The 115th Annual Grand Session began with the invitation for all Grand Chapter Officers to enter into the Grand Chapter Room by Brother Marvin Knight, 32º, Grand Worthy Patron.

Sisters Ruby C. Clayton (11th GWM), Belle S. Clark (12th GWM), Vashti Grimes Pullen (13th GWM) and Marilyn Moore (14th GWM) entered with crowns of their office representing this Jurisdiction as beautiful shining Stars. Sister Lynnette S. Hymes, Grand Worthy Matron so gracefully made her way through the labyrinth where she was met by the Grand Conductress and Grand Associate Conductress uniting in hands raised together. Awaiting her arrival was the Grand Worthy Patron, Brother Marvin Knight, 32º who escorted her to the East; again united together. The Grand Worthy Matron asked all Grand Chapter Officers to take their several stations.

Presentation of Emblems: The team from Americus District No. 14 was introduced by Sister A. B. Jackson-Merritt, Grand Lecturer. They proudly presented the sacred Star-point emblems to Grand Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha, Electa and a presentation of the Bible. The GWM thanked the team for such a wonderful job and they were given a hand of applause.

Grand Worthy Matron Hymes then proceeded with the Ritualistic Opening. Having satisfied that all present were members and entitled to be here, the Grand Worthy Matron extended a hearty welcome to all.

Brother Knight, GWP led the Grand Chapter in the Dedication of the Room followed by Sister Susan Gibson, Grand Musician with the dedicatory song. She further offered an eloquent rendition of “Bless This House”.

The Roll Call of Officers was performed by Sister Theresa Hill, Grand Secretary. A total of seven Officers were absent; they were:

- Sister Brenda J. Broxton, Grand Ruth
- Sister Rose Wright, Grand Marshall
- Sister Eva Sims, Grand US Flag Bearer
- Sister Christie Hudson, Grand Recordress
- Sister Christie Smith, Grand Financial Assistant
- Sister Debra Capers, Grand Lecturer

Sister Grand Secretary also established a Quorum: Chapters No. 61 through No. 336 were polled to reach a quorum of sixty-one represented Chapters.
Reading of Minutes
Sister Mary A. James, Grand Recordress read the minutes of June 22, 2012 for adoption. Sister Maisha Wood (584) moved to adopt the minutes as read. Sister Joanne Williams (48) second the motion. The minutes were adopted at the sound of the gavel.

Grand Secretary’s Report
Sister Theresa Hill, Grand Secretary gave a detailed report of activities from May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013 which included the following:

- Total Active Membership: 5,916
- Total Demit Members: 16
- Total Deceased Members: 74
- Total Reinstated Members: 56
- Total New Members: 139
- Total Chapters: 184

Her report was ended with Words of Reflection from Past Grand Worthy Matron Lillian E. Blake found in the 1976 Grand Chapter minutes. A motion was heard from Sister Shirley Cunningham (29) to accept the report of our Grand Secretary; Sister Kisha West (146) second the motion. The motion was carried and approved at the sound of the gavel in the East.

Grand Treasurer’s Report
Sister Mary Surry, Grand Treasurer gave a very detailed report on the five accounts owned by the Grand Chapter; ending balances as of April 30, 2013 are as follows:

- General Account: $13,406.26
- Endowment Account: $77,378.92
- Scholarship Account: $41,501.99
- Real Estate Account: $21,561.51
- Grand Youth Account: $19,733.92

- Savings Certificates:
  - Bank of America: $13,396.39
  - Wells Fargo Bank: $10,585.75

Grand Auditor’s Report
Sister Deaidra P. Wilson, Grand Associate Matron stated the audit was performed by an outside firm; she then read the Annual Audit Report. All statements, cash receipts and disbursements belonging to the Grand Chapter were examined for the year ended April 30, 2013. A copy of the report will be given to all District Worthy Matrons who are asked to provide a copy to the Chapters in her District.

Sister Maisha Wood (584) requested an explanation as to why the annual audit was performed by an outside firm? Sister Hymes answered by saying “This is her first year serving as Grand Worthy Matron and she wanted to ensure everything was in order.”

Sister Wood also questioned if any of the proceeds from Grand Lodge Registration is given to the Grand Chapter? GWM Hymes responded by saying, “No”.

