

Masonic Messenger



Official Publication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, Free & Accepted Masons

April 2014



**Groundbreaking by Trustees and Grand Lodge Officers
for the Children's Garden at the
Masonic Home April 19, 2014**

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Published bi-monthly at 811 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31201. The Messenger goes to all Masons holding membership in Georgia Lodges.

Subscription \$10.00 domestic, \$16.00 foreign per year

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION
 CIRCULATION 50,000

— FROM GRAND MASTER EDGAR M. LAND

Wow! It is unbelievable that six months have already passed in this Grand Lodge year. The Good Lord has truly blessed your Grand Line Officers in providing safe travels and good health. All of us have really been busy and truly blessed to have attended so many Lodge functions where we have associated with so many wonderful Brothers and guests. We have visited Lodges in every District. We had one of our workshops and forums in Augusta where we saw many Tenth District Brethren. Even though we have had our share of concerns, the wonderful unity and fellowship we have experienced has been tremendous!

Georgia Masons have responded graciously to "The Children's Garden" and the Ground Breaking occurred on Saturday, April 12. It was so exciting to "break" ground, realizing that because of the generosity of so many Georgia Masons being TEAM players, we were able to begin the installation of "The Children's Garden." For each brother who has been delaying donating for "your brick" please consider doing so as soon as possible. How about today? If you have any questions, please contact your District Deputy. Remember our goal for the year is \$250,000 of which we have raised approximately \$70,000.

The rate of our blood donations has declined. Through April 1, we had 2,043 donated blood units reported since October 1, compared with 2,561 last year, making our grand total since onset, October 1, 2010, a total of 15,413. We are very grateful for each unit's life-saving potential. Many Lodges have blood drives scheduled in the near future. If your Lodge has not scheduled a blood drive, I challenge you to do so as soon as possible. Remember our goal is 500 units per District before Grand Lodge in October.

Be sure the results of each Blood Drive are reported to Wor. Bro. Steven Fishman so our totals will remain current and accurate.

The GACHIP program has



"exploded" in that, not only have we gotten many "key" state-wide endorsements, but we have had more than one Lodge to identify over 400 children in a single event.

Many of our Lodges are working with schools. We have identified almost 5,000 children this Grand Lodge year. Also there have been approximately 40 laptop computers donated, which were desperately needed. Please contact Wor. Bro. Harold Culpepper, our GACHIP State Director, if you do not know your District Director, in order to prevent any delays in getting additional events scheduled or if you know of anyone wishing to donate computers to our worthwhile cause for the Children.

Our workshops and forums really turned out great this year. I am very pleased that many of your Grand Line Officers attended every workshop and forum. This shows what a great TEAM we have! Please thank these Brethren for their willingness to always be there to help in any way they can. I was very pleased with the enthusiasm generated and the total attendance, since we expanded the number of workshops and forums this year. Each survey suggestion you made has been reviewed and some were implemented as time permitted in the later workshops.

We are now in the midst of the District Conventions. They are being well attended and everyone seems to be so excited! Really, these meetings are more like good old homecomings. I have had the honor of attending most of the Conventions for the past few years and really look forward to my return visits to see many friends I have made. A wonderful thing about these return visits is that there are always new friends to meet, greet and fellowship. I really look forward to seeing many friends in the District Conventions to come. Please try to be at your District Convention!

Our Masonic Education Leadership Development leaders continue to do a superb job. Various education classes are being conducted throughout the state. Please attend these classes as we need your input to make them better! Our MELD leaders are finalizing plans for our leadership conference occurring on July 18-19 in Atlanta. If you are interested in attending, please submit your application as soon as possible. Some Lodges are paying the fee for their Senior Warden to attend.



Al Sihah Shriners in Macon held a fire safety day for children and their families recently, complete with clowns to keep both children and their parents laughing while teaching fire safety. The special day included a GACHIP event. Al Sihah Potentate James L. Piper poses with the Grand Master in the lower photo.

However, if you are the Senior Warden of a Lodge that can't afford the fee, it would be well worth the investment if you use your money to attend. I commend WB Wiley Forrester for his continued leadership in making the Conference a success.

In early April, we had a "Quint" meeting in Lyerly, Georgia with five Lodges. It was a huge success with many Seventh District leaders in attendance including PGM E. Ray Knittel. Wor. Bro. Randy Rush had located a few hundred TEAM pins at a sale and donated them to us. We are giving them to the Brethren who would like to wear one to demonstrate our TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More) slogan this year! If you will request one and as long as they last, I will be delighted to give anyone a TEAM pin to wear.

Please continue to pray for us as we spread the message of our fraternity — Making Good Men Better — by continuing to "Build on our Foundation" which is based on Brotherly Love, Morality, and Relief!

God Bless.
Edgar M. Land

Groundbreaking for Children's Garden



After a work day at the Masonic Home April 19, the Brethren and families gathered for the groundbreaking for the Children's Garden. In the top photo, the Grand Master breaks ground; in the lower photo, a small part of the large crowd gathered for the groundbreaking.

**Are you a Perpetual Member of your Lodge?
If not, contact the Grand Secretary
for information
to help yourself and your lodge.**

Martinez Lodge No. 710 Holds First Communication in New Home



See photo of lodge room on backcover.

Martinez Masonic Lodge traces its history to December 14, 1953 when a group of Master Masons met at the Martinez Community Club House to draw up a petition to secure permission from the Grand Lodge of Georgia for a Masonic Lodge at Martinez. There were 48 signers. Temporary Officers were elected as follows: Bros. Ed Nichols, Wor. Master; Chester Mullikin, Senior Warden; Charles Hardin, Junior Warden; Max Haughee, Secretary; S. M. Hill, Treasurer; G. C. Sanders, Senior Deacon; H. C. Baston, Junior Deacon; Tom Ayers, Chaplain; Edgar Mills, Senior Steward; Frank Heath, Junior Steward; and Bracey Watkins, Tyler.

Sponsored by the George Walton Lodge No. 699, our application was forwarded to the Grand Lodge, and on June 15th, 1954, Grand Secretary, Worshipful Brother Dan Locklin, presented our acting Worshipful Master with the dispensation. Past Worshipful Master J. Paul Stephens presided this meeting.

There being no available two-story buildings for meeting purposes, it was decided to form a Martinez Temple Association for the purpose of selecting a lot on which to build a Masonic Temple.

At the 168th annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, held on October 26-27, 1954, the charter was approved.

Right Worshipful Brother B. Lee Amon, Deputy Grand Master and Most Worshipful Brother George P. Whitman, Sr., constituted and dedicated Georgia's newest Lodge, Martinez No. 710, on Monday January 3, 1955. Assisting in the ceremonies were Most Worshipful Brother J. Henry Wilkinson, P.G.M., Right Worshipful Brother W. Locklin, Grand Secretary, Worshipful Brother J. Paul Stephens, Past Eminent Commander of the Grand Commandry of Georgia, Worshipful Brother H. W. Powell, P.M. Social Lodge, and others.

A parcel of land, located on Washington Road, was purchased and ground was broken on March 22, 1955, for the new Masonic hall. During the months that followed, through the tireless efforts and endless labors of the members of the

lodge, what was previously a dream now became a reality, when, on February 28, 1956, the first communication was called in the new temple and the "Sublime Degree of Master Mason" was conferred upon Oscar C. Thigpen, Luther W. Wilson, Williams C. Hobbs, Billy E. Carrow, and courtesy candidate Lou

Stratton.

A Cornerstone and Dedication ceremony was held on Monday October 8, 1956, with the following Grand Lodge Officers present: Most Worshipful Grand Master B. Lee Amon, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary Daniel W. Locklin, Worshipful and Reverend Grand Chaplain William C. Corley, Worshipful 3rd Grand Steward Clarence H. Cohen.

In February of 2012 the Washington Road building was sold, and in November of 2012 the former Indigo Joes sports bar was purchased. The building is 5,173 sf and is located on 1.18 acres. The building included a fully equipped kitchen, walk-in cooler, grease trap, and hood. The property has 184 feet of frontage at 3730 Wheeler Rd. There are total of 96 parking spaces on the property. The building was built in 2001. The property is located approximately .38 miles from Interstate 20. Traffic counts in front of the site equal 29,300 cars daily.

The former restaurant was remodeled for use as a dining hall and offices. A new lodge hall was built on the north side of the former restaurant.

A ground breaking ceremony was held at the new property on October 4, 2013, and construction was begun on the new lodge hall for Martinez Lodge No. 710. The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, E. Ray Knittel, and other distinguished guests were present at the ground breaking.

On March 3, 2014, the Brethren of Martinez Lodge, along with dozens of visitors, met for a regular communication at the new lodge hall. The ladies and men of Martinez Chapter No. 464, OES, prepared a fine meal prior to the communication. All Past Masters of Martinez Lodge were invited to the East to assist the Worshipful Master in opening the lodge for the first time in their new home. It was an awesome evening that spoke well for the future of this outstanding lodge. Ninety-six Brethren were in attendance. Right Worshipful Brother Gary Leazer, Junior Grand Warden, represented the Grand Lodge at the first communication.

(The editor thanks Wor. Bro. Richard T. Williamson, Sr. for the backcover photo and the photo on this page.)

Eagle Scouts Receive Masonic Award



Wor. Bro. Russ Gee, DDGM (left), presents Dallas C Wright of Scout Troop No. 228 his Masonic Eagle Scout Award at Flower Branch Lodge No. 212 on March 24. Pictured with Dallas is his mother and PM Joe Jones, Adviser for Scout Troop No. 228.



Wor. Bro. Russ Gee, DDGM, presents the Masonic Scout Award on March 23 to Benjamin Frizzell Crawford at Johns Creek United Methodist Church. Both Benjamin and his older brother are Eagle Scouts.



Right Worshipful Bro. Joseph Watson presents Seth Edwards his Masonic Eagle Scout Award. Seth wrote Bro. Watson the following letter:

Mr. Watson,

I want to thank you for the wonderful presentation you gave at my ceremony. I thoroughly enjoyed your stories about scouting and it is safe to say that your presentation was a once in a lifetime event for me. I am so honored that you traveled so far to speak at my ceremony. Attached to this email are some photos of your presentation at my ceremony. Once again, thank you for your unique presentation; I will never forget it.

Sincerely,
Seth Edwards



Wor. Bro. Art Dickerson, DDGM - 10C, presents the Eagle Scout Award to Brandon Glenn Bedell.

Roger Lacey Lodge No. 722 Hosts First Masonic District Convention

Worshipful Master Christopher Barnes and the officers of Roger Lacey Lodge No. 722, an ancient lodge in Savannah, opened the 108th Annual Communication of the First Masonic District Convention at 10.00 on March 22. The secretary reported 141 Brethren in attendance.

After the lodge was opened, the officers of the First District Convention assumed their stations. Most Worshipful Bro. Edgar M. Land was found in waiting. He was received by five District Deputies to the Grand Master and the Grand Marshal and given Private Honors by the Brethren.

Guests were recognized, after which a roll call of District officers and lodges was taken. The secretary/treasurer, Wor. Bro. M. P. Jones, Jr., read the minutes from the 2013 convention; they were adopted.

MELD Director for the First District reported classes are ongoing in a number of lodges; he encouraged lodges to call him to hold classes in their lodges.

Wor. Bro. Robert C. Whitlow gave a glowing report about the Masonic Home. The Home currently has 18 girls and 6 boys, in addition to one girl and one boy living in the college dorms while attending college in the Macon area. Four of the young people at the Home are from the First District. He anticipates two more girls within the next week and three boys soon after that. He said the Home has been asked if it can accept six other children; the Home can legally care for 40 kids.

Wor. Bro. E. Rick Willis announced he had served the time allowed on the District Relief Committee; everyone could tell by the tone of his voice that he is sorry he has to move off the committee.

Wor. Bro. William F. Pilon, Custodian for the First District for the past 25 years, announced he had issued 96 white cards, 81 blue cards, 13 green cards and 7 orange to those deserving Brethren.

Wor. Bro. David Pollock, a GACHIP District Director, announced that 19 CHIP programs had been conducted by 12 lodges to ID 779 kids in the past year. Brethren from nine of those lodges were present and were recognized.



Wor. Bro. Eric White led the Brethren in a moment of silence for the 103 Brethren from the First District who had passed away in the past year, including District's Deputy Master, Wor. Bro. Gordon B. Smith.



Wor. Bro. Joey E. Jackson (left), DDGM 1-B, was presented the J. Walter Cowart Award as Mason of the Year by Grand Master Land and First District Master, H. Jay Robbins.



Wor. Bro. Johnny Earl Davis, Master of Hinesville Lodge No. 271, accepted the plaque for the lodge with the greatest number in attendance. Hinesville Lodge also won the award last year.

Wor. Bro. Bobby L. Beckum, the District's Senior Warden, announced the First District Convention will meet again on March 28, 2015 at Vidalia Masonic Lodge No. 330. Registration will begin at 9.00 and the convention will be opened at 10.00.

Grand Master Land installed the District officers for the ensuing year with Wor. Bro. Bobby Beckum as District Master.

A fine meal was served after the closing of the 108th First Masonic District Convention.

Grand Master Land Visits Rising Star No. 4 in Eatonton

Most Worshipful Bro. Edgar Land and several of his Grand Lodge officers visited Rising Star Lodge No. 4 in Eatonton in March. A good number of visitors from surrounding lodges also were present.



Grand Master Land received at Rising Star No. 4

Grand Master Land presented Bro. Melvin Ronald Moore his 50-year apron and pin for his many years of service to the Craft.

Rising Star Lodge was chartered on October 20, 1818 as Rising Star No. 33. The original charter still hangs on the lodge wall and shows it was issued in Savannah. When a lower number became available due to a lodge closing Rising Lodge was able to change its number to No. 10 in 1820. In 1829, its number was changed to No. 7, and in 1838, to No. 4. Until the late 1940s, a lodge could petition the Grand Lodge for a lower number if it became available. This practice was suspended in the late 1940s.

Lots of history can be seen on the walls of the lodge room. Bro. Irby Hudson was Grand Master of Georgia Masons from December 3, 1832 until 1836. The first altar Bible is on display in the East. Checks dated December 13, 1927 are displayed showing Bro. C. F. Whitman was paid 60 cents for washing lodge aprons and carrying coal upstairs. Ida E. Whitman was paid \$4.80 for making four dozen lodge aprons on December 13, 1927.

Rising Star Lodge moved from its downtown location in 2008, where it had been located since 1905. In addition to the beautiful lodge hall, the Brethren have built a BBQ building behind the hall.

Rising Star Lodge is active in the community. The lodge hosted a GACHIP event at the Putnam County Primary School in February. Four hundred children were ID'd on the first day and 127 on the second day.

Working with the VFW and the American Legion in Eatonton, Rising Star No. 4 held a BBQ and raised \$6,552.96 profit for a Veterans Wall of Fame in Eatonton.

Now, for something you probably won't read elsewhere. Putnam County Sheriff Howard Sills donated a flag pole to Rising Star Lodge which he had confiscated from the Nuwaubian Compound in Putnam County after FBI agents and his deputies raided the compound in 2002. The flag pole now stands in front of the lodge hall.

Your editor visited the Nuwaubian Compound on two occasions in 1999. Each time he was the only Caucasian at the compound with several hundred devotees in attendance. (Google has picked up at least three of his photos and posted them online.) The leader, who called himself Rev. Dr. Malachi Z. York (or one of at least 70 other names), claims he was born on another planet (at other times he says he was born in the Sudan — or perhaps New Jersey), that humans were cloned on Mars, and that aliens will rescue 144,000 Nuwaubians soon and take them to their true home planet. York chose the 476-acres on Shady Dale Road because the Rock Eagle formation nearby can be seen from outer space and will guide the aliens to Putnam County. The Nuwaubian Compound had an Egyptian theme, complete with a pyramid, Sphinx, and a statue of Isis. The buildings of the compound were destroyed after the site was seized by the government.

York and his sect also had a number of Masonic teachings. Nimrod, he says, was the first Freemason and that the Craft has its roots in Egypt. Nuwaubian lodges are located in Toronto, Brooklyn, Miami, Trinidad, Barbados, Savannah, and Decatur, Georgia. He organized Lodge No. 19, The Ancient Mystic Order of Melchizedek, at his compound near Eatonton. York is also referred to as the Sovereign Grand Commander. He not only holds the 33° but also the 720°.

York was sentenced to 135 years in prison for racketeering and taking young girls across state lines for sexual molestation. He is serving his sentence at the ADX Supermax Federal Prison in Fremont County, Colorado. The U.S. Supreme Court has refused to hear his appeal.



Past Grand Master Thomas T. Irvin Receives his 60-Year Apron



On March 7, 2014, surrounded by family members and loved ones, 1994 Past Grand Master Thomas T. Irvin received his 60-year Masonic Apron at a dinner held at The Warehouse Restaurant, Cornelia. Most Worshipful Brother Irvin expressed his appreciation to a large crowd, consisting of Past Grand Masters, Grand Lodge Officers and Brothers of MWB Irvin's home lodge, Mt. Airy Lodge, No. 141, F. & A.M., Mt. Airy. A nice meal and fellowship was had by all.

The top photo shows Grand Master Edgar Land, Past Grand Master Jerry Moss and other Grand Lodge officers present for Most Worshipful Brother Tommy Irvin's 60th anniversary as a Master Mason. In the lower left photo are pictured Bro. Tommy and his family, and in the lower right photo are pictured Bro. Tommy and the first Lady of Georgia Masonry, Mrs. Barbara Land.

Eastside Scottish Rite Association Honors JROTCs

For the past eleven years, the Eastside Scottish Rite Association has honored High School Cadet scholars with a fine dinner and scholarships at the Golden Fleece Masonic Lodge No. 6 in Covington. 2014 was no different.

Eastside Association president Patrick Dally, 32°, presided over the evening's festivities. He welcomed all present. The call to order was followed by the presentation of the colors and the song "God Bless the USA," sung by Girl Scout Troop No. 28548. Past Grand Master and World War II veteran Joseph P. Suttles gave the invocation.

Veterans of the various wars and other military service were recognized, along with active duty and retired officers present. Two of those officers were Lt. Col. Kurt P. Felpel, serving at the University of Georgia; and Capt. Donna L. Styles, U. S. Navy (ret.). Jr. ROTC instructors from Newton, Rockdale, Walton and Morgan counties were recognized, after which Cadets were recognized and presented scholarships ranging from \$100 to \$1,000. Cadet Callie Peace from Morgan County High School was awarded the \$1,000 scholarship. She has a 4.64 grade point average because she has taken advanced courses in high school.

Brig. General Eddie Jackson, who graduated from Social Circle High School and has served in the U. S. Army for 28 years and is still serving on active duty, was the guest speaker. He encouraged the Cadets to strive for competence, commitment and character in whatever career they choose.

Walton County Cadets presented a moving toast to fallen comrades. Taps was played to close the toast after which Past Potentate of the Yaarab Shrine Stratton Zelack, 33°, gave the benediction.



Cadet Callie Peace is congratulated by Mike Kessler, 32° KCCH.



Two Masonic Brothers are Founders of ABAC Tree Campus USA

Brad Barbee (center in photo to the left) and Barry Barbee, both Master Masons in Sycamore Lodge No. 210, are founders of the Abraham Baldwin College Arbor Day Foundation Tree Campus USA and the coming arboretum at the college. Pictured are the founding board members, Master Masons Brad & Barry Barbee and ABAC's President, Dr. David C. Bridges.

EVERYBODY

Floyd Edmondson,, Grand Orator

Masonic membership has been a topic of discussion for as long as I can remember since I became a Mason. Unfortunately, the net result has been a steady decline in numbers since about 1977. Today's membership in Georgia is about 43% of what it was in 1977. Statistically, Georgia's loss in membership has been about 14% demits, 35% suspensions and 51% deaths. We all know there is nothing we can do to decrease the deaths of our members, but that leaves 49% of our losses in categories we might have some influence in decreasing: demits and suspensions.

To me, demits and suspensions are two vague, "catch all" categories for which we do not know the real reason for their existence. A demit is granted to a Brother who is in good standing with his lodge when his request is made. It might be granted because the Brother is moving to another jurisdiction. In such a case, there is little or nothing the local membership can do to keep the Brother from leaving. There is a multitude of other possibilities for a Brother to request a demit: 1) he doesn't have the time to devote to lodge activities, 2) he is not interested in attending the meetings, 3) he may have decided that what the lodge stands for is not something he wants to be a part of, 4) unfortunately, some ministers or laymen demit from the lodge because their religious congregations do not have an accurate knowledge of what Masonry is and they get a demit to avoid conflicts in their congregation, or 5) because of an increase in his yearly dues. I'm sure there are a lot of reasons for a Brother to request a demit that I can't think of. At least when a Brother is granted a demit, he has his dues paid up-to-date and is in good standing with the lodge in case he later decides to re-join a lodge.

Most suspensions are for non-payment of dues (NPD). Some of the same reasons for requesting a demit apply to a Brother getting suspended for NPD; however, a person suspended for NPD does not have his dues paid up-to-date and leaves the lodge on less than a condition of good standing. Another reason some members are suspended for NPD is because their address has changed and the member has failed to keep the Secretary's records up-dated. I'm not sure we drive the message home that it is our responsibility to keep our address up-dated in our Masonic bodies. There is no way the Secretary can be expected to know our correct address unless we keep him properly informed.

