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soil of the very nation in which it has existed and influenced the lives of its devotees for more than a century and a half.

On January 1, 1823, William G. Costin, Francis Datcher Sr., William Jackson and William Wormley were initiated, passed and raised in Laurel Lodge No. 2 of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Several years later, they petitioned the African Grand Lodge of North America for a warrant to establish a Master's Lodge in the District of Columbia. Their prayer was granted and, on June 6, 1825, Social Lodge No. 7 was established under a charter issued by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. John W. Prout was elected the first Worshipful Master.

Ten years later, Sandy Bryant, Benjamin Crier and William Dudley were made Master Masons in St. George's Lodge No. 32 at Liverpool, England. Settling in Alexandria, VA (right outside of D.C.) about 1838, these seafaring men became affiliated with Social Lodge No. 7. Shortly thereafter, with the Rev. John Thomas, also a resident of that city and a member of Social Lodge, petitioned the Hiram Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for a warrant to establish a lodge. Their request was granted and on Aug. 26, 1845, a new lodge—Universal No. 10—was duly constituted under a warrant issued by the Grand Lodge. In 1846, a third lodge—Felix Lodge No. 17—was duly constituted under a warrant issued by that Grand Lodge.

Early in the year 1848, John E. Thomas, Worshipful Master of Social Lodge No. 7, issued a summons to Universal No. 10 and Felix No. 17 to meet in a convention for the purpose of organizing a Grand Lodge for the District of Columbia. The meeting was presided over by the District Deputy Grand Master David P. Jones of the Grand Lodge in Pennsylvania. Attending that meeting were five representatives from the three existing Lodges.

As a result of their deliberations the organization and constitution of the Union Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia was consummated with Charles Datcher of Social Lodge No. 7 as M.W. Grand Master.

The current Most Worshipful Grand Master is Roland D. Williams.

### The Grand Lodge of Illinois

**T**HE MOST WORSHIPFUL Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois



MWGM Roland D. Williams  
Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia



MWGM Archie C. Senter  
Grand Lodge of Illinois



MWGM Robert E. Thomas  
Grand Lodge of Indiana



MWGM Earle L. Bradford  
Grand Lodge of Louisiana



MWGM James E. Salmon Sr.  
Grand Lodge of New Jersey



MWGM Solomon Wallace  
Grand Lodge of New York

received its Charter in 1867, working under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Ohio. B.F. Rogers was the Grand Master from 1867 - 1869. The first bylaws were adopted on February 15, 1867. Since its inception there have been 148 chartered lodges in Illinois.

At the present time, there are 80 lodges, with a membership of approximately 6,500 Masons. There have been 35 wearers of the Grand Master's jewel.

The Grand Lodge of Illinois owns its Temple which is located at 809 East 42nd Place in Chicago. The Grand Lodge also owns property on 42nd Street and 42nd Place.

The Grand Lodge of Illinois has a Grand Relief Fund which pays death benefits to deceased brothers.

The current Most Worshipful Grand Master is Archie C. Senter.

### The Grand Lodge of Indiana

**T**HE MOST WORSHIPFUL Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana was organized in 1856 by several lodges operating in Indiana under the guidance of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio.

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana was incorporated under the general laws of the state of Indiana in 1905.

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Indiana has been active through the years in the granting of scholarships to deserving young students. It has also made worthwhile charitable contributions to other worthy causes such as the NAACP, Black Expo and many others. The Grand Lodge has a corporate membership with the NAACP and most of the lodges hold life memberships.

The Grand Lodge of Indiana has maintained a close relationship with its appendant and adoptive bodies since their inception.

The current Most Worshipful Grand Master is the Honorable Robert E. Thomas.

### The Grand Lodge of Kansas

**T**HE FIRST LODGE chartered in