

**Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A.M.**  
Washington and Jurisdiction



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**“DIRECTIVE”**

August 23, 2022

To: Grand Lodge Elected and Appointed Officers, Past Grand Masters, Worshipful Masters, Brethren, All:

Subject: **LOOSING TRACK OF OUR MEMBERSHIP**

Greetings All:

May this correspondence meet and greet each of you while in the best of health, well-being, and under the protective care of the G.A.O.T.U.

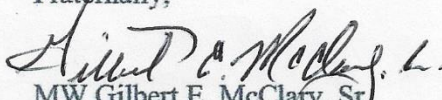
It has been brought to my attention that in the recent past, we have lost a number of our senior membership without our knowledge. Some have ended up in Nursing Homes, Senior Citizen Rest Homes, Moved out of State and even out of the Country. Whatever the situation, we have lost communication with these brethren.

As the years pass, and our local members also pass, the new generation of masons never get to know those members who are tucked away in various homes unknown to the craft. Some craft has lost so many senior members that those who are left to carry on has no idea who the Senior Citizen Brothers are that they have never met yet are still carried as members on the rolls of the lodge. Many of these brothers who are now of the age of 75 and up and have paid their dues for 50 or more years, no longer have control of their finances. Their families are not involved, so when they become delinquent in the payment of their Annual Dues, we do the “3” letter notification thing and then “Drop them from the rolls” for non-payment of dues.

There has to be a better way. Somebody knows these lost brothers. The investigation of the health and whereabouts may have to and should extend beyond the membership of the lodge. Check with other brothers who have been around for a while. Though not in the same lodge, they may still have a friendship relationship with the brother. There may be some underlying circumstances for a brother who have paid his dues for some 50 years to suddenly stop. Is the brother now indigent? We don't want to give the impression that after a certain age we just “Kick a brother to the curve”. We have to find a way to do better. We can do better.

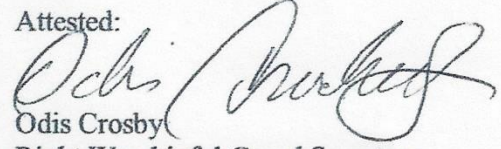
We all need wise men in our lives. Most do not realize he needs help until he's in over his head. *“The old man needs the young man's strength. The young man needs the old man's wisdom.” “The glory of young men is their strength, and the splendor of old men is their gray head”.* Proverbs 20:29

Fraternally,

  
MW Gilbert E. McClary, Sr.  
49<sup>th</sup> Grand Master of Masons  
MWPHGL (F. & A.M.) of WA & JDX



Attested:

  
Odie Crosby  
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary  
MWPHGL (F. & A.M.) of WA & JDX