Whether we lose a member because of demit or suspension for NPD, we do not REALLY know why he is leaving our fraternity. Until we know the REAL reason we are losing members to demit and NPD, it is hard to find a remedy to prevent future losses. I read with much interest the article in the Atlanta Scottish Rite portion of the February 2014 issue of the *Masonic Messenger* (p. 17) where Brothers Robert Brown and Lee English helped reduce the Valley's suspensions by 50%. Hopefully, the rest of us can do likewise for our Masonic bodies.

Another topic of membership discussion is non-regular attending members. They can still be a valuable asset to our lodges if they have the time, are able and are interested in helping. They could help keep check on our widows, elderly and sick or disabled members, etc. and give regular reports to the Worshipful Master to inform the Brethren. If able, they might help maintain our lodge buildings and grounds. They could maintain a call or e-mail list approved by the lodge to notify the membership of lodge happenings. They might keep our robes, equipment, costumes and uniforms clean and in a good state of repair. They might even have suggestions for programs or activities for the lodge to be involved with and ideas to improve attendance at our meetings.

I believe our lodges should be more involved in our local communities. Food pantries are seeing increased demands. I learned this year that a lot of kids wrote to Santa asking for warm socks, coats, and sheets and blankets for their beds, rather than for candy, toys and games. We could also help local law enforcement find ways to help deter crime. There are a lot of needy circumstances in our midst where we might be able to provide some relief.

In my travels this year I am impressed with the enthusiasm and efforts of Masons all over the state to promote the teachings and activities of Masonry. Let's try to have more interesting meetings and activities to involve our membership and our families; let's continue to promote our Grand Master's program of Brotherly Love, Morality and Relief; let's make a stronger commitment to reducing demits and suspensions for NPD; and let's find ways to make our local lodges financially sound. I encourage you to keep up the good work. After all, it takes everybody working together in peace and harmony to make a real difference. May God bless.



Grayson Lodge No. 549 hosts a family night at a local restaurant each month having a fifth Monday. Sixty Masons from local lodges, families and friends attended the March family night at O'Charlie's in Snellville. The June family night will be at Provino's in Snellville on June 30 at 6:00.

Why 1717?

Right Worshipful Bro. Gary H. Leazer, Ph. D.
Grand Junior Warden, Grand Lodge of Georgia

This paper was presented at the Lodge of Research No. 8 in Moultrie in April 2014.

As we move toward 2017, the 300th anniversary of the first Grand Lodge in London, I plan a number of historical articles in the Messenger. The next article will be an examination of “The Morgan Affair: Its Impact on Freemasonry in General and Georgia in Particular.”

The editor invites other Georgia Freemasons to submit historical articles for consideration in the Masonic Messenger.

I remember in my history classes in college that professors loved to require their students to memorize dates. They loved dates with which they filled exams. Early on I concluded that students typically forgot dates as soon as they turned in their exams. Although dates of events are important, I came to the conclusion that to understand history the when of events was not as important as the why of dates. For example, “why” Columbus sailed west in search of a short cut to India is far more interesting and important than when he did so. So, in this paper, I shall concentrate of the why of events that led up to the formation of the Grand Lodge of London and Westminster in 1717, later to be known as the Grand Lodge of England.

We know, of course, that Freemasonry did not begin in 1717. Many dates have been advanced, most of which are ludicrous and preposterous. Most of the ancient dates were proposed in the 1800s when attempting to find a connection between modern organizations, like the church, and ancient history was popular. Freemasonry did not escape these silly attempts.

Masonic historian Allen E. Roberts says Henry Wilson Coil found at least 25 theories of Freemasonry’s beginning.¹ (I believe that number is much higher now.) For example, one source claimed Adam and Eve were the first Freemasons because they wore aprons.

Some of the theories are ridiculous. Self-described expert Wayne Marshal says aliens from near the constellation Taurus arrived on Earth, mated with Neanderthals to produce the human race, built the Egyptian pyramids and began Freemasonry in Egypt about 3000 B.C.² Black Freemason and founder of the Nuwaubian sect near Eatonton, Rev. Dr. Malachi Z. York (born Dwight York), claims aliens cloned humans on Mars and transported them to Earth. He claims Nimrod created Freemasonry when he built the Tower of Babel. Egypt also plays a central part of York’s theology.³ (York claims to hold the 720° in Freemasonry.) Allen Roberts concludes that “Most of these theories have been discounted by credible historians.” Bro. Eric Ward wrote, “Because most Freemasons are (metaphorically) prisoners of the traditions

and rituals of our society they tend to be inhibited from distinguishing between fact and fiction.”⁴

A major difficulty for credible historians is the lack of real historical evidence about Freemasonry’s beginning. Very little was written about early Freemasonry. Writing in the *ARS Quatuor Coronatorum*,⁵ Bro. Harry Carr says the first evidence of Freemasonry in England was in 1356 with the beginning of an operative mason trade association when twelve master masons requested recognition before the Mayor and Aldermen at Guildhall, a building that served as city hall within London. Twenty years later, a mason trade association was listed among 47 recognized crafts in the city. Bro. Carr believes the first use of the term “freemasonry” was in 1376 to refer to a building trade. By 1472, a reference was made to the “Hole Crafte and Fellowship [sic] of Masons,” later called the London Masons’ Company. These masonic associations and companies were composed of operative masons; non-tradesmen had not been accepted into the associations and companies at this time.

These associations and companies had the responsibility of overseeing the work of all the masons in their jurisdictions. This was the beginning of the work of operative Freemasonry that gradually evolved into what we know today as speculative Freemasonry. The employment of cowans or unskilled, untrained laborers, was controlled. Masons were prohibited from moving from town to town without permission; neither could a master entice a mason to leave his master and work for him. Penalties were established, such as fines, for violating rules established by the associations and companies.

Although there were freemasons in the 14th century, it is far from established that the men who went by that name had sufficient in common with ‘freemasons’ belonging to the speculative craft to be recognizably the same sort of people.

In 1621, the term “Acception” lodge was used for the first time; this term referring to non-operative Freemasons accepted as members of a lodge. In 1650, we find the first documented report of men in England who did not belong to a trade being admitted in a lodge. Other early records from Scotland indicate non-operative men were accepted into lodges between 1475 and 1550.

Researcher R. F. Gould concludes that symbolic Freemasonry began in 1646 when Elias Ashmole, who is known not to have been an operative mason, was “made a Freemason.”⁶ It is certainly possible that the decision to allow non-operative men into the Craft was the result of a decline in the building opportunities of by-gone centuries. Bro. Carr states that the Grand Lodge was founded in 1717 “on the embers of the Craft in decline, but the flame still flickered, and after a few years it revived.”

Rise of Protestantism in England

Several significant events occurred in the late 1600s and early 1700s to make the atmosphere such that masons decided it was a proper time to become more public. Masons, both operative and symbolic, had met together in a number of towns and cities for several decades – some contend centuries, although it is wishful thinking and mere speculation.

Since King Henry VIII split from the Roman Catholic Church in 1534 and formed the Anglican Church or Church of England open conflict regularly raised its ugly head as Protestants and Catholics contended for the throne of England. After Henry's death in 1547, his son Edward, a Protestant, became king. He died in 1553 and his half-sister, Mary, a strong Roman Catholic became queen. Her executions of Protestants during her reign caused her opponents to give her the nickname "Bloody Mary." During her five-year reign, she had over 283 Protestants put to death, most of whom were burned at the stake. If Freemasonry as we know it in the years leading up to 1717 had existed during Mary's reign, its members would have been primary targets for her wrath.

The Glorious Revolution of 1688–89 resulted in the Roman Catholic king, James II of England, fleeing to exile in France under the protection of French king Louis XIV. James' daughter and her husband, who was also James' nephew, ascended the British throne as joint sovereigns William and Mary.

To end the Glorious Revolution, William and Mary signed the English Bill of Rights of 1689. This action both signaled the end of several centuries of tension and conflict between the crown and parliament, and the end of the idea that England would be restored to Roman Catholicism, King William being a Protestant leader. The Bill of Rights also inspired the English colonists in the Thirteen Colonies to revolt against the rule of King James II and against his proposed changes in colonial governments. These revolts occurred in the colonies of Massachusetts, New York, and Maryland.⁷ In 1690 Presbyterianism was established as the state religion of Scotland. Mary died in 1694 and William in 1702. Anne, Mary's younger sister, was crowned queen. She immediately became a popular queen, although her life was one of ill health.

After the death of Queen Anne of Great Britain in 1714, Protestant George I ascended the British throne. Although over fifty Roman Catholics bore closer blood relationships to Anne, the Act of Settlement 1701 prohibited Catholics from inheriting the British throne; George was Anne's closest living Protestant relative. In reaction, Jacobites⁸ attempted to depose George and replace him with Anne's Catholic half-brother, but their attempts failed.

During George's reign, the powers of the monarchy diminished and Britain began a transition to the modern system of cabinet government led by a prime minister. Towards the end of his reign, actual power was held by Sir Robert Walpole, now recognized as Britain's first *de facto* prime minister. Walpole had been elected to the Parliament in 1701.

Walpole secured the support of the people and the House of Commons with a policy of avoiding war which, in turn, allowed him to impose low taxes.

With the transition to a more democratic government under Walpole, assemblies in which males of the towns and shires met twice a year became popular. The guilds of operative masons, like all other guilds of the period, also had their own assemblies which met at fixed times to discuss issues important to their crafts. By the late 1600s, as lodges began to be made up of speculative members, lodges existed and met independently of each other, with no central governing authority over them.

As we see, the dust of the political and religious climate from decades of controversy and open warfare in England beginning in the mid 1500s put everyone on edge. This controversy died down but did not completely disappear by the early 1700s. For example, a note in the *Daily Post* dated May 25, 1721 stated, "And whereas a late manager in the South Sea Company's service has, by his evil practices, rendered himself incapable of being a member of the said society, the chapter will then proceed to his expulsion if he does not appear before them, and clear himself of several heavy charges alleged against him."⁹ Although not stated, the evil practices probably referred to Freemasonry.

Another Jacobite revolt occurred in 1715 when James Francis Edward Stuart (also called the Old Pretender) attempted to regain the British throne for the exiled House of Stuart. He was defeated and in February 1716 he sailed for the Continent.

The Enlightenment

The basic principles of the Grand Lodge of England were inspired by the ideal of tolerance and universal understanding of the Enlightenment and by the scientific revolution of the 17th Century. The Age of Enlightenment (or simply the Enlightenment or Age of Reason) was a cultural movement of intellectuals beginning in late 17th- and 18th-century Europe emphasizing reason and individualism rather than tradition as in the long-held religious belief that the earth was the center of the universe. Its purpose was to reform society using reason, to challenge ideas grounded in tradition and faith, and to advance knowledge through the scientific method. It was sparked by philosophers Francis Bacon (1562–1626), Baruch Spinoza (1632–1677), John Locke (1632–1704), Pierre Bayle (1647–1706), Voltaire (1694–1778) and physicist Isaac Newton (1643–1727). The Scientific Revolution is closely tied to the Enlightenment, as its discoveries overturned many traditional concepts and introduced new perspectives on nature and man's place within it. Time constraints prevent me from talking about all of these men, but I shall mention one.