Hearing no other questions a motion was entertained from Sister Nicole Williams (1) to accept the reports coming from the Grand Treasurer and the Auditor; second by PGWM Vashti Grimes Pullen (82). The motion was carried and approved at the sound of the gavel.
Receiving of Guests:
Grand Worthy Matron Hymes received and welcomed her guests from the Jurisdiction of South Carolina, the Palmetto State. GWM Juanita Edwards and GWP Herman Rivers were unable to attend the session they were represented by PGWM Sheila Danforth and PGWP Lewis Nelson.

Representing the Ocean State of Rhode Island, PGWM Nancy Green was welcomed. PGWM Green currently resides in Georgia and plans to join us for future sessions.

From the Jurisdiction of Florida, Jerusalem Grand Chapter, Sister Patricia Stafford, Grand Worthy Matron, Brother Dwight Reynolds, Grand Worthy Patron and Sister Tracy Thomas, Grand Associate Matron was received. GWM Stafford brought greetings on behalf of the Sunshine State and introduced the seventeen (17) delegates traveling with her.

Grand Worthy Patron Knight received PGWP Nelson and GWP Reynolds for greetings. He spoke of his fondness and personal relationship with them.

Also received were the following Heads of Houses:
- Daughter Barbara Peake representing Dt. Brenda B. James, Imperial Deputy for the Desert of Georgia, D.O.I.
- Heroine Jacqueline B. Cooper, Grand Most Ancient Matron of Wilhelmina Parish Grand Court, Heroines of Jericho.
- Princess Denise Mundy, Most Royal Grand Princess Commandress, John A. Robinson, Sr. Grand Court, Order of the Cyrene Crusaders.

A warm welcome was extended to all visitors by Grand Worthy Matron Hymes. They were seated in the East and at their respective stations as well as a designated guest seating area.

The Grand Chapter Queen, Sister Sandra Richardson of Thomasville District No. 10 was introduced to the membership and welcomed in the East.

A Presentation of Honor
GWM Hymes asked Sister Rena McElrath, Worthy Matron of Ruth Chapter No. 102, Sister Cherry Mays, DWM Atlanta 3 West and Sister Susan Gibson, DWM Atlanta 3 East to join her in the East. GWM Hymes shared sentiments of memory for Sister Geraldine McKiney who like Sister Marilyn Tremble passed away while serving as Grand Associate Matron. She stated Sister McKiney was a hard-working, dedicated member who worked tirelessly on the scholarship committee and for the Order. GWM further stated that after deciding to pay tribute to Sister McKiney, she discussed it with PGWP Willie V. Coleman who also has fond memories of Sister McKiney. The news shared with him brought tears to his eyes. He, like GWM Hymes feels this honor is well deserved.

GWM Hymes announced the title of “Honorary Past Grand Worthy Matron” was bestowed to Sister Geraldine McKiney in post mortem. In addition, her collar was retired in 2008 by PGWM Marilyn Moore. This moving tribute brought tears to the eyes of many as the Sisters stood in agreement with applause. A beautiful, framed portrait of PGWM McKiney was presented to the representatives mentioned above with a desire that it be hung in the Grand East.
Due to the time and scheduled events, the Grand Worthy Matron asked the Grand Associate Matron, Sister Deaidra P. Wilson to call the Grand Chapter to recreation until Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m.

The Grand Conductress, Sister Saundra Parks attended the altar and the GWM called the Grand Chapter to recreation until Thursday, June 20th at 9:00 a.m. allowing members to attend the Grand Family Outing, Grand Lodge of Sorrow and the Grand Lodge Concert.

Sister Lynnette S. Hymes, Grand Worthy Matron  
Brother Marvin Knight, 32°, Grand Worthy Patron  
Sister Theresa Hill, Grand Secretary  
Sister Mary A. James, Grand Recordress  
Sister Susie Reed, Grand Recordress  
Sister Angie Ayers, Acting Grand Recordress
The 115th Annual Grand Session resumed labor at 9:23 a.m. by orders of the Grand Worthy Matron. Sister Darylene Rood-Allen, Grand Chaplain brought a spiritual prayer of intervention on behalf of all the Sisters and Brothers who are under sickness and distress while at the session and also for the family of Brother Ransen Daily and Brother Joe Coates during their time of bereavement.

Minutes of June 19, 2013 were read by Sister Theresa Hill, Grand Secretary. Sister Nantal Henry (95) offered a motion to accept the minutes with any necessary corrections should there be any; second by Sister Shirley Cunningham (29). Motion carried; minutes were approved by the sound of the gavel.

Two selections, “This is the Day” and “I love to Praise Him” were rendered by Sister Susan Gibson, Grand Musician and the Grand Choir.

Annual Address of the Grand Worthy Patron
Brother Marvin Knight, 32°, Grand Worthy Patron began his Address with praises to the Grand Architect of the Universe for allowing us to gather for the 115th Grand Chapter Session. He also recognized Augusta District No. 2 and commended them for hosting this Session which is possible only because of our humble beginnings the morning of August 29, 1899. That was the day eighteen representatives from nine of the thirteen original Eastern Star Chapters in Georgia met in Savannah for the purpose of organizing themselves into a Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star for the State of Georgia.

Grand Patron Knight reminded us to remain true to the solemnity of the Order by refraining from sharing our business via social media. He further reminded us that treating our Sisters and Brothers like “Sisters” and “Brothers” is the first step in making our Chapters stronger. In addition, we must read the ritual and remember instructions from the Lecturers utilizing the knowledge within our Chapters by seeking counsel of the Past Patrons and Past Matrons. GWP Knight instructed us to be proficient at our duties of performing the Initiation and Burial Ceremonies for our members. Both should be performed in its entirety as there are no shortcuts to those ceremonies.

Before ending his address GWP Knight stated he’s truly enjoyed the visits, telephone calls and email. His prayer is that we gained as much knowledge from him as he did from all of us. He further stated the duties associated with the position of Grand Worthy Patron come with many “delicate and weighty” issues.

A special recognition of appreciation was given to the present and Past Most Worshipful Grand Masters and the Grand Lodge Team. He also recognized Grand Worthy Matron Hymes as being truly a Grand Lady and most worthy of her position.
To his brightest star, his loving and supportive wife, Sister Pauline Knight he’s most appreciative of her love, patience and hard work. He thanked her for the support; having it made things less complicated. He further stated she is God sent.

Sister Jacqueline B. Cooper (1) offered a motion to accept the splendid report coming from the Grand Worthy Patron and that it be placed in archives. Sister Patrice Campbell, DWM No. 2 second the motion. It was carried and a standing ovation was given.

Annual Address of the Grand Worthy Matron
Grand Worthy Matron Hymes greeted everyone and welcomed us to the home of great entertainers like James Brown, Laurence Fishbume and the most influential person that dwells in the room, one of our own, PGWM Belle S. Clark. GWM thanked Sister Patrice Campbell, DWM, Brother Harold Campbell, DWP and Brother Kenneth Morgan, DDGM along with everyone else from Augusta District that’s responsible for hosting the 115th Grand Chapter Session. She further state she prays the fellowship of our Sisters and Brothers will glow brightly in that ever shining “Star”. GWM Hymes also thanked our visitors for their attendance and stated if it’s God’s will that they visit with us again next year. Heavenly blessed and grateful to the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the opportunity given to her to serve as the 15th Grand Worthy Matron of this great organization she holds the honor with dignity, respect and most of all, with Love.

Being a product of the Masonic Family by virtue of her father and brothers she know what it is to be a true, loyal and dedicated member. GWM Hymes said, “when you get the real Eastern Star feeling inside of you, there is nothing that can take it away”.

GWM Hymes addressed the State of the Order by assuring us that the Prince Hall Grand Chapter, OES, Jurisdiction of Georgia is doing well at this time. Working in a spirit of peace and harmony, patience and endurance we concentrate on making our Order better for our future Sisters and Brothers. She urged us to continue to aid our Seniors and assist them as much as we can as it is an awesome responsibility that we do not take lightly.

Sharing her goals with us she indicated they include updating the Grand Chapter’s Constitution and By Laws, establishing a Curriculum of Study for OES Training and Education and establishing Burial Teams for each District.

Other notable items from the Grand Matron’s energetic Address included the many charitable contributions we’ve made to include the Hurricane Sandy Relief to our Prince Hall Family in the State of New Jersey.

Remembering many of our loving Sisters and Brothers who are no longer with us as the Death Angel took them to their home not made by hands, the GWM said we cherish their memories and the lives they lived. We should truly remember the lessons they taught us.

GWM Hymes reminded us that it’s imperative that we continue to support our Youth Chapters in every respect. She noted the Sisters and Brothers working with the Youth have earned the greatest esteem by showing their allegiance to the Order and to the Youth in all areas of professionalism. Commending the work of the Grand Youth Chapter she expressed much appreciation for the phenomenal task of caring for and nurturing our Youth. GWM also thanked Macon District No. 5 for hosting the 37th Grand Youth Session.
Sister Hymes, GWM informed the membership on the status of the Sol C. Johnson Scholarship Program and Lillian Blake Extravaganza as we continue to give hope to the Youth through scholarship donations. She further stated that due to the economic climate we live in, our assistance is needed.

