

## Membership

On the Petition, candidates explain why they are interested personally in Freemasonry. The Lodge builds upon this interest and helps them unite in good work with other like-minded candidates. The Lodge looks for men who have demonstrated that they live by our Masonic Principles; it looks for what is best in a man's character regardless of background (i.e. social, economic, educational, etc.); it embraces him as a Brother - a good man seeking to improve himself and the world around him. Traditionally, fraternity membership was considered beneficial because better educated members, who may have been teachers, lawyers, pastors or businessmen, tutored new members, who were often farmers, miners, mill workers or laborers, to develop their organizational and public-speaking skills. Inside the Lodge, all fraternity members, regardless of their outside status, were treated as equals. Lodge dues were used to assist members and their families in times of illness or injury and to provide survivor benefits for their widows and dependent children. Many African American men joined Prince Hall Lodges to ensure that their burial costs would be covered, and pastors often served as Lodge Masters, or leaders. Prince Hall Masons often met in churches, or in schoolhouses and barns in rural areas, or apartments over black-owned stores and businesses in larger towns and cities. 2B1ASK1.



Juneteenth Honorees - 2019



Eureka Lodge No. 64 - 2019



Juneteenth PHamily - 2019

Worshipful Bro. Tyrese Stafford, W.M.  
Most Worshipful Bro. Aubrey K Barlow, G.M.

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Eureka Lodge No. 64



Prince Hall F.A.M.

*The  
Exemplar  
Eureka  
Lodge  
No. 64*

*Free & Accepted Masons  
Prince Hall Affiliate  
State of Illinois  
& it's Jurisdiction*



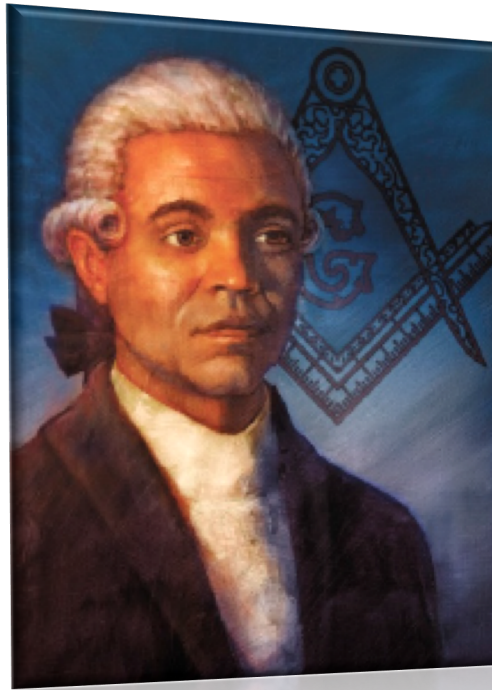
## Mission

None of us are perfect nor do we pretend to be. We often state that our mission is to “make good men better” and we believe that the community supports the benefits of Masonic teachings and the demonstrated brotherhood of the Craft.



## Community Service

Illinois Prince Hall Masons have donated thousands of dollars in educational donations for the benefit of the youth and thousands of hours in community service to aid those in need and to improve communities within the State of Illinois. We provide food for the hungry and weary by partnering with community centers, food pantries, and religious institutions.



## Origin

In 1784, Prince Hall petitioned the Grand Lodge of England for a charter and became the first Worshipful Master of African Lodge #459 in Boston, Mass. Inconsistently, the Caucasian brethren refused to acknowledge the legitimacy of African Lodge #459, even though its lineage came from the same source as theirs. Regardless, African Lodge #459 served as a mother lodge, and thereby squelched the myth that freemasonry is exclusive only to white males of the United States. Subsequently, Prince Hall encouraged General George Washington to enlist African American soldiers to serve in the Revolutionary War, which resulted in, many cases, their ultimate freedom from bondage.

## Civil Rights Service

Eureka Lodge #64, PHA continues the traditions of Prince Hall Freemasonry and its commitments to the community and social activism. During the American slavery era, many early Masons were abolitionists and provided secret stations on the Pre-Civil War Underground Railroad. Later they fought to pass the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to the United States Constitution; helped in the relief efforts of the Chicago Fire (1871) and the Great Depression (1930 -1941). Masonic attorneys argued cases leading to and including the Brown vs. Board of Education case (1954) which declared school segregation illegal. Despite terrorist threats, they organized "Right to Vote" clubs to help poor and working-class blacks navigate southern voter registration processes; held voting clinics in Masonic Temples; sheltered and administered first aid to beaten Freedom Riders (1960s). Eureka Lodge #64 continues to partner with community organizations to provide awards and other services to the youth.

## War Contribution

As soldiers and sailors, Prince Hall Masons fought and died in every war: Spanish-American War (1898), World War I (1914-1918) and World War II (1941-1945), Korean War (1950-1953), Vietnam War (1965-1973), Dominican Conflict (1965-1966), Lebanon Crisis (1982-1984), Gulf I War (1990-1991), Bosnia Conflict (1992- 1995), Afghanistan (2001-present), Iraq War (2003-2011), War on Terror (2011-2017), Syria Intervention (2014-present).