this from a passage in the book of Psalms 1:1-2; (3) Motivated – he spoke on this from a passage in the book of Philippians 4:13; (4) Made-up – he spoke on this from a passage in the book of Isaiah 26:3. The energy was high and placed everyone in the right frame of mind.

GJW RW Pierre E. Rutledge presented the welcome that followed by greetings given by SGW RW Gus Harris, Jr.; DGM RW Jeffery G. Jones and MWGM Walter Gulley, Jr. who commended everyone that was in attendance by taking time out and off from work to be here and rendered an analogy to that in the book of Judges of Gideon 7:1-7.

Brother Jerry Urso presented a presentation titled “Living Schism” from his research into the history of the Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge formation and the Grand Master’s in the beginning that were instrumental in its establishment.

Mr. Charles Greggs gave a presentation on “Prostate Cancer”. He placed emphasis on that it is preventable and treatable providing that if is identified early by having an examination to check the prostate. He encourages everyone to get regular check-up’s and develop a conversation with your doctor. He recommends that the age of 45 years old is a good age to have a prostate screening. He also stated that in staying healthy, eating fresh is best.

MWGM Gulley gave his comments in reference to the Prostate Cancer presentation in the fact that he would like to create a “Prostate Cancer Awareness Walk” on September 17, 2016 in Jacksonville during a joint Prince Hall Day event. Included with this will be a health clinic that will be set up on the second floor of the Grand Lodge that will provide valuable health information.

At the end of the day, there was a competition that the Grand Lodge set up where Zone-1, Zone-2 and Zone-3 formed the five principle officers team to see who could go through the opening of a lodge ceremony and the winning Zone will receive a prize of \$150 to the winning Zone to share. Although each Zone had to utilize some members from a different Zone, the winner was the team from Zone-1. MWGM Gulley expressed his pleasure with the competition and stated that Masonry can be fun when we all work together. He again expressed his gratitude of everyone that attended this first day of the Workshop. He closed the Workshop by announcing that there will be a Chat & Chew at the Hyatt Hotel and everyone is invited.

### **Day – 2, Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>**

The second day of the Workshop started once again with a powerful devotion service given by Rev. RW Donald McBride, Grand Chaplain who spoke from the book of Luke 15:11-32. The story of the lost son, but it is actually about the father. Where do you stand? If you leave God out, you are in a far country.

Lorenzo Hall Lodge #458 opened the Workshop in ritualistic form.

Brother Kelsey Griffin gave a motivational presentation titled, “remember the past”.

Brother John Grayson gave a presentation on the process to acquire a Tax ID/EIN. He stated that lodges need to be under the Grand Lodge 501(c)8 status and not to operate under an independent 501(c)3 status and to contact the Grand Lodge to receive a copy of the 501(c)8 form.

Brother Rodney Edwards, Esq. gave a detailed presentation about “Hazing from a Criminal Perspective. In his presentation he covered the amount of time someone can be sentenced and the fines associated with the penalty when found guilty of hazing. MWGM Gulley commented and has mandated that all lodges receive the presentation not later than the end of 2016 and for the Deputy to submit a report with the names of those who attended. He also stated that by January 01, 2017 if any Brother has not received the presentation, he will not participate in any degree work.

Dr. Marlon Honeywell gave an account of the MW Walter Gulley, Jr. University of Instruction. He spoke about the how Plato and Aristotle were instrumental in the creation of the Academy and Lyceum and spoke about each one. He reported that the first class of the University of Instruction was a success. Those that attended all received their Associates of Arts Degree in Masonic Studies. The evaluation reports that were filled out at the end of the course provided valuable feedback of the course instruction and material. There were requests to schedule another AA course which MWGM Gulley has approved to be scheduled in September 2106 with more information to follow.

Brother Greg May gave a presentation on an “Active Shooter” and how to protect your lodge.

- Your positive mindset will see you through it.
- He addressed how to harden the target (lodge).
- Select a Tyler, who will know how and use the sword.

Grand Lecturer Leonard Ross presented his observations in the form of giving a dynamic abbreviated presentation of the Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The following post lunch breakout sessions were conducted:

- Secretaries/Treasurers/Worshipful Master/Warden at the Grand East.
- Deputies/Asst. Deputies at the Hyatt Hotel.
- Grand Instructors/Lodge Instructors at the Hyatt Hotel.

After the breakout session, everyone re-assembled back at the Grand East. During the final remarks, MWGM Gulley state that we are not an organization that takes to the streets in a demonstration or protest. He quoted the U.S. Constitution that as an American you have the right of protest and assembly. The line is drawn for authority as dictated by the Grand Lodge Constitution. He stated that before he makes any decisions he uses a ‘Three-fold approach’; (1) He prays and seeks revelation from God; (2) He mentally processes; (3) he puts it in writing and submits to the Leadership Team. In closing, he expressed his sincere pleasure with the events that transpired during the weekend. He announced that there will be a Chat & Chew at the Hyatt Hotel and all are welcome.

The presentations will be made available on the Grand Lodge webpage.

A motion was made to close the Annual Workshop. The motion was properly seconded. Motion was carried.

Fraternally,

/S/

**William H. Bell, Jr.**  
**Assistant District Deputy Grand Master**  
**District Number Forty-Four**

