

Grand Historian's Report
Orient of North Carolina



Dr. G. Wesley Allen Council of Deliberation

April 7 – 10, 2022

Embassy Suites, Cary, North Carolina

GIG Damajo C. Smith, 33°

Illustrious Grand Historian

SGIG James H. Upchurch 33°, Deputy for the Orient of NC, Officers and members of the Dr. G. Wesley Allen Council of Deliberations, distinguished guests, Fraters all, greetings.

Over the past year as the Grand Historian for the Dr. G. Wesley Allen Council of Deliberation I've been researching our prestigious history. Some information is available and there is so much left to uncover.

Of historical note, the Sovereign Grand Commander of the United Supreme Council, SJ, SGIG Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., 33° (Active) Coronated two new Sovereign Grand Inspectors General from North Carolina, in the persons of SGIG Jimmie Ford and SGIG Ronnie P. Henry.

History of the Orient of North Carolina

As I've been researching the history of our Orient I have made some interesting discoveries yet the search for more information is ongoing.

The first piece of information I discovered was that the first person listed in the records of the United Supreme Council, SJ to receive the 33° in North Carolina was Bishop James Walker Hood, the first Grand Master of the MWPHGL of NC. In reviewing the records as found in the Minute Books of the USC by SGIG Ken L. Collins, newly appointed Grand Secretary General, H.E. He states, "In 1902 J.W. Hood was moved from Active to Past Active Status. He is listed as the first SGIG (IG) that I have seen recorded from North Carolina."



James W. Hood

SGIG Collins also shows in the original USC Minute Book that on, "October 19, 1903, J.J. Worlds was named as the first Deputy for North Carolina." J.J. Worlds also served as Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of North Carolina 1898 – 1903.



J.J. Worlds

In the Historian's Report by GIG Edward Fisher, Jr. in 2011 he states that W.W. Lawrence, "Served the Orient from 1911 – 1930". W.W. Lawrence served as Deputy for the Orient but at the time there were two Deputies, one for the Western part of the State and one for the Eastern part of the State. SGIG Collins shows him listed as Eastern NC Deputy while B.F. Martin of Gastonia (The first Illustrious Potentate of Rameses Temple #51-Charlotte) and later W.W. Smith of Charlotte served as Western NC Deputy.

It has been stated that his first name was William but I have not been able to find any evidence of this. I did locate his death certificate and his name as printed thereon is printed as W.W. Lawrence. It does list his father's name as Webb Lawrence and his mother as Sylvia.



W.W. Lawrence

Additional research by our Past Illustrious Historian Edward Fisher also shows that in 1935 the Western NC Deputy, W.W. Smith resigned due to his eyesight and was replaced by Zechariah Alexander (Lived 1877-1954).



Zechariah Alexander

The next information on Deputies we have is also from the 2011 Historian's

Report by GIG Edward Fisher, he states, "I with the help of members of the Orient have discovered that in 1946 James T. Diggs was the Deputy of the Orient at the time of Boyer being established. We know that he served until 1970 when Dr. G. Wesley Allen was appointed from Fayetteville, NC."

I will continue to work to find additional information about our Council of Deliberation and the Illustrious Brothers who worked so diligently to make her a success.



I would like to thank the Council of Deliberation Website Team for adding all copies of the North Carolina Herald Tribune to the Dr. G. Wesley Allen Council of Deliberation website. Please take the time to go to the Website and peruse through those limited editions and historical works.

The Website is: <http://www.nccodpha.org/herald-tribunes/>

If anyone has additional information that they would like to share concerning our Orient please feel free to contact me. We have begun gathering our history to write a book about our Orient so all information is welcomed. I would like to thank SGIG James H. Upchurch 33°, Deputy for the Orient of North Carolina for appointing me to the position of Illustrious Grand Historian and we are looking for others interested in researching and writing our history.

Yours in Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Damajo C. Smith".

GIG Damajo C. Smith, 33°
Illustrious Grand Historian
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