Over the past year, GWM Hymes has been extremely busy representing the Jurisdiction of Georgia by visiting the various Districts, Youth Meetings, Regional Conferences and Grand Sessions of other Prince Hall Jurisdictions.

Recognizing our President, Barak Obama the GWM said we as members of the Order of the Eastern Star can make a difference in the economic decline of our country as long as we are joined in a common purpose and maintain our common resolve moving forward and hopeful in the future.

The GWM’s Address included nine (9) Recommendations and four (4) Directives all for the betterment of this Order. In closing, she said it is an honor to be a member of Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star; one of the oldest organizations dedicated to Women in the World. She challenged us to let our lights shine so when others see us they would want to emulate us and join this Great Order.

Her very positive and encouraging Address ended with a reminder that we never forget those who encouraged us to become a part of this Order and most of all never forget the legacy we created for others to follow because you never know who’s looking at you!

GWM Hymes’ Annual Address epitomizes the true STAR she is... full of love and very appreciative of contributions others have made to better this beloved Order and the world. She strives to continue their legacy by paving the way for those Brothers and Sisters yet to come. Very grateful for the trust and opportunity to represent us as Grand Worthy Matron, with a sincere heart, she will lead by example in making a difference in our jurisdiction and our country.

That very inspiring Address with such a powerful delivery received a standing ovation and an outpour of love from the Sisters and Brothers.

Preparing to accept a motion, GWP Knight heard from Sister Maisha Wood (584) with a request to restate the recommendations made by the GWM. All nine recommendations were read by the Grand Worthy Patron.

PGWM Marilyn Moore offered a motion to accept the beautiful and spiritual Address with recommendations coming from Sister Lynnette S. Hymes, Grand Worthy Matron; that it become a part of the archives. She further asked that we give her a rising vote of thanks. Second by PDWM Deborah Francis (139), Sister Hazel Daniels (13), PDWM Marguerite Green (383) and PDWM Patricia Jones (District No. 1). The motion was carried. GWM Hymes’ Address was accepted and will be placed in archives at the sound of the gavel in the East. A rising vote of thanks was given.

Star Point Relaxer
Members of Affectionate Chapter No. 489 in Savannah District No. 1 gave us a mini-skit regarding sisterhood. Team members were as follows: Sister Beverly Morrison, Sister Frenchie Harvey-Muhammad, Sister Renee McKvian and Sister Odell Gilliam-Royal.
Committee Reports:

Scholarships
Sister Deidra P. Wilson, Grand Associate Matron read the report coming from this committee. She thanked everyone for their support and participation. She reminded us that winners are selected in four categories; Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum as outlined in the information distributed to each District Matron.

Raising the most monies for scholarships was Thomasville District No. 10. Sister Sandra Richardson of Queen Esther Chapter No. 67 is the 2014 Grand Chapter Queen.

The committee’s report included two recommendations, they were:
1. A new crown is purchased for the Grand Chapter’s Queen and the current crown be archived.
2. The Grand Chapter Queen’s registration and one-night’s lodging be reimbursed.

Sister Patricia Morse James, DWM #4 offered a motion to accept the committee’s report and recommendations. Sister Ollie McKinnon (119) second the motion.

Unreadiness: Sister Dianne Harms (386) questioned why can’t we consider paying for the entire Session as the Queen represents the Grand Chapter? The committee responded by saying they felt uncomfortable asking for more than one day. The motion was carried at the sound of the gavel.

Tyree J. Walters Ways and Means
The committee’s report was read by Sister Carolyn Taggart. The mission statement was cited stating their purpose is to add resources to supplement the Grand Chapter’s expenses. Everyone was asked to please stop by their table and make a purchase.

Constitution and By-Laws
The committee reported they met and worked diligently discussing, reviewing and finalizing Chapter By-Laws. All By-Laws received thus far were approved by the committee.

A motion was heard to accept the reports coming from the Tyree J. Walters Ways and Means and Constitution and By-Laws committees. Sister Blanchie Simmons (105) offered the motion; seconded by Sister Shirley Cunningham (29) and Sister Emma L. Thompson (31). Motion carried and approved at the sound of the gavel.