(Continued next page)

John Locke (1632 – 1704), was an English philosopher and physician regarded as one of the most influential of Enlightenment thinkers and known as the “Father of Classical Liberalism.” His writings influenced Voltaire and Rousseau, many Scottish Enlightenment thinkers, as well as the American revolutionaries. Locke fled to the Netherlands in 1683, under strong suspicion of involvement in an attempt to assassinate Roman Catholic James II, although there is little evidence of his involvement. Locke did not return home until after the Glorious Revolution when he accompanied William of Orange’s wife back to England in 1688.

Locke was influenced by Baptist theologians John Smyth and Thomas Helwys while in Holland. They had published tracts demanding freedom of conscience in the early seventeenth century. Locke argued for the separation of Church and State. Locke, writing his *Letters Concerning Toleration* (1689–92) in the aftermath of the European wars of religion, formulated a classic reasoning for religious tolerance.

His tract *The Bloody Tenent of Persecution for Cause of Conscience* (1644), which was widely read in England, was a passionate plea for absolute religious freedom and the total separation of church and state. Locke was part of this Protestant tradition. He was also influenced by Presbyterian politician and poet John Milton (9 December 1608 – 8 November 1674), who was a staunch advocate of freedom in all its forms.

The Enlightenment was very influential in America, where its influence is seen in the works of men like Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson, among others. It played a major role in the American Revolution. The political ideals of the Enlightenment influenced the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights.

During the Enlightenment there was a great emphasis upon liberty, democracy, and religious tolerance, all Masonic ideals.

Lodges come together

The solidification of Protestant faith in England, the Enlightenment and the decline of operative Freemasonry came together at a unique time in English history.

H. L. Haywood states that Rev. James Anderson, writing in his 1723 *Constitutions*, said, “in the reign of King James II, though some Roman buildings were carried on, the lodges of Free-Masons in London much dwindled into ignorance, by not being duly frequented and cultivated.”¹⁰

In an effort to counter this decline, some Freemasons believe the Brethren of four lodges in London and Westminster met together on June 24, 1717, to revive an alleged festival commemorating the murder of Hiram Abif.¹¹ However, there is no mention of Hiram in any Masonic rituals until the formation of the Grand Lodge after which a third degree was added to the ritual. Anderson would certainly have mentioned Hiram in his 1721 and 1723 *Constitutions* if Hiram were a part of earlier Freemasonry. The first mention of Hiram Abif and Freemasonry was in an expose published in 1830.

Anderson, in his 1738 *Constitutions*, observed that “those joining the Fraternity ‘found in a lodge a safe and pleasant relaxation from intense study or the hurry of business, without politics or party.’”¹²

I believe the June 24, 1717, meeting was not an attempt to form a Grand Lodge as we think of Grand Lodges today, but merely an opportunity for Freemasons to meet on a special day, St. John the Baptist Day, for fellowship and a meal.

Anthony Sayer, Gentleman, was chosen Grand Master, with Captain Joseph Elliot and Mr. Jacob Lamball, Grand Wardens. We do not know their duties, except as they relate to the Annual Feast. Written records of the first meeting are non-existent so we cannot know what transpired at that gathering. Your guess is as good as mine, as long as you realize it is only a guess.

Dr. Anderson in the *Constitutions* of 1723 records that at that meeting it was resolved to choose “a Grand Master from among themselves, till they should have the honour of a noble brother at their head.”¹³ In 1721, the Grand Lodge managed to obtain a nobleman, John Montagu, the 2nd Duke of Montagu to preside as Grand Master, and so was able to establish itself as an authoritative regulatory body, and began meeting on a quarterly basis.

Anthony Sayer is described by James Anderson as a “Gentleman,” meaning “(a man of independent means),” but little is known about him.

He seems to have fallen on difficult times, petitioning Grand Lodge for charity in 1724, 1730, and 1741. He also twice received assistance from the Old Kings Arms lodge, which he served as tyler, or outer guard. He served as Senior Grand Warden under John Theophilus Desaguliers, the third Grand Master in 1719; he also served as Deputy Grand Master in 1723 and 1725. Sayer died in January 1741/1742.¹⁴

The four lodges had previously met at the Apple Tree Tavern, in Covent Garden in 1716 and agreed to form a Grand Lodge. A year later, they did so. However, even in London, there were many lodges that never affiliated with the new Grand Lodge.

The four lodges, named after the taverns or ale-houses¹⁵ where they regularly met were the Goose and Gridiron, the Crown, the Apple Tree, and Rummer and Grapes. The meeting took place at the Goose and Gridiron, which had been in business since 1691. The Annual Festival, especially after Anderson published his *Constitutions* of 1721, eventually evolved into a regulatory body, which met in quarterly communications and attracted lodges meeting outside London.

(Endnotes)

¹ Allen E. Roberts, *Masonic Trivia and Facts* (Highland Springs, Virginia: Anchor Communications, 1994), p. 3.

² Wayne Marshal, *Hidden Records: The Star of the Gods* (self-published in 2003). According to Marshal, the aliens arrived on Earth about 10500 BC and mated with Neanderthals to produce the human race.

(Continued next page)



Apparently trying to honor the Brethren who formed the Grand Lodge of London and Westminster in 1717, later called the United Grand Lodge of England, whose primary purpose for its first meeting was to enjoy a fine meal together, these Freemasons and their Ladies enjoy a fine meal at the Second Masonic District Convention at Moultrie Lodge No. 381.



During Most Worshipful Brother Al Garner's year as Grand Master, he often asked the editor to speak on the important of "curb appeal" for a Blue Lodge. The editor often spoke about the image the lodge presented as the public drove by. An attractive sign, lawn and building creates a positive image of both the lodge in particular and Freemasonry in general.

The aliens, Herschel claims, gave Freemasonry its 3-5-7 steps, the pyramid on the \$1 bill (which is not a Masonic symbol) among many other teachings.

³ York is currently serving a 135-year sentence at the Federal Maximum Prison in Colorado for racketeering and child molestation. His 476-acre compound on Sandy Dale Road has been seized by the federal government.

⁴ Eric Ward, "The Birth of Free-Masonry, the Birth of a Myth," <http://www.freemasonry.bcy.ca/aqc/birth.html>.

⁵ Harry Carr, "Three Phases of Masonic History," *ARS Quatuor Coronatorium*, Vol. 76 (1964), pp. 256-262.

⁶ R. F. Gould, "Before the Era of Grand Lodges," *ARS Quatuor Coronatorium*, Vol. 1 (1886), p. 68.

⁷ James Thacher, *History of the Town of Plymouth* (Boston: Man rsh, Capen & Lyon, 1832, p. 154.

⁸ The Jacobites took their name from Jacobus, the Latin form of James. The Jacobite Risings were a series of uprisings, rebellions, and wars in Great Britain and Ireland occurring between 1688 and 1746. The uprisings had the aim of returning James VII of Scotland and II of England, and later his descendants of the House of Stuart, to the throne of Great Britain after they had been deposed by Parliament during the Glorious Revolution.

^{vi} Quoted by Alfred F. Robbins, "The Earliest Years of English Organized Freemasonry," *ARS Quatuor Coronatorium*, Vol. 22 (1909), p. 68.

¹⁰ H. L. Haywood, "The First Grand Lodge," <http://www.masonicdictionary.com/goose.html>. See also *The Constitutions of Free-Masonry*, p. 37, a reprint by Benjamin Franklin of Anderson's

1734 Constitutions at <http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/history/anderson/1734.pdf>, p. 37

¹¹ Some Masonic historians speak of the creation of the Grand Lodge of London in July 1717 as a "revival" of early Freemasonry. However, a book called "Multa Paucis," published in London in 1730, declares that the so-called "revival" of Masonry in 1717 was in reality no "revival" at all, but merely marked the adoption of a new policy of the lodges of Masons by which the secrecy which had formerly cloaked their meetings was discarded and it was permitted to members to avow membership and let it be known that meetings were held. — Dr. Fitzandon Windslow, P.M., Grand Lodge Cradle Razed, *The Trestleboard* Vol. XXXIII, No. 9, March 1920 pgs 13 & 54.

¹² <http://www.freemasonry.bcy.ca/aqc/birth.html>.

¹³ Steven Smith, "Back to Basics," *Freemasonry Today*, December 14, 2011.

¹⁴ The two years are given because about that time England changed from the old Julian Calendar to the more accurate Gregorian Calendar. In the Gregorian Calendar, New Year's Day was moved from March 1 to January 1. The two years reflect events occurring during the months of January and February.

¹⁵ Taverns were common meetings places both in England and in the Colonies.

The General Court of Massachusetts designated Richard Fairbanks' tavern in Boston in 1639 as the official repository of mail brought from or sent overseas, in line with the practice in England and other nations to use coffee houses and taverns as mail drops.



The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

III. Leonard E. Buffington, SGIG, Orient of Georgia

Web Site:
GaScottish Rite.org

The **Valley of Augusta** Scottish Rite meets on the first Thursday of each month. Dinner is served at 7:00 pm with the program beginning at 8:00 pm. The following is a list of upcoming events:

1. At the May LOP Meeting local news anchor, Mary Montgomery, will be our guest speaker.

2. June 28th will be our fundraising luncheon with Guest Speaker Michael A. Halleran, Masonic Author and the current Grand Master of Masons in Kansas. Cost is \$20.00 per person which includes a steak lunch. His book, *The Better Angels of our Nature*, is distributed by McCoy Publishing. In addition, Brother Halleran writes a regular column in the Scottish Rite Journal recounting the colorful adventures of Bro. Hiram Brother, i.e. Brother Brother, a late 19th Century Mason.

3. The Valley is dark in July.

4. The August LOP Meeting is our awards night. Biggest night of the year!

5. September 20 is our Dinner Theater for the membership: Catered seafood and chicken all you can eat buffet and performances by the 8th Canto, an A capella singing group. Tickets are limited; contact Valley Secretary, Wor. Bro. Greg Oblak.

Join us if you are in the area.

The **Valley of Albany** is having their Spring Reunion on Saturday May 3 starting at 7:30 AM; the 4th thru the 18th degrees will be conferred that day and the remaining degrees will be conferred at the regular meeting on May 13. We invite all Master Masons who would like to become 32° Scottish Rite Masons to come and take the degrees.

The temple is undergoing a change with a lots of updates and repairs.

We are having lots of entertainment thru the rest of the year and we will be putting them in the *Messenger* and on our website. If you are not a Scottish Rite Mason "You Should Be!" You are missing a lot of light.

