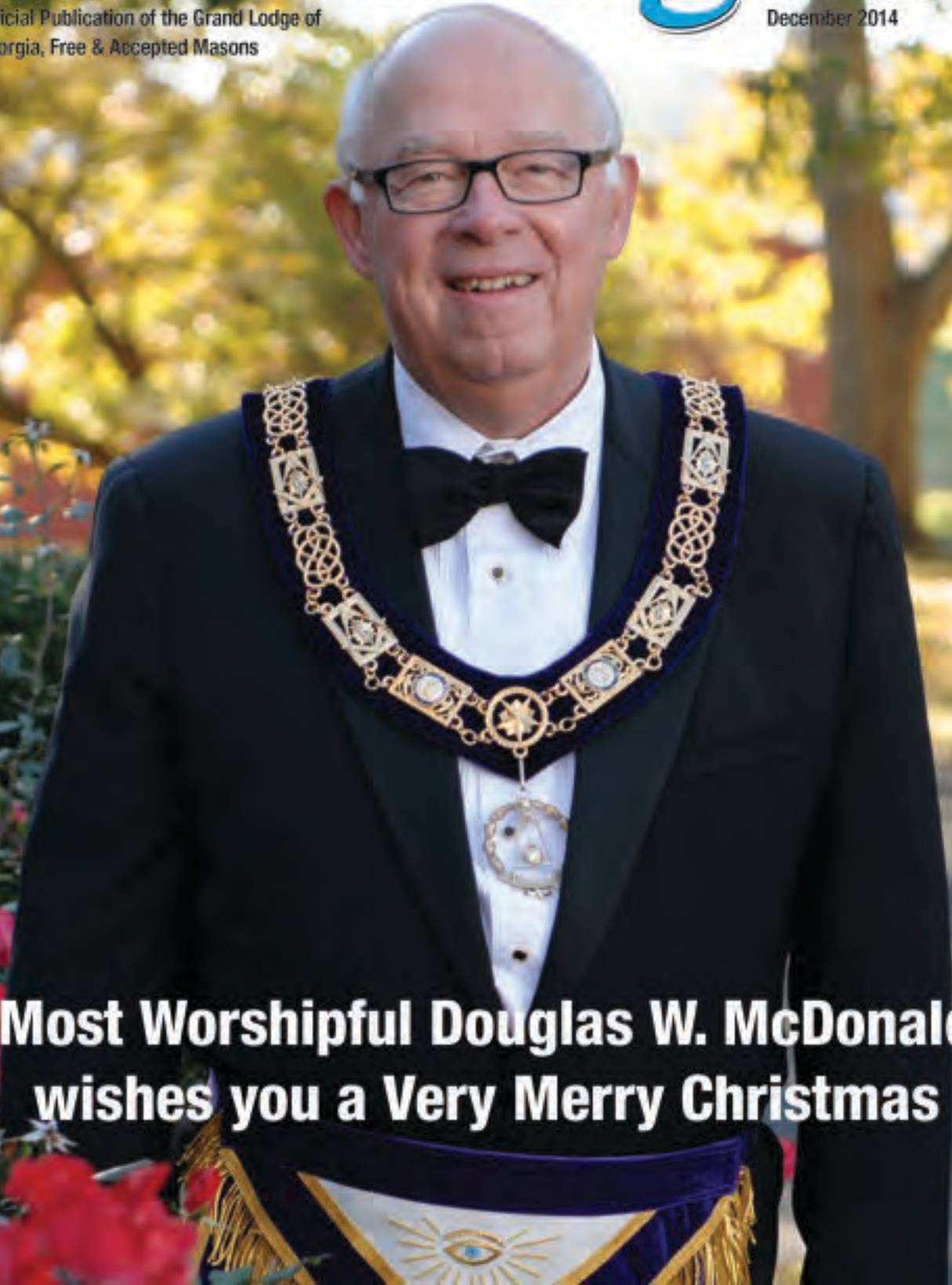


Masonic Messenger



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

December 2014

A portrait of a man, Most Worshipful Douglas W. McDonald, wearing a dark blue tuxedo jacket, a white dress shirt, a black bow tie, and a gold Masonic collar with a large medallion. He is smiling and wearing glasses. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a path.