Presentation of Electa
The Grand Lecturers skit written by Sister Berthenia J. Gibson performed by the Grand Lecturers, members of Grand Trustee Team and the Grand Musician. It depicted the story of Electa, a lady of high repute who made it known to the world her beliefs. Electa was wealthy and devoted to the poor. Though she knew she could be prosecuted and put to death she refused to deny her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The skit was quite entertaining.

Warrants and Charters
No warrants or Charters were applied or granted during this Session. Since there wasn’t anything to act on this report was received as information.
Grand Chaplain Team
Sister Darylene Rood-Allen brought greetings from the Team and paid honor to Past Grand Chaplains, Sister Minnie Wimbish and Sister Ruthie George. Sister Chaplain reported the Team continues to pray for Sisters and Brothers in the Jurisdiction. She announced that a prayer box is available for us to place prayer requests in it as well as a designated room for those in need of prayer while attending Grand Session.

PGWM Vashti Grimes Pullen moved to accept the Grand Chaplain’s report. Seconded by PDWM Patricia Young, No. 22, Sister Doris B. Boggs (269) and Sister Jackie Wilson (9). Grand Worthy Matron Hymes thanked the Team for their report. She stated a motion should not be necessary to accept the Chaplain’s report and said “It is done”. She further commented by making it perfectly clear that a room has been established for the Grand Chaplain’s use during Grand Session. In addition, next year the Grand Chaplain will have her own area for those Sisters and Brothers in need of confidential spiritual sessions and/or prayer. The room will be stocked appropriately with items requested by the Grand Chaplain.

Technology Team
Sister Pam Northern read the report and recommendations from her committee. She informed the membership of plans to implement new forms and dues card that will be available on a secured website. In the near future Chapters will be able to print forms and dues cards generated on a new system. Changes are for the betterment of the Order; more details are forthcoming.

GWM Hymes was excited about the benefits of the proposed system. She reported she’s had an opportunity to check out the program while at the Grand East and is excited about the growth it will offer us. Sister Maisha Wood (584) moved to accept the Technology Team’s report and recommendations as a step for progress. PDWM Ethel Gilliam (345) seconded the motion. It was carried and approved at the sound of the gavel.

GWM announced a copy of all committee reports will be sent to the District Matrons for distribution to the Chapters in her District.

Questions and Concerns
Grand Worthy Matron opened the floor up for any questions or concerns, there were none.

Grand Musician
The committee’s report was read by Sister Susan Gibson. The Grand Choir consisted of a total of seventeen (17) Sisters this year. She extended an invitation for others to join them. GWM Hymes echoed Sister Gibson’s request asking Sisters to join the choir. Perhaps there would be enough to create three different groups and a single group wouldn’t have to sing every day.

Grand Lecturer’s
The very informative report was given by Sister Patricia Jones, PDWM #1. We were reminded of the proper way to dress. She added that we shouldn’t have a problem adhering to the dress code because that’s an obligation we make during the interview process if the Investigating Committee is performing it correctly. They further shared insight as to what the dress length stating it should come to the knees.
The dress code for funerals was also addressed. Sisters wear black with small white jewelry; those on the burial team wear black scarves on their head. Sisters are not to wear items in their hair such as pins, headbands and such. The rules and regulations regarding the proper attire are governed by the Grand Chapter.

GWM Hymes announced that committee assignments would be made after Grand Session. Should anyone desire to serve on a committee they are asked to send her an email providing your name and Chapter and District information.

**Bertha C. Brown Grand CCFC**

Sister Ruth Stevenson read the report providing details on the proceeds from the sale of the Georgia Highlights and printing costs. As of this minute the total collected is $2,125.00. She reiterated this is a partial report as the committee will provide final details on tomorrow.

Sister Denise Mundy read the committee’s recommendations to include a deadline date of May 10, 2014 for article submissions and a reminder that articles should reflect actual activities and not those planned for the future.

GWM Hymes reported there isn’t a profit from the sale of the Georgia Highlights they simply break even. The Highlights is full of information on the Chapters in our Jurisdiction as well as communications from other Jurisdictions. All were encouraged to purchase a copy for themselves and to take one back for a Sister that was unable to attend the Session. Sister Deaidra P. Wilson, G.A.M. motioned to accept the report as information. Sister Barbara Lewis (29) and Sister Mamie Pierce (114) both second the motion. It was carried at the sound of the gavel.