The **Valley of Atlanta** has completed the first quarter of the year with the election and installation of officers. Valley Associations continue to meet with most involved in projects that benefit children in different ways. The Appalachian Mountain Association continues to support the fourth floor at Scottish Rite Hospital. The East Side Association held a meeting honoring the Junior Reserve Offic-

ers' Training Corps (J.R.O.T.C.). Cadets, families and advisors were present to receive the recognition of Scottish Rite.

To further enhance our relationship with the RiteCare Center for Speech and Language disorders at Scottish Rite Hospital a RiteCare committee is being formed. The committee will be unique in that it will include the Brother AND His Lady. Since the first days of the hospital, bearing our name, the brothers of Scottish Rite have always been there. The addition of the Ladies on this committee will help by adding a passion for this most important program that helps children. Next year will mark the 100th anniversary of the Scottish Rite Hospital. The Valley will be working closely with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta for the upcoming celebration.

The Staff of the RiteCare Center will be honored at the Stated meeting May 1st an opportunity for those attending to learn of the work being done providing children with tools to communicate. This meeting will be opened to the public.

The new quarter opened with ceremonies and flare. The annual Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal was presented by the brothers of the Valley and marked, first with the extinguishing and then the rekindling of the lights. Special thanks to Ill. Ted Rambo 33° and Joe Upshaw, 32° who produced this event for the Valley.

The work done by members of the Valley to produce the 230th Class and Reunion on Saturday, April 5th, was outstanding. Eleven brothers completed the 29 degrees and became Master of the Royal Secret. Every brother of the Valley should be very proud. If you are a member of the Valley and didn't have an opportunity to participate in some manner, please let the Valley office know and let us help you find a way to participate. Our newest M.R.S. members will receive their caps and rings at the Stated Meeting on May 1st. That and the recognition of the RiteCare staff will make this a great meeting to attend.

May 2-3 are the dates for the Richard L. Phillips, 32° KCCH Memorial Spring Reunion in the **Valley of Savannah**. Our goal is 20 candidates. Flag Day Celebration will happen on June 14 as we honor the Veterans Council.

(Scottish Rite News continued on page 22)



GRAND CHAPTER
Clyde E. Griffin
M. E. G. H. P.



GRAND COUNCIL
F. A. "Drew" Lane
M. I. G. M.



GRAND COMMANDERY
C. Danny Wofford
R. E. G. C.

THE YORK RITE IN GEORGIA

Editor: Benjamin W. Polston, II, KYCH, KCCH, Email:
<http://www.yorkriteofga.org>

<p>Chapter Degrees</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn the value of your "Mark"! 2. Learn the value of Humility in the Past Master Degree! 3. The Temple is Completed in the Most Excellent Master Degree! 4. Learn the Long Lost Master's Word in the Royal Arch! 	<p>Council Degrees</p> <p>Fill in the Gaps of the Blue Lodge Degrees!</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn the True Chronological Order of the Degrees as a Royal Master! 2. As a Select Master you will learn how the True Word was Hidden in the Royal Arch Degree and Value of Duty! 	<p>Commandery or Christian Orders</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the Illus. Order of the Red Cross learn which is stronger, Wine, Women or Truth? 2. In the Order of Malta or Knight or as a Knight of St. Paul learn power of Faith! 3. You will become a KNIGHTS TEMPLAR with the Completion of the Order of the Temple.
<p>Website www.yorkriteofga.org</p>	<p>PETITION FOR YORK RITE www.yorkriteofga.org/bpfiles/combpet.pdf</p>	<p>FIND THE CLOSEST YORK RITE http://www.yorkriteofga.org/bpfiles/bycity.pdf Or Call: (478) 742-2557</p>

Cornerstone Laid at Tybee Island No. 762



March 2, 2014 was a great day to be a Mason on beautiful Tybee Island. Most Worshipful Brother Edgar M. Land, Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons in Georgia, visited Tybee Island lodge No.762 for the purpose of laying a cornerstone. This cornerstone was a commemoration of the founding of our lodge in 2009.

Our lodge was founded by Worshipful Brothers Alfie Waite, Charles Brewer, and Hoot Gibson, three great men who brought Masonic Light to our beautiful island.

Thank you Most Worshipful brother and Grand Lodge officers for making this a proud day for every Mason present.

We would like to invite all brethren to join us the first and third Tuesday at 7:00pm for good food and fellowship. We are easy to find: come out Hwy 80 towards Tybee and follow the Light in the East.

Yours in the Faith,
Roger W. Stevens
Worshipful Master

Cornerstone Laid at Blue Mountain No. 38



At the request of Blue Mountain Lodge No. 38 in Dahlonega, Grand Master Edgar Land and his officers laid a cornerstone at the lodge on a pleasant spring day.

Blue Mountain Lodge is a historic lodge in Dahlonega but had not had a formal cornerstone installed on the building.

50 Year Awards



Melvine Ronald Moore
Rising Star No. 4



Johnny Hoke Pitts, Jr.
Strict Observance No. 18



Henery "Pete" Bagley
Kennesaw No. 33



James Gill, DDGM; Quitman Lee
& Mrs. Betty Davis Lee - Bacon No. 56



Mary and William "Billy" Taylor
Hamilton No. 58



Winfred E. Whisenant
Cohutta No. 64



Rodell Dunn & Melvin Gilly
Smith No. 85



Bernard Cobb, Jack Ivey & Jimmy Lee, DDGM
Smith No. 85



Arlin Douglas Forsyth
Rockmart No. 97



Marvin Jackson
Kimbrough No. 118



Vernon Greer Henderson
Mackey No. 120



Samuel Douglas Cochran
Ancient York No. 127



Royal Wayne Hall, Sr.
Tunnel Hill No. 202



Erwin Bill Williams
Sonora No. 221



Wiley Clarence Conley
Bryan No. 303



Bud "Lige" Cook
Lakeland No. 434



Billy Paul Chastin
Eton No. 509



Bobby Edlano Shaw
East Point No. 288



Johnny Homer Fields
Hudson No. 294



Arthur Gerald Fields
Clermont No. 512



Billy Joe Jones
Pace No. 558



James Holloway
Lizella No. 663



Otis Ronald Whiteside
Riverdale No. 709

55 Years



Edward Eugene Prather
Pickens Star No. 220



Buddy Doyle Roper
Pickens Star No. 220

70 Years



Harry Harold Davis
Union City Lodge No. 600
The award was presented by Wor. Bro.
Jimmy North, DDGM



Keenan Stringer
Eola No. 207, Orlando, Fla.
Award presented by Wor. Bro. Randy
Gates, DDGM - 9F

65 Years



Virgil Wood Kitchens
Ft. Hawkins No. 418

60 Years



Forest Giles
Benevolent No. 3



William E. Stripling
Chipley No. 4
Award presented by Wor. Bro. Franklin
Davenport, Past Grand Tyler

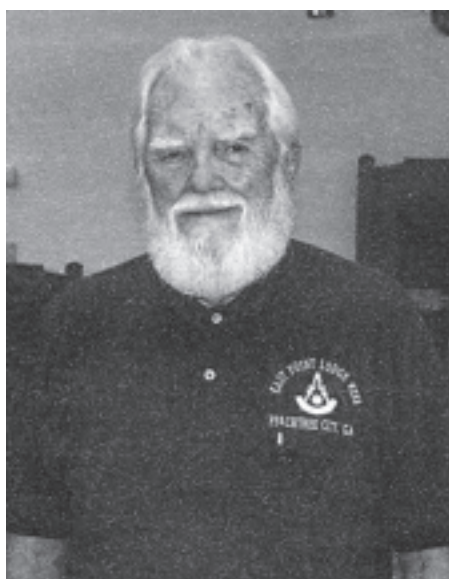


Chaplain Fred William Costner, Jr.
College Park Lodge No. 454



Clarence E. "Buster" Horne, PGM
East Point No. 288

Most Worshipful Brother Horne was also recognized for his exceptional service to Georgia Demolay and was designated as an Honorary State Master Councilor.



Hugh Turner Crawford
East Point No. 288



Hollis E. Preast
James E. Sledge Daylight No. 742
Wor. Bro. Preast's lodge honored him at their regular communication on April 9. Most Worshipful Bro. Edgar M. Land and Lady Barbara, along with other Past Grand Masters and Grand Lodge officers were present to honor Bro. Preast. That evening at the annual meeting of the Cobb County Masonic Association, Wor. Bro. Preast announced his resignation as Secretary/Treasurer. He had served the association a total of 14 years. Wor. Bro. T. Leon Roberts was elected to replace him.

(Photo to right)
Stratton Zelack
Walnut Grove No. 703



Anderson Lodge No. 243 Hosts 98th Annual 12th Masonic District Convention

The 98th Annual 12th Masonic District Convention was hosted by Anderson Lodge No. 243 on Saturday, April 19. District Master, Wor. Bro. Jimmy Bailey, conducted the meeting.

Most Worshipful Bro. Edgar M. Land, Grand Master, was found in waiting; he was received and given Private Grand Honors. He introduced his officers who were present and also Past Grand Master Ted. C. Collins and Grand Secretary Emeritus Donald I. DeKalb.

The roll call of district officers was taken as well as a roll call of district lodges. Middle Georgia Daylight Lodge No. 756 had the most in attendance for the second year in a row. Sixty-four Brethren were registered but it was announced that not all had registered. Helena No. 536 was named Lodge of the Year but the editor failed to get a photo.

Five 50-year Masons were recognized, as well as seven Past District Masters. Most Worshipful Bro. Bobby B. Simmons, Grand Treasurer, introduced the special guests who were present. He pointed out that all present were special guests.

The Youth Committee reported that Lyons Lodge No. 49 will start a Demolay Chapter in May. Demolay continues to grow in Georgia.

Masonic Home Superintendent, Wor. Bro. John Snipes,

gave an excellent report on the Masonic Home. Twenty-nine children and youth are now at the home. Another three children are expected soon. He spoke at length about the serious problems in many families with child abuse. The Georgia Masonic Home is one of only four Masonic Children's Homes in the United States. He reminded the Brethren that the annual Alumni Day will be held at the Masonic Home on the third Sunday in May. Grand Treasurer Bobby B. Simmons reported that the Masonic Home Endowment Fund stands at just under \$24 million.

All four District Deputies to the Grand Master gave outstanding reports of work ongoing in their sub-districts, including raising candidates, CHIP events and blood drives. They encouraged the lodges to continue their hard work and to be certain to report their activities. Wor. Bro. Dave Baxter reported that ten CHIP events had been held with 597 children ID'd. A report was presented that 2,195 units of blood had been donated since Grand Lodge in October and 15,565 in the four and one-years since the blood drives began.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected or appointed. Wor. Bro. George Williams, Jr. from Tyrian Lodge No. 111, was elected Master for the ensuing year. He announced the 2015 District Convention would be held at Tyrian Lodge on April 18.



Wor. Bro. G. W. Darsey was named Mason of the Year



The youngest Mason present was Wor. Bro. Jason Willett at age 30



Middle Georgia Daylight Lodge No. 756 won the attendance award for the second year in a row



Bro. Wesley Chester, age 89, was the oldest Mason present. Bro. Chester flew

50 missions over Europe during WWII as an engineer in B-17 Flying Fortresses, a four-engine heavy bomber. His plane was shot down on its 36th mission. Only he and one other crewman made it safely to the ground, as Hilter had ordered his troops to shot the flyers as they descended. Bro. Chester and his fellow crewman hid from German patrols and upon reaching safety and after resting, flew 14 more missions over Germany.

Veterans Corner

by Rick Conn, GL Veterans Committee State Chairman

Brothers all, this month I would like to go on an information and recruiting campaign if I may. How many out there have heard of, or know of a group called The National Sojourners Inc.? For those that do not, I would like to, this month, take the time to introduce them to those that do not know about them, or even to those that do, some things they may not understand about them. The National Sojourners are a group of Masonic Veterans joined together for the purpose of organizing Commissioned Officers, Warrant Officers, Senior NCO's of the uniformed services of the United States, and Honorary Members (E-6 and below) into Chapters, for the promotion of good fellowship among its members, for assisting such as may be overtaken by adversity or affliction, for cultivating Masonic ideals, for supporting all patriotic aims and activities in Masonry, for developing true Patriotism and Americanism throughout the Nation, for bringing together representatives of the uniformed forces of the United States (past and present) in a united effort to further the military need of National Defense, and for opposing any influence whatsoever calculated to weaken the National Security.

Born early in 1900, after the North Dakota Regiment departed for the Philippines with its Field Lodge dispensation, a group of Masons organized an informal club and named it "Sojourners." In 1901, these Sojourners provided the impetus, funds and paraphernalia to charter Manila Lodge under the Grand Lodge of California. One of the original Sojourners, Surgeon Captain Harry Eugene Stafford, 33°, Chartering Master of Manila Lodge, in 1913 became the first Grand Master of the newly created Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands. The Philippine "Sojourners Club" resurfaced in 1907, open to Masons who were not members of local Lodges; within a year it had nearly 200 members from every state and territory and eight foreign countries. Most of the Philippine Sojourners eventually became scattered throughout the United States. Additional clubs were quickly formed at Army posts and Naval bases under the name "National Sojourners Club." In 1927, the word "Club" was dropped and we became "National Sojourners, Incorporated" in 1931.

Sojourner efforts are directed toward Americanism, Patriotism and Masonic activities. Patriotic activities include speeches, flag ceremonies, presentations and other actions intended to promote national security and true love of country, with special emphasis on youth. Our service to the Craft through our Bridge of Light Program strengthens Masonry by involving Sojourners in all Masonic activities, especially in the Blue Lodges. Our main goal is direct support of the Jr. ROTC and ROTC at the college level and identifying the cadets that excel with presentation of a Certificate and Sojourners ROTC medal at their local Dress Mess Ceremony, (Military Ball). In addition we offer programs to local Lodges to inform Brethren, with a Patriotic theme, such as the "Build the Flag"

Ceremony, the "Bridge to Light" program, the "Lodge of Military Tribute" ceremony, and also the "Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge", which is an outstanding Youth Leadership Conference held each year on what was once part of Brother George Washington's original farm. Fort McPherson Chapter #60 has sent a Georgia youth to this conference every year for the past 5 years, last year a Boy Scout sent received a High Honor award from the National Boy Scouts organization. The "Trail to Valley Forge" medal presented by Brother Carter Wood at a National Court of Honor held at Grayson High School. MWB Jerry D Moss was at this Court of Honor and presented the Medal to Shadrack Stark at a ceremony that this youth will never forget.

The National Sojourners "National Essay Contest" held every year is a great way for a local youth to compete and earn money for a scholarship. The theme for this years contest is "The Star Spangled Banner". This essay contest is open to all students 9th thru the 12th grades and can win 1st prize of a \$2000 Savings Bond and Plaque. 2nd and 3rd prizes are \$1000 and \$500 Savings Bonds and Plaque respectfully. You may contact your closest Sojourners Chapter for entrance forms for this contest. Or, for those that are online, check out our website at: <http://www.nationalsojourners.org>

There are presently five Chapters of National Sojourners in the State of Georgia. But if there is enough interest in the Chapter in a certain locale, you can form a new Chapter. I will be glad to assist you in making this happen. The five Chapters in Georgia are:

Fort Benning #8

President: Tim Starling

Daniel Morgan Camp

Commander: Carl Fedde — Sec: SFC James W. Tate
796-329-6962

Meets, 1st Fri., 1900

ftbenningchapter8@hotmail.com

Fort Mcpherson #60

President: Christopher E. Chapman

James Jackson Camp

Commander: Jerry D. Moss — Sec: Phillip N. Walker
770-978-2771

Meets, 4th Wed., 1830

pwalker@mindspring.com

Clarence H. Cohen #162

President: Brian C. Coffey

Gen. Oglethorpe Camp

Commander: Frank J. Valentine Jr. — Sec: James L. Huggins Sr
706-829-0144

Meets, 4th Thurs., 1800

jhugg12934@comcast.net

Grand Master Edgar M. Land,

I am Most Worshipful Brother Rex Moats and I was Grand Master of Nebraska in 2012-13. I had the privilege of attending the Conference of Grand Masters in February 2012 in Atlanta and had a fantastic time.

My young family (Ariel 17, Jonathan 14, Madeline 12 and Jasmine 9) often travels to Orlando, Florida where we have a vacation home at Disney. Such was the case last week when we were in Florida for spring break and heading back last Wednesday March 19 to Omaha. On I-75 around Macon I heard a rubbing noise on my front wheel. It seemed to get better near Atlanta, however north of Atlanta it became clear to me my wheel bearing was going and that it would be dangerous to continue. We pulled over near Cartersville.

I had a bit of a dilemma because my three girls needed to be back in Omaha the next day by 4 pm for a dance recital rehearsal. We got on the phone and made reservations on Southwest from Atlanta to Omaha. My next act was to look up the local Masonic lodge and contact the Worshipful Master. I found the site and clicked on a link which sent an e-mail to Adam Chadwick of Cartersville Lodge No. 63. Within ten minutes I had a call from Wor.

Bro. Chadwick who proceeded to help me solve the transportation problem of getting my girls to the airport the next morning.

We arranged Groome transport services and the next day went as planned. Next, WB Chadwick put me in touch with Wynn GMC where ironically another brother (perhaps the Senior Deacon) worked in the parts department. We took the Suburban to the shop, where they diagnosed the problem and ordered the parts from Charlotte. Wor. Bro. Chadwick continued to call me after I had arranged a hotel while waiting for my repairs. He also arranged a tour of the local lodge and had the Senior Warden meet me at the shop the next day. I felt like I had been given the key to the city. Their collective masonic hospitality made my unexpected stop a pleasure and I posted my thanks on my Facebook wall.

Please convey my collective thanks to the Grand Lodge of Georgia as well as the officers and members of Cartersville Lodge No. 69. As I said in my Facebook post. . . "it is impossible to be lost or stranded if you are a Mason."

Faternally,

MWB Rex J. Moats

Past Grand Master of Nebraska 2012-13

Hunter #502

President: Joseph D. Westbrook

Georgia Hussars Camp

Commander: Wally J. Crews — Sec: Charles Vernon Deloe
912-656-5796

Meets, 2nd Wed., 1900

deloecdeleau@aol.com

Warner Robins #526

President: Charles R. Woods

Fort Hawkins Camp

Commander: George L. Williams Jr. — Sec: Donald Larry Parrott
478-922-6106

Meets, 4th Thurs., 1830

parrottd1@cox.net

Brothers, I encourage all Masonic Veterans to check out the National Sojourners, attend a local Chapter meeting, if you like what you see, if you like what we do, then join and get involved. If there is not a Chapter close to you, then attend the one closest to you and if you like what you see, do what is necessary to form a Chapter in your local area, making it easier for you and others who may want to join, but distance has changed their minds, to attend. The military comradarie is there, the brotherhood is there, and the Love of God and Country, our Flag, and our American way of life is there. Check it our Brothers. May God Bless you and may God Bless America, and our Troops who serve her.

(Scottish Rite News continued from page 15)

The Valley of Macon

The Valley of Macon will present our 2014 Americanism and Patriotism program on June 6, 2014 at 7:00 PM. This year we will honor our youth in the central Georgia area.

The DeMolay, Rainbow Girls, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and ROTC units will present many of the historical flags of the United States. The program is open to the general public. There will be light refreshments after the program.

We are also looking forward to our Fourth of July indoor picnic. Please join us for hot dogs hamburgers, and a make your own ice cream Sundae bar. This will be a covered dish and the Valley of Macon will provide the hot dogs, hamburgers, and ice cream.

(Scottish Rite News continued on page 23)

“Freemasonry is on the lips of many, but in the hearts of few. He who would teach it, must first practice it. Let his good example recommend it to others. So mote it be.” — from the newsletter of Webb Lodge No. 166.

Hahira Lodge No. 346 Officers for the Ensuing Year



Three brothers sit in the three top chairs in Hahira Lodge No. 346 in Lowndes County. They are (from left) Bro. Henry Ellis, Junior Warden; Worshipful Master Robert Ellis, now in his twentieth year as a Freemasonry, and Bro. Bobby Ellis, Senior Warden.



Officers of Hahira Lodge No. 346 for the ensuing year. Left to right, Bros. Lance Walker, Junior Steward; Henry Ellis, Junior Warden; Justin Fost, Secretary; Jaden Schultz, Senior Steward; Robert Ellis, Worshipful Master; Harry Flythe, Treasurer; Bobby Ellis, Senior Warden; Danny Rountree, Chaplain; Joe Brown, Senior Deacon; and Shiloh Back, Junior Steward.

The Valley of Columbus

Scottish Rite Freemasonry is alive and well in the River City. We have just completed repairs of our Temple. We replaced the roof, Fascia and soffit, refurbished all three bathrooms, repaired and repainted two hallways and, repainted the entranceways.

We will hold our Spring Reunion on the 17th of May 2014, this is a Memorial Class to Honor a Great Mason, Ill. Bro. James Edwin Miller, 33°. MWB Miller was appointed to the Grand Lodge Line as Third Grand Steward by Right Worshipful Brother Joseph P. Suttles. He served through the Grand Lodge Line and was installed in the office of Most Worshipful Grand Master on October 21, 1998. Most Wor. Bro. Miller was a lover of his country retired from active duty on September 1, 1973 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Beloved husband, father and a brother to all. First Lady Liz Miller will be with us and present a 1999 Grand Masters coin to our new members.

We invite our Blue Lodge brethren to visit us on any 3rd Friday at 6:30 pm and enjoy a free dinner (as a first-time visitor), before each our monthly meetings. We nearly always have an open program following our Lodge of Perfection meetings and invite guests and their ladies to attend this with us. Please visit our web site at scottishritecolsga.com for more information.

