

Acceptance Speech
July 19, 2008

First giving all the honor and praise to the Grand Architect of the Universe who by his grace and his grace only made it possible to stand before you today. To National Grand Master the Hon. Felton N. Ferguson, PNGM Hon. Norman Woodard, PNGM Hon. Oscar Mack, National Cabinet and All National Department Heads, Grand Masters and Brothers good evening.

I am extremely honored to have been selected as the twenty-second (22nd) National Grand Master of the Most Worshipful National Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons, Prince Hall Origin – National Compact USA, and to accept the responsibilities that your trust has entitled me to. I can hardly keep in my impatience to start it. I guess I'll have to wait at least until the installation ceremony.

My theme for the incoming year is: Enhancing our Masonic Structure for a Solid Foundation in the Future.

For those outside of our Masonic structures who believe the National Grand Lodge wrong and its Grand Lodges needs to go away. Put your 161 years in a suitcase. Put it in the archives of history and let it be something we can talk about... but not seen.

I say to those, who appear to be the relics of their forefathers in the 1800 and 1900 who claim the NGL went out of existence, irregular or whatever to suit their appetites at the time. They appear to be alive today being as arrogant, sarcastic and mean spirited as ever. We are not going anywhere.

We will take the accomplishments of NGM Ferguson and build upon it a foundation that will last for another 161 years.

Barack Obama constantly talks about change and what is needed to make a better America. We too must change. We must put aside our own indifference, our own need to not do things differently and our own need to remain complacent.

I will focus on five areas that I feel are essential to the future of our great Masonic organization.

They are Financial, Management, Membership, Leadership Development and Public Awareness/Community Involvement all will be part of the Strategic Plan for the National Grand Lodge.