The Grand Worthy Matron announced that a copy of all committee recommendations will be sent to the District Matrons for discussion in their Districts. A response to the Grand Matron is requested by November 1st.

**Resolutions**

Sister Sharon Lane (29) read the report coming from her committee. They reported the State of the Order is good. They further requested a standing ovation be given to the Grand Youth Directress, Sister Mary A. James for her work with the Grand Youth Chapter and to the members of Armed Forces for their service to the country.

A motion was heard from Sister Deaidra P. Wilson, G.A.M. Sister Mary Parker (114) and Sister Mattie Williams, DWM #14 both second the motion. It was carried and approved at the sound of the gavel. The requested standing ovation was given.

**Gibbons and Grimes Arts & Crafts**

Sister Lucille Clark, Chairperson thanked everyone for their continued support of the committee. The proceeds from tickets and items donated are used to support the membership who is sick and/or distressed. Sister Yvette Love-Lee read the recommendations coming from the committee; there were three. Plaques were given to Athens District No. 6, Americus District No. 14 and Thomasville District No. 10.

GWM Hymes asked the Grand Conductress to attend at the altar allowing the committee to select a winner of the Afghan. The name of Sister Josephine Simpson, PDWM No. 14 was drawn. Sister Clark stated the afghan will be mailed to her. The Bible was reopened by the Grand Associate Conductress, Sister Joyce Gilchrist.
PGWM Vashti Grimes Pullen offered a motion to accept the report and recommendations of the committee. It was seconded by Sister Joyce Gilchrist, GAC, Sister Rosa Broddie, PDWM No. 2, and Sister Mable Jones (269).

Realizing the second prize of $50.00 was not pulled the Grand Conductress was asked to again close the Bible. The name of Priscilla Walton was selected. The Grand Associate Conductress reopened the Bible in order for the Grand Chapter's business to resume.

Sister Shrone Blackwell (400) offered a motion to accept the report and recommendations coming from this committee. Sister Deaidra P. Wilson, GAM and Sister Sharon Lane (29) second the report. The motion was carried and approved at the sound of the gavel.

Having satisfied that all of the business was conducted the GWM asked the Grand Associate Matron to call the Grand Chapter to recreation to resume on Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. with Morning Devotion at 7:30 a.m.

The Grand Conductress was asked to attend at the altar. At the sound of the gavel, Grand Chapter was called to recreation.

Sister Lynnette S. Hymes, Grand Worthy Matron  
Brother Marvin Knight, 32°, Grand Worthy Patron  
Sister Theresa Hill, Grand Secretary  
Sister Mary A. James, Grand Recordress  
Sister Susie Reed, Grand Recordress  
Sister Angie Ayers, Acting Grand Recordress
The 115th Annual Grand Session resumed labor at 9:20 a.m. by orders of the Grand Worthy Matron. Sister Joyce Gilchrist, Grand Associate Conductress attended the altar and Sister Darylene Rood-Allen, Grand Chaplain brought a touching prayer thanking God for His awesomeness. The Grand Choir immediately followed with a selection, “God Is An Awesome God”.

GWM Hymes asked us to give the choir a hand for a job well done. She further stated “This has been a good week; praises to our Heavenly Father for another chance to get it right”.

Brother Marvin Knight, 32°, GWP accompanied by Brother Cecil James and Brother Victor Lee departed the Grand Chapter room to visit the Grand Lodge to give a report on the Grand Chapter as requested by the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Committee Reports:

Health & Wellness
Sister Lula Harris, Chairperson reported there was a total of 62 screenings this week as 77 people visited the Health desk although it was primarily because of high blood pressure checks. She urged us to please remember to take our medications. Sister Harris reported that Dr. Anthony Howard and his staff are now working with the Grand Health & Wellness committee and provides a lot of material so she no longer has to cart everything. Before ending the report she thanked Sister Alice Postell and the Augusta District for providing snacks and support this week. Sister Harris announced that the Cancer Society provides transportation to medical appointments for patients in need of a ride.

Sister Hazel McIver, DWM No. 23 motioned to accept the report coming from the committee; Sister Doris Harris second the motion.

Question – Sister Deaidra P. Wilson, GAM asked if we could hear the report from the Health Walk. Sister Harris stated there were a total of 42 walkers/runners, winners were as follows:

1st Place: Sister Deaidra P. Wilson, GAM
2nd Place: Sister Lynnette S. Hymes, GWM
3rd Place: Sister Marilyn Moore, PGWM

The motion was carried and approved at the sound of the gavel in the East.

GWM Hymes asked all first time attendees to stand, there were thirty-four (34), they were recognized with applause and will receive a certificate.
**Grand Lecturers**

Sister Patricia Jones, Grand Lecturer read the committee’s report. The stewardship giving an account of visitations and other activities of the Grand Lecturers was given listing their travels and various ceremonies and Ritualistic work performed in eighteen districts. We were reminded to invite them in a timely manner, if they do not receive an invitation they wouldn’t otherwise know of the event.

Areas of concern and in need of improvement across the Jurisdiction are as follows:

- Lack of consistency regarding procedures for Ritualistic work.
- Lack of cooperation between some Chapters and District Matrons in reference to Degree work and other district activities.
- Low attendance at Chapter and District meetings.
- Protocol for handling matters of differences in the Chapter and District.
- Dress code for meetings and Masonic functions.
- Need consistency in the burial ceremony.

Sister Jones then gave answers to the following questions from the membership:

1) Ornaments in the hair – We can’t wear them; neither big bows nor headbands are permitted. However we can wear little pins.
2) Length of sleeves – We cannot go sleeveless.
3) Open toe shoes with the heel out – Yes, they can be worn except during funerals.
4) Banquet Attire: Long dresses with sleeves in one of the Star-Point colors.

Having answered all questions Sister Jones asked us to continue to work in a spirit of love.

GWM Hymes thanked the committee for their report. She added that two Grand Chapter Officers are assigned to represent a District primarily because often more than one District Meeting is scheduled for the same day. DWM’s were reminded to send the name of their District Lecturer to her.

Sister Frankie Totten, DWM No. 1 motioned to accept the committee’s report; second by Sister Mattie Williams, DWM No. 14. Motion carried and approved at the sound of the gavel.

GWM Hymes shared a story regarding the gavel stating PGWP Brother Aaron Kent gave her a gavel while serving in the West. There was one stipulation; she can keep it as long as she’s the GWM then it goes back to him if he’s still alive. If he isn’t alive then the gavel must be presented to the next Grand Worthy Matron.

**Presentations**

Certificates were given as follows:

- **Secretary’s Award:** Sister Johnnie L. Brown  
  Sister Alma Green  
  Sister Tamara Adams  
  Sister Patricia

- **2013 Esteen Allen Credentials Award:** Clyo Chapter No. 297  
  St. Johns Chapter No. 88

- **Presentation of Emblems:** Americus District No. 14  
  Macon District No. 5
Host of the 4th Grand Youth Retreat: Savannah District No. 1
Chapter of Sorrow Team: Savannah District No. 1
Star-Point Relaxer: Affectionate Chapter No. 489 - Savannah District No. 1
1st District to Report Scholarships: Fitzgerald District No. 23
Quarterly Reports: Baxley District No. 17 and Athens District No. 6
Dedicated Sisters: Sister Lucille Clark
Grimes & Gibbons Arts and Crafts
Sister Ruth Stevenson
Grand CCFC
Outstanding Secretary: Sister Alnita Cobb, No. 230
Sister Marie McLundon, No. 18
Secretary of the Year: Sister Annie P. Martin, No. 3

Election of Grand Chapter Officers
Honorable Douglas M. Jones, 33°, Most Worshipful Grand Master, and his entourage entered the Grand Chapter Room for the purpose of holding the election. They were received and welcomed by Brother Marvin Knight, 32°, Grand Worthy Patron. MWGM Jones brought greetings from the Grand Lodge. He urged all Districts to appoint a Voters Registration Team to assist with the goal of registering 50,000 persons. We were reminded President Obama’s term ends in 2014 and he’s in need of our support for re-election.

The room was polled and found to have a voting strength of 310. Sister Theresa Hill read one letter from Brother George Daily who was serving outside the door, the letter stated he’d accept any position if elected. MWGM Jones explained the voting process and all seats were vacated. The floor was then opened for nominations.

Sister Lucille Clark motioned to re-elect all Officers except Grand Worthy Patron. PGWM Vashti Grimes Pullen moved to suspend the rules to elect all Officers for the ensuing year. PGWM Belle S. Clark second the motion.

MWGM stated there were two motions were placed on the floor, one of them must be withdrawn. Sister Lucille Clark withdrew her motion.

Unreadiness:
PGWM Marilyn Moore stated the motion on the floor included the office of Grand Worthy Matron which is an appointment made by the MWGM.

The MWGM recognized Sisters standing in objection of the motion and the nomination process began as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Nominated By</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand Worthy Matron:</td>
<td>Sister Lynnette S. Hymes</td>
<td>Sister Deaidra P. Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Associate Matron:</td>
<td>Sister Deaidra Wilson</td>
<td>Sister Lynnette S. Hymes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Conductress:</td>
<td>Sister Saundra Parks</td>
<td>Sister Joyce Gilchrist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Associate Conductress</td>
<td>Sister Joyce Gilchrist</td>
<td>PGWM Marilyn Moore</td>
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The voting strength was changed to 309 as one Sister was permitted to leave the room.
Grand Treasurer:                   Sister Mary Surry                     Sister Frankie Totten
Grand Trustee, Chairman:          Sister Sallie Mills                     Sister Joyce Gilchrist
One vote in lieu of 309 was cast for all offices by the Grand Secretary.

Grand Secretary:                  Sister Mary A. James                     Sister Pauline Knight
                                      Sister Marcia Hines                     Sister Apa Kelly
                                      Sister Theresa Hill
Sister Theresa Hill yielded the majority of votes and was elected to serve.

MWGM Douglas M. Jones appointed the following Officers:
Grand Worthy Patron:              Brother Marvin Knight
Grand Associate Patron:           Brother Sam McDonald

Sister Maisha Wood questioned if we were suspending the rules of Sisters electing our own Grand Worthy Patron? MWGM answered by saying “He has the authority to appoint whomever he desires”.

PMWGM Williams performed the installation of all Grand Chapter elected officers for 2013 - 2014. They were congratulated and the gavel returned to Sister Lynnette S. Hymes, GWM.

Minutes of Thursday, June 20, 20131 were read by Sister Theresa Hill, Grand Secretary. Sister Carla V. Smith, PDWM No. 7 motioned to accept the minutes; second by Sister Eleanor Gantt (29) and Sister Barbara Davis (44). Motion was carried and minutes were approved by the sound of the gavel.

Greetings & Remarks
PGWM Vashti Grimes Pullen gave honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She thanked the GWM and GWP for a wonderful session. She informed the members that one week ago there was a house fire at the home of eight people. The mother, Jennifer Kappy and her three children, step-father and his two sons all escaped but are badly burned. An account was established by Countryside Baptist Church at Sun Trust Bank to assist the family. She will be glad to take any donations to them or deposits may be made at the Bank.

Brother Sam McDonald, GAP stated that “As good Patrons we have responsibility to ensure rules and regulations are being obeyed”. He read from page 10 of the Constitution and By-Laws and urged us to read it for ourselves. Also read were the Landmarks for GWP and GAP on pages 11 and 12; and Article 15 on page 19 which addresses ‘Elected Officers’.

PGWM Belle S. Clark greeted everyone and said “She’s truly enjoyed the session’.

PGWM Marilyn Moore thanked everyone for what was done for she and her family and wished God’s blessings on us.

PGWP Aaron Kent told us we should know the history of the Prince Hall Grand Chapter which began 115 years ago when Deputy Perry went to DC to be Deputized and was given the authority to charter 13 Chapters. He further stated we were chartered in 1904, not 1899; the name was changed in 1936 to Prince Hall Grand Chapter, O.E.S. The first Grand Worthy Matron, Sister Dorothy Edwards served for 2 years.
Sister Lynnette S. Hymes, GWM again thanked everyone for their contribution towards making this Session a success.

Brother Marvin Knight, 32°, GWP said he thoroughly enjoyed being in August and the Grand Session. He further stated, “He’s somewhat saddened that we permitted someone to appoint our Grand Patron thus not allowing us to elect him. He guarantees that big changes are on the way but they are coming in love.” GWP reminded us that before going to the District Deputy Grand Masters we are to consult with him first.

GWM Hymes proceeded with the Ritualistic Closing as no other business remained undone for the 115th Grand Chapter Session. Sister Saundra Parks, Grand Conductress attended at the altar. At the sound of the gavel, Grand Chapter was closed.

Sister Lynnette S. Hymes, Grand Worthy Matron
Brother Marvin Knight, 32°, Grand Worthy Patron
Sister Theresa Hill, Grand Secretary
Sister Mary A. James, Grand Recordress
Sister Susie Reed, Grand Recordress
Sister Angie Ayers, Acting Grand Recordress