Freemason's Hall

Freemasons' Hall is the headquarters of the United Grand Lodge of England and the principal meeting place for Masonic Lodges in London. The first Grand Lodge building was built on this site in Great Queen Street in 1775; the current Freemason's Hall is the third building on the site.

Built between 1927–1932 as a memorial to the Freemasons who died in the First World War, it is one of the finest Art Deco buildings in England. In addition to the Grand Temple (seating 1,700) there are 21 Lodge Rooms, a Library and Museum, Board and Committee Rooms and administrative offices. The building is fully open to the public. Over 100,000 visitors take the free tour every year.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Israel

The Grand Lodge of the State of Israel was consecrated on October 20, 1953 at the Y.M.C.A. Hall in Jerusalem by the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The first Masonic Lodge in the Holy Land was the Royal Solomon Mother Lodge No. 293, under the Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario, whose first meeting was held in the King Solomon's Quarries of Jerusalem on May 7, 1873.


Currently, the Grand Lodge has about 1,200 members in 56 lodges, working in nine languages – Hebrew, Arabic, English, French, Romanian, Turkish, Russian, German and Spanish – and five different religions.

Three Palestinians Arabs were Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Israel between 1933 and 2013.


**Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite
Of Freemasonry**

Southern Jurisdiction of the United States
Valley of Macon Orient of Georgia
Scottish Rite

P O Box 4505 1985 Vineville Ave
Macon, Georgia 31201-1145
Tel# 478-745-4025



Ted Collins 33*
Personal Representative



Rick Smalley 33*
General Secretary

Brethren; April 15, 2014

On Friday June 6th 2014, The Scottish rite, Valley of Macon, will have its 13th annual historic flag program. This year we will be honoring the "Young People" of the Middle Georgia area. Namely Rainbow girls, DeMolay, ROTC Units and Girl and Boy Scouts. If you recall, in the past, we have honored a great many men and women in our community who serve us, including Medal of Honor recipient Rodney M. Davis, Fire Fighters Law Enforcement, Former POWs, Pearle Harbor Survivors, The 48th Division on their return from Afghanistan, The Middle Georgia Concert Band and the 8th Regimental Band to list just a few.

To defray the expense of this program and to support the annual award of the Scottish Rite ROTC and Education and Americanism Medal, to deserving cadets in approximately 25 Universities and High Schools in our area, we will again rely on your support through the patron sponsorship method. It is extremely gratifying to honor young people with an award that can proudly be worn on their uniforms while in a University or High School environment.

Grand Master Visits Hamilton No. 58



The Grand Master and several of his officers visited Hamilton Lodge No. 58 in the 10th Masonic District on April 19 to help the lodge celebrate its 168th birthday and to present Bro. Billy Taylor his 50-year award.

Hamilton Lodge is a historic lodge founded in 1848 and now in its fourth lodge hall. When Union forces came through Sandersville in November 1864, a Methodist minister who was a Mason approached a Union office and asked him to not burn the lodge building. The officer agreed but the contents of the lodge hall, including the jewels and the Worshipful Master's apron were taken by Union soldiers. Lodge minutes record that the apron had been worn by the Worshipful Master in 1861.

A Yankee Mason bought the apron from a fellow soldier who had taken the apron for \$5. The Mason took the apron home with him to Ohio. It was passed down to the descen-

dents. Finally, in the 1930s, a descendant of the soldier who had purchased the apron for \$5 made contact with Hamilton Lodge and offered to personally return it to the lodge. The man had been offered \$40 for the apron from an antique dealer but refused the offer.

The gentleman personally presented the apron to the lodge and apologized that his ancestor had taken the apron. It now hangs in the lodge room in Hamilton Lodge as well as a faded newspaper article about history of the returned apron.

The lodge has had three Bibles during its 168 years; two are on display in the lodge and one is on the altar.

Grand Master Edgar M Land visited Middle Georgia Daylight Lodge No. 756 in Bonaire. After a hearty breakfast he spoke to a packed lodge of Masons, families and friends to explain his programs for the year.

In the photo to the right, Worshipful Master James Piper presents Most Worshipful Bro. land an honorary membership in MGD.L.



Sixth Annual York Rite Festival



Council; Edgar M. Land, Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Georgia; Clyde E. Griffin, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter; and C. Danny Wofford, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery.

In the photo on the right the class stands for their photo.

The Sixth Annual York Rite Festival on March 29 at the Grand Chapter Building in Macon was held in honor of the four Presiding Officers: (in photo above from the left): F. A. "Drew" Lane, Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand

Illustrious Companions,

I want to thank you all for your support of and dedication to Cryptic Masonry and our Grand Council this year. I could not have asked for a greater line of officers and appreciate each of you. All in all, I think we have had a wonderful year in the Council and in York Rite, with some great milestones (the new ritual publication, etc.) to look back on with pride, as well as draw benefit from for years to come.

Thank you again for all you do.

S&F,

F. A. "Drew" Lane
Most Illustrious Grand Master



Most Worshipful Brother C. Danny Wofford, Past Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, presents a portrait of W. Joe Clarke to the brethren of Unity Lodge No 36 in Jefferson on Tuesday April 1. Unity Lodge No 36 is the home of W. Joe Clarke York Rite College No 203.

My Masonic family,

Richard and I would like to thank each of our Masonic family for all the visits, cards, phone calls and most of all your prayers during Richard's hospital stay and his recovery. Each of you touched our hearts more than you will ever know. We are so grateful to have you as our friends. We didn't know how many, many friends we had until Richard's hospital stay. Your concern and prayers were felt then and now. God bless and keep you all.

Sharon Bailey

Editor: Wor. Bro. Richard Bailey is Master of the 11th Masonic District Convention and is chairman of the DDGMs of the 11th District.

**2014 Grand York Rite Session
May 4 - 7, 2014
Grand Chapter Building
811 Mulberry Street, Macon, Georgia**

Moultrie Lodge Hosts 111th Second Masonic District Convention

Moultrie Lodge No. 381 hosted the 111th Second Masonic District Convention on April 5. The lodge was opened by Wor. Bro. Bobby Owens and the officers of the Second District.

Most Worshipful Brother Edgar M. Land, Grand Master, presented himself for an official visitation. He introduced his officers present: Right Worshipful Bros. Douglas McDonald, Deputy Grand Master; Bobby B. Simmons, Grand Treasurer; Gary H. Leazer, Junior Grand Warden; and Wor. Bros. Eddie Gurley, Grand Chaplain; Jan Giddens, Second Grand Steward; and Don Combs, Third Grand Steward. Wor. Bro. Tim Ingram, Grand Marshal, arrived later as he had a prior Masonic commitment.

Other Masonic dignitaries were introduced, including District Deputies to the Grand Master: Wor. Bros. Sam Lee, Ronald Rowe and Mike Marshall. Wor. Bro. Richard Bailey, chm. of the DDGMs of the 11th District and Master of the 11th District, was also present.

Reports were given, including an excellent report on the Masonic Home by Wor. Bro. Joe Bolin, Masonic Home Trustee, and Wor. Bro. Max David on the MELD Committee; Wor. Bros. Irvin Horne, Gene Jernigan, and Wayne Smith reported an excellent year for GACHIP with 16 events held during the past year to identify 1,478 kids. Four lodges worked together in Albany to identify 260 children in a single event. Wor. Bro. Haward Webb reported on the Lodge of Research No. 8 of Thomasville and announced the next meetings will be May 31 and August 30.

The Time and Place Committee announced the 2015

Convention would be at Dougherty Lodge No. 591 in Albany on April 4 beginning at 9:00.

Most Worshipful Brother Edgar Land and Wor. Bro. Jan Giddens, Second District Liaison Officer, were presented certificates naming them honorary members of the Second Masonic District Convention.

The Brethren took a collection to purchase a \$100 paver for the Children's Garden at the Masonic Home and an additional \$236 for the Masonic Home budget.

Grand Master Land installed the Convention officers for the ensuing year. Wor. Bro. Ronald Rowe was elected Master.

After the Grand Master addressed the Convention about his emphases for the year, the Brethren retired to the VFW Hall for lunch.

The editor thanks Wor. Bro. Mike Marshall, Secretary, for allowing me to use his minutes from the Convention.



Wor. Brother Joe Bolin was named District Mason of the Year



Photos: (Upper left): Wor. Bro. Don Olin, Dougherty Lodge was recognized as oldest Mason present at age 93. (Lower left): Wor. Bro. Andrew Jernigan, Dougherty Lodge and Albany Lodge was recognized as the youngest Mason present at age 28. (Below): Incoming Master, Ronald Rowe, presents outgoing Master Bobby Owens a certificate of appreciation.



M. Steven Fishman Receives Green Beret/Special Forces Association Award



The static line awards banquet held on April 5th at the Atlanta Airport Marriot awarded M. Steven Fishman with the Special Forces Association "Trooper of the Year" Award for his lifetime commitment to the Special Forces Association and his dedication to the "Green Berets." Steven has been a Decade Member of the SFA for over 25 years.

Wor. Bro. Fishman is Past Master of Webb Lodge No. 166 and State Director of the Grand Lodge Blood Drive.

New Perpetual Member at Fulton No. 216



Junior Warden of Fulton Lodge No. 216 and Chairman of the Fifth District DDGMs, Worshipful Brother Frank J. Vexler (left) accepts his pin as the newest Perpetual Member of his lodge. In Fulton Lodge, Past Masters' dues are paid by the lodge, so Wor. Bro. Vexler's Perpetual Membership does not save Wor. Bro. Frank from paying any future dues as he has none, but it will help his lodge as long as the lodge exists.

Also pictured are Most Worshipful Brother Edgar Land who was making an official visitation at Fulton Lodge and Wor. Bro. Alvin Hazan, Worshipful Master of the lodge.



Masonic Blood Drive News

The Grand Lodge of Georgia Blood Drive has really accelerated this last half year. As of this writing we have accumulated 2,167 units reported from our lodges throughout the State of Georgia.

This added to our totals of the last four years brings our totals for the length of our blood drive to 15,537 units of blood. If every unit of blood will save three lives, we can safely state at this time that we have potentially saved the life of every mason in the State of Georgia.

We have such an incredible opportunity with this blood drive to earn Master's Wages in fine fashion. We don't actually have to have our own blood drives to make this happen. Partner with the local Church or Civic group and volunteer your services to that blood drive. Community blood drives allow your lodge to gain exposure and this is where your local young men will gain their first impressions of what Masonry does for your community. Your local blood providers will make their blood-mobiles available for your smaller blood drives.

We would like each lodge to take a moment during your committee reports to find out how many units of blood were gathered or donated by the members or their families during the previous month.











All of these numbers need to be transmitted to the Ga. Masonic Blood Drive Chair each and every month for these units to be counted towards your year-end totals. Thank you for your participation in this most worthy project.

M. Steven Fishman, Chair



Staff and young ladies at the Masonic Home admire the flowers presented to them by Mabel Lodge No. 255 on Valetine's Day.

Blue Mountain Lodge

	Scottish Rite Valley of Macon	
	Will Present its' 13th Annual Historic Flag Program	
	Honoring the Youth of Middle Georgia	
	----- Scottish Rite 1985 Vineville Ave Macon GA	
	Friday June 6th at 7 PM FREE and OPEN to the Public For Information Call 478-745-4025	



Dealing with the stresses of overseas deployments as well as the recovery process for severe injuries, the Warrior Hike program identifies veterans, coordinates sponsors, organizes the group, educates them in the basics and starts the veterans on their way to "Walking off the War".

The program is in its third year in the use of an Appalachian Trail through hike from Georgia to Maine and brotherhood of fellow veterans augmented by the patriotic support of small town America in place of chemical therapy.

The veterans of Blue Mountain Lodge No. 38 and their families with the financial support of the Brotherhood and other organizations, put together a send-off dinner for the 14 soldiers who started this year's hike.

In Memorium

Members Reported Deceased
from February 7, 2013
to April 14, 2014

Name	Lodge No.	Name	Lodge No.
FARMER, THOMAS FREDERICK	1SOL	MCKOON, JOHN FLETCHER	060
HOEGSTED, LOUIS HENRY	1SOL	WILLIAMS, JOHN T.[IO] JR	060
VANN, PAUL DAVID	1SOL	WHISENANT, WINFRED EARNEST	064
KEY, FREDRICK GRIFFITH	003	DAVIS, LOUIE ALFRED JR	066
MERRITT, HOMER REESE	003	FOSS, RICHARD HERBERT III	066
ISBELL, ALVIN WILLARD	004	DAVENPORT, JAMES CLYDE	067
ROBERTS, RAYMOND GILES	004	WESTMORELAND, JOE MELVIN	070
SIRMANS, NEWT TILLMAN	005	OXLEY, GORDON RANDALL	075
TIDWELL, WALTER VINSON	007	FREEMAN, WILSON CLEVELAND	078
MILLS, ARCHIE TAYLOR	008	BUTLER, JAMES CLARK	079
BOHANNON, JAMES MITCHELL SR	009	BROWN, THOMAS EUGENE	084
CRAFTON, DONNIE CLAXTON JR	009	KIDD, GRADY STEVEN	086
MYERS, JEFFERY LEON	010	CROCKER, MANNING JOSEPH	092
HOOD, ROBY LEE	012	HARDEMAN, ROBERT RHODES	098
WITT, GEORGE CLARENCE JR	012	JONES, JOHN PAUL	098
STUART, ASA BANKS	018	MARTIN, OTIS NEWBORN	098
ROBERTS, CHARLES RAY	020	PERLING, MILTON [NMN]	098
AYCOCK, EMORY LAWRENCE	022	BARNES, WILLIAM OLEN	100
CARNATHAN, HENRY HUDSON	022	CARNEY, EMMETT (NMN)	100
CHRISTIAN, LEARD HUGHES SR	022	EVERETT, JAMES RALPH	100
CONDON, ROLAND SUMNER	022	GAINES, MILTON DAVIS	100
STEPHENSON, CHARLES NEVIN	022	MATTHEWS, DAVID JAMES	103
TODD, JOE OLIVER	024	TURNER, LIONEL JOE	106
BECKHAM, CALVIN DELANO	025	WILLIS, WILLIAM AMOS	108
BROWN, DOUGLAS WAYNE	025	CLARK, HOWARD AUSTIN	110
HIGGINBOTHAM, JOHN ERIC	025	BRATCHER, DAVID LEE	111
PLEASANTS, EDSEL	025	HUGHES, PAUL LONG	111
BELL, HENRY OTIS	027	JONES, GUY HOUSTON	111
BOYETT, MELVIN LOUIS	032	SEGARS, BILLIE TAYLOR	111
STEPANOVICZ, ALBERT (NMN)	033	HARTLEY, EDWARD WALLIE	112
WALSTON, ALTON BLAKE	035	CLONTS, HOKE SMITH	113
DAVIS, ROY DAN	038	MEEKS, THOMAS EMORY	124
MCCALED, JAMES DANIEL	038	AYERS, MCHENRY [NMN]	126
MOORE, SAM AVERY	040	CLAYTON, HAROLD EUGENE	126
CASH, CHARLES CLIFTON	042	GILBERT, JULIAN LETT	127
COOPER, FRED DANIEL	042	WOOD, JAMES JEFFERSON	127
BARTLETT, DONALD LEE	044	LOWRY, JOSEPH EUGENE	131
GRAVITT, EDWIN NUCKOLLS	044	ALFORD, JOHN WILLIAM JR	137
FREYERMUTH, BRUCE ELBERT SR.	046	PARIS, JOSEPH CLINTON JR	139
HAYMAN, GIDEON WILLIAMSON	047	WEBB, JAMES GARNETT	165
HENDERSON, CLYDE JACKSON	047	DUVALL, ARCHIE JOSEPH	167
WIGGINS, ALBERT (NMN)	047	CROWE, WILEY EDSEL	171
HAWK, HOUSTON HARRISON	048	ROSS, TIMOTHY ALLEN	171
KIRKLEY, EARL GRAHAM	048	DOBSON, LEE ROY	174
JOHNSON, HAROLD PRESTON	052	MCCOLLUM, HERMAN RAY JR	176
JOHNSON, JIMMY RAY	053	ENTREKIN, WILLIAM CECIL	180
STEVENSON, FRANK RAY	053	COOK, DENZIL JACK	185
BERNSTEIN, BERYL BENJAMIN	054	BRAZIEL, ERNEST (NMN) JR	190
BAKER, JAMES CLINARD	059	DAVIS, S. EUGENE	192

Name	Lodge No.	Name	Lodge No.
LIGHTSEY, CHARLIE (NMN)	192	BARNES, PAT [NMN]	302
MCGHIN, HERMAN DALE	192	MCCALLISTER, THOMAS LEE	303
ROBINSON, ALBERT KELLY	192	ALLEN, CAROL JAMES	305
CASTLEBERRY, GERALD WILTON	194	SWEAT, WILLIAM LAFAYETTE	305
MILLER, OTIS ZACK	194	STONECYPHER, HENRY LUTHER	309
WILLIAMS, GREGORY JACOB	194	HANCOCK, BILLY JAMES	310
BOWDEN, CECIL HUGH	195	HEDDEN, ROBERT CARL	314
NELSON, TERRY DEAN	195	DENMARK, HENRY MARTIN	315
SEARS, RICHARD KENNETH	195	PASSAILAIGUE, EDWARD PERRY JR	316
STEPHENS, BOBBIE HUGH	206	ROWE, JOHNNY RALPH	321
HARTMAN, SCOTT ERNEST	212	GLORE, FRANKLIN JOHNNY	325
HEATH, AUBREY FEARING	213	RICHARDSON, LEROY EDWARD	334
MEYERS, JOHN CLYDE	213	KENNEDY, JESSE ROBERT	335
WEBB, RAIFORD CHARLIE	213	SMITH, JIMMY RAY	340
ALLEN, CAROLL JAMES	214	HOLLOWAY, BRODEN CORINTH	348
BEAUCHEF, WILLIAM DELPOZO	214	BURT, HAROLD OSCAR	350
DOWDY, HARLSE DAVID	214	STRICKLAND, MARSHALL BRUGLER	356
HUGHES, HENRY HOWARD	214	PERRY, JAMES LOUIS	368
DAVIS, JOHN LEONARD JR	220	TOMLINSON, LARRY JOE	381
WENTWORTH, DAVID PETER	220	CANNON, JOHN CARTER	382
MOORE, THOMAS GARY	222	HUNT, PHILIP [NMN]	382
HICKMAN, WILLIAM RALEIGH	228	KIMBRELL, JERE LEE	382
VINING, KENNETH ARTHUR	230	HARRELL, CHARLES GRIFFIN	393
MILLS, MELVIN LAVERNE	234	WILLIAMS, SAMUEL LAMAR	393
PAFFORD, LEE ROY	234	HAGER, EDWARD TAYLOR	399
MORRIS, ROBERT ELLIS	235	KELLY, GEORGE RALPH	399
SAPPE, FELTON EDWIN	240	MORGAN, THOMAS EDWARD	399
CALLAHAN, WILLIAM HENRY	249	BRAGG, DAVE ALLEN	428
COPELAN, LOUIS BROWN	251	MOSLEY, GEORGE MANDRELL	428
BOONE, CLIFFORD GORDON	257	SEDELMAYER, PAUL WILLIAM	428
HOBBS, HUGH HOWELL	257	THOMPSON, RONALD TERRY	428
WOOD, TRUETT EDWARD	259	JONES, JAMES EDWARD	429
ALSTON, CLINTON MICHAEL	262	SHEPPARD, TONY RANDALL JR	430
PRUIETT, WILLIAM CLARENCE	262	HILL, STEVEN ALTON	440
STEPP, CHARLES STEVEN	268	STRICKLAND, RAYMOND CECIL	443
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ENDOWMENT FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

February 6, 2014 Thru April 14, 2014

\$500 OR MORE

Harmony Lodge No. 405
Jeffrey Turner

\$1000 OR MORE

Alfred J. Clark
Elsie G. McKinney Estate

Grand Master visits Riverdale Lodge No. 709

Members of Riverdale Lodge No. 709 treated the Grand Master and his officers with their wives to a tremendous evening of awards and entertainment on Saturday evening, April 5, 2014. After a wonderful meal served to the the Grand Line, everyone settled in the lodge room where excellent entertainment was provided by Wor. Bro. Harold Clark's daughter, Tammy Adams. She sang a variety of songs which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

The widows of the lodge were honored. After the lodge presented each widow a rose, the Grand Master presented each with one of his coins. Later each lady in attendance was presented with one of the First Lady's pins.

Wor. Bro. Tommy Lee was pleasantly surprised when they presented him with the "Mason of the Year" Award. This was one of those rare times when Wor. Bro. Tommy was "speechless!"

Grand Line members Wor. Bro. Tim Ingram with his wife Shelia, Wor. Bro. Jan Giddens and Wor. Bro. Eddie Gurley accompanied the Grand Master to Riverdale.



The Grand Lodge of Georgia, Free and Accepted Masons
Masonic Messenger
811 Mulberry Street
Macon, Georgia 31201-6779

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FORM FOR CHANGING ADDRESS FOR MESSENGER

Name in full _____ Lodge Name and Number _____

If you have moved, **PLEASE RETURN YOUR ADDRESS LABEL ABOVE TO THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA** along with your new address.

New Address: _____
(Street or P. O. Box) (City) (Zip Code)



Martinez Masonic Lodge No. 710

Clarence H. Cohen Daylight Lodge No. 749
and

Martinez OES Chapter No. 464 also meet at Martinez Lodge.