**Most Worshipful Douglas W. McDonald
wishes you a Very Merry Christmas**

MASONIC MESSENGER

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— Grand Master Douglas W. McDonald

Brethren,

Thank you for electing me to serve you as Grand Master. Other than becoming a Master Mason, it is the greatest single honor of my Masonic career. I want to thank my wife and family for all the years of understanding and support which have aided me in my journey to this place. I am also appreciative for the trust placed in me by B. Palmer Mills, Jr., PGM, for appointing me to the line. Oh how I wish Lady Pat could have been present for the Installation, but God called her to her reward in advance.

Congratulations are in order for the unselfish time, talent and treasury so graciously given by Edgar M. Land, PGM and his lovely First Lady Barbara, in service to Georgia Freemasonry this year.

I requested my Brothers at my mother Lodge, Mt. Airy Lodge No. 141, F & A.M., to bring to Grand Lodge Installation, the same altar, kneeling bench, Holy Bible, square and compass I knelt at in 1967 as I took my three degrees. At Installation, I wore my original leather lambskin apron along with the Grand Master's apron, as I knelt to take upon myself the most solemn and binding obligation as Grand Master. I did this with full reverence to my mother Lodge, which was chartered 125 years ago this year.

A Past Grand Master recently told me that while there is only one who wears the name tag Grand Master, you must never forget that Grand Lodge is not a one-man operation. Grand Lodge cannot exist and flourish without Brotherly love and participation. My theme and motto this year is... Do justly, love mercy and walk humbly before God, Micah 6:8. I know from whence I come; where I have been; why I am here; and where I am going in order to cross the finish line.

Beautification

We are all a band of Brothers. I encourage each lodge to "adopt" a neighboring lodge to aid with much needed repairs, clean-up, fix-up, paint-up, landscaping and other structural and beautification projects. If we do not clean up our own house, no one else will.

Put a smile on our face. If our faces and buildings don't have a smile, nobody wants what we have.

Patriotism

Brethren, we have forgotten our God-given blessings of life, health, happiness, food, shelter and raiment. I want us to renew our thoughtfulness and gratitude to our Heavenly Father and our forefathers who have gone before us.

2014 is the 200th anniversary of *The Star Spangled Banner*. Please rekindle a joyful heart by singing *God Bless America*, *The Star Spangled Banner* and other songs at your lodge meetings. I will do all I can to restore Patriotism in our Lodges.

There will be special programs in memory of President and Past Grand Master George Washington, as well as Gilbert du Motier de Lafayette, Marquis de Lafayette. Brethren, let us not forget we are at war. We carry on day to day, seemingly in our own little world. We have been admonished by Prophets of old, that we should not forget what God has done for us. We need to remember that our Trust should be in God and not in our weaponry alone.

Education

There is a key rule to buying real estate: location, location, location. There is a key rule to retention and expansion of our membership: education, education, education; training, training, training.

In June, 2015, there will be a 2nd Annual Masonic Education event conducted by Wiley Q. Forrester, (292), State Director of MELD. A 1st Annual Seminar for our District Deputies to the Grand Master will be conducted.

Our Grand Master's Forums are designed this year to educate our Brethren. Those forums will begin January 3, 2015 and go through February 7. The dates, times and places are on the Grand Lodge website. Please plan to attend. You will go away refreshed and renewed.

If you have not read "LEAVES FROM GEORGIA FREEMASONRY" published by the Grand Lodge Educational and Historical Commission

(1946 6th reprint 1999) plan to do so. No matter how knowledgeable we are, we can be wiser still.

Grand Lodge Website, IT Committee and Social Media

A budget allocation was approved at our October Grand Session, to assist our newly appointed IT Committee to be chaired by WB Tom D. Bruce (42). This committee will start the process to bring our Grand Lodge Office into the electronic age. It annually costs Grand Lodge approximately \$8,000.00 in postage to mail the *Masonic Messenger* to our members. Just think how much we will be able to save by delivering the Messenger to those who choose to receive it electronically. WB Benjamin W. Polston, (6), has been appointed to chair the Grand Lodge Webside Committee.

WB Polston is very capable and he has already changed for the better, the face and content of our website. Brethren, a very dangerous problem has crept into our Fraternity. Let me encourage you to be very careful what you place in Social Media. Once placed there, it becomes a world-wide item for discussion. It cannot be recalled. The General Welfare Committee has been requested to study, make recommendations and prepare guidelines to direct us in the future.

Masonic Children

Without doubt, our almost 110 year-old Masonic Home is the Crown Jewel of Freemasonry. The Children's Garden project dedicated by Edgar M. Land, P.G.M. in 2014 will be a project uppermost in our minds this year. We will strive to gain Guinness Book of World Records designation for the world's largest square and compass. Please remember to buy a brick for a deceased lodge Brother or a lodge Brother's family member, as well as others. The sky is the limit with several million dollars in sales achievable to be used toward much needed housing improvements at our Masonic Home. Don't forget Matthew 10:42 which states: "And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward." "Mercy to the needy is a loan to God and God pays back those loans in full." — Proverbs 19:17.

Our GaCHIP Program, under the guidance of WB Harold Culpepper (16) and his committee, are now positional to be more successful than ever before. We are approaching 96,000 identified. The Blood Drive Program will continue under the very capable leadership of WB Steve Fishman (166) to reach heights never envisioned, with so many human lives saved.

Let's help save more lives. The 19,550 units donated since inception of the Blood Drive Program is projected to have saved 58,650 lives.

Masonic Membership

We must be careful not to dwell on membership decreases to the extent that we compromise Freemasonry. Practically all organized groups are experiencing decrease in numbers. While we do not solicit members, there is no prohibition to reviving our members suspended for non-payment of dues. Are we more worried about money and prosperity with numbers than doing what is right? If money and members are our defining goals, we make a bad mistake. Freemasonry is alive and well and is more relevant today than perhaps at any time in history.

Let's keep it that way. Isn't it wonderful that we can attend a Blue Lodge meeting with Brothers anywhere in the world that we see a Masonic square and compass.

Masonic Trials

By your fruits you shall be known. On average, there are fewer than 75 new masonic trials in Georgia each year. As Dr. Rupert W. Bramblett, PGM, Deceased, once said on Grand Lodge Session floor, "We aren't having enough masonic trials."

One of Freemasonry's most laudable purposes is to guard our fraternity from men entering our fraternity for un-masonic purposes, that is to say either looking for a free meal, to further their business, or just looking for something they think is secret.

There are numerous pending trials which we pledge to see to a speedy conclusion so as to restore peace and harmony to the affected lodges. We must suspend or expel those who believe just a little bit wrong is okay. We must strive not to become a part of the problem, but instead become a part of the solution. We cannot expect good men to knock at our door when we pretend to be something we are not. Brethren, we will bring disgrace on the entire fraternity if we do not hold ourselves to a high accountability.

Conclusion

Remember who we are. Walk and act as such. We cannot be like the world around us. We are a chosen and select few who, though improving ourselves as better men, change the world around us for the better. We will never learn Masonry until we live it. There are those who would seek to change Freemasonry's roots and its precepts. However, God's blessings on Freemasonry's long existence, proves Freemasonry does not change with the wind like a ship without a rudder.

Please don't hesitate to share with me your opinions and attitudes about the current and future direction of Freemasonry as we travel down the road together in days to come. It is only through communication and the exchange of ideas that we can prevent the problems which arise from lack of communication.

Brethren, please remember and honor Masonic Code 23-126. Please don't plan and request your Grand Lodge Officers to attend meetings on Sunday. I desire to be a good Grand Master. I will work hard at it, but I can't do that without your help. I will never take your trust for granted.

As I travel from west to east; east to west and back again across the state, I look forward to being with you. Let us never give up meeting together, but let us encourage one another, Hebrews 10:24-25.

Please pray for all the Grand Lodge Officers who so unselfishly contribute their lives toward the betterment of Freemasonry.

May God keep me steadfast, in the due and true performance of my service to you.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

God bless.

With Brotherly Love,

Douglas W. McDonald, Grand Master

December 2014 / 3



Incoming Grand Lodge Officers



Front row (seated from left): MWB B. Palmer Mills, Grand Orator; RWB Joseph Watson, Grand Secretary; RWB Larry D. Nichols, Junior Grand Warden; RWB F. A. "Drew" Lane, Deputy Grand Master; MWB Douglas W. McDonald, Grand Master; RWB Gary H. Leazer, Senior Grand Warden; MWB Bