

The Grand Worthy Joshua's Annual Address

Rahab Grand Court Heroines of Jericho State and
Jurisdiction of South Carolina Prince Hall Affiliation



Knight Alfred R. Jean-Pierre, Jr.

Grand Most Worthy Joshua



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Knight Alfred R Jean-Pierre Jr, Grand Most Worthy Joshua

“And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.” 1 Corinthians 13:13

I give honor to the Grand Architect of the Universe, the Honorable Victor C Major 33°, MWGM
Jurisdiction of SC

Grand Most Ancient Matron, Heroine Claudette Hunte-Jackson

Grand Vice Ancient Matron, Heroine Jo Ann Manigault

Grand Vice Joshua, Knight John T. Blume Jr 33°

All Elected Grand Court Officers, all Past Grand Joshua's and Most Ancient Matrons, all appointed
Officers

Heads of Concordant Bodies, their Officers and members and to all of our distinguished Visitors,
Dignitaries

Heroines and Knights... I bid you a great day.

You may have heard me say in the past and I shall say again. I count it a blessing to be here amongst you because God has seen fit to allow me to be in the number once again. Which has taught me to stop counting my days but make each day count...?

This being my first address in this Grand Court, I will start with Thank you. I will start with a hearty Thank You... Thank you all for allowing me to serve in this capacity. I never imagined that I would be taking this journey, so whatever it was that sparked your interest enough to let me serve you, I humbly thank and appreciate each and every one of you.

My GMAM Heroine Hunte-Jackson, you make this working relationship so easy. I can truly say even our disagreements are settled so pleasantly to the point it did not even seem to be one. Our energy for the craft is a driving force to be reckoned with and I appreciate the knowledge you bring. Thank you.

To the Grand Vice Most Ancient Matron and Grand Vice Joshua, I really appreciate the interaction and keeping up with all that we do. Thank you.

To the Past Grand Most Ancient Matrons, some I've had short conversations with and some I've had long conversations, but I must say the encounters were very informative and I Thank you.

To the Past Grand Joshua's that I have encountered, the smooth/ calm Knight Knuckles, the very knowledgeable and outspoken Knight Myers and last but certainly not least the straight shooter, Knight Jackson. I mention these men because they have been and continue to be great mentors for this organization. In spite of what anyone thinks, they want what is best for us. I would not be before you today, now realizing, that I was filling some very big shoes. Again, I thank you sincerely.

Necrology

Millions did not make it, but we that are here are some of the ones who did. Count it as a blessing.

“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:38-39

Our God makes no mistakes. He has a plan for everyone and sometimes he comes along and plucks the most beautiful flower and because of our human nature, we mourn. We have yet to learn how to celebrate the life that our lost ones have endured. There is a lot that goes into that dash (-) between sunrise and sunset.

The Heroines and Knights that has gone on to glory will be missed, but know that their trials and tribulations are all done. Seek comfort in knowing that their dash (-) was an amazing one.

THE NATION

As we continue in this new age of technology, it is safe to say that our nation is more transparent, on the outside as ever before. It is very evident as we embark on another Presidential election that has claims and for site of potentially being, the most hacked or electronic corrupted election ever. I hear people now more than ever saying they cannot tell you who to vote for. Well let me say who not to vote for, Trump. Please get out and VOTE. Right now, you have to vote for the lesser of two evils.

This nation is far more involved with what is going on in other countries and still yet to figure out its own troubles, VOTES. Racism is still evident in this nation, VOTE. Education level depends on your demographics, VOTE. Equality for all ethnic backgrounds is still a problem, VOTE. I cannot stress enough how important it is for us as a people to continue to be heard by casting your VOTE...

The State

The state of SC has serious issues when it comes to our Education, Housing, Equal Pay, and Violence. We have State representation that has now allowed this state to become an “open carry” state and you can do this starting at the age of 18. It has been questioned on many occasions about the lack of educational resources. Out of the states, we are ranked #42 in education. When it comes to housing, we have 8.3 out of every ten thousand that are homeless. When it comes to equal pay or opportunity, we are ranked #38. When it comes to crime, we are ranked #46 and this state has just opened the floodgates by passing such law.

The Craft

As the leader of this House, I have come to learn that you can and will never know it all but you must be very versed and understand this craft in order to serve properly; yes, we are here to SERVE. This order being the eldest of all the auxiliaries is very unique in its structure. I remember making the comment that the Grand Joshua gives edicts that come from the Grand East and some eyes were raised. After simply pointing out where it is written as such all hearts and minds were clear. I give this analogy to those who still have thoughts. In the Fortune 500 or the business world, the Grand Joshua would be the owner and the Grand Most Ancient Matron would be the CEO. As the old preacher would say, do not kill the messenger...

This year started a little slow with the craft still trying to adjust to meeting in person. Yes, there are still some who did not want to participate with in-person meetings and we all have the right to make ourselves feel safe. However, as the year progressed the activity of the courts progressed as well. Our core values of Love, Charity and being Zealous is evident in how we are starting to flourish. We have chartered a new court with all new members who had the pleasure of opening this Grand Court. Thank you, job well done. We have also had a court that was closed reopen and another court that was down to 3 members and the Grands had to privilege of helping initiate 14 new members. They are now fully functioning with all positions filled. I call no names purposely to inspire conversation amongst our own. Share your trials and tribulations in order to promote your successes because trouble do not last always and there comes a time when you have to celebrate the good news.

With that being said I want you all to understand the Heroines of Jericho is actually the root and beginning of the female orders. You have to continue to gain as much knowledge as you can in order to keep us HUMBLE and not to be boastful. A humble spirit will attract the good and the bad and hopefully you'll know the difference and but still treat everyone right. It is our duty to promote this order as the loving order it is. Its ritualistic meanings are colorful and heartfelt. When you begin to truly understand the importance of Rahab risking her life to help the Israelites cross that Jordan River, hopefully you will then be better able to risk it all when it comes to showing love to each other in such a fashion where others will want to flock to this order. The beauty of each one, teach one, until we all become one, will have a deeper effect on many.

Be Safe, BE BLESSED and Be Easy...

Recommendations

1. Review and Update our Constitution
2. All courts increase their community activities
3. All courts entertain interest meetings or gatherings to increase our membership
4. Earmark \$2 per member of the Jurisdiction to be donated to the York Rite Foundation, ANNUALLY, which calls for an increase in our Grand dues.
5. All Joshua's and Most Ancient Matron/ Elect, register for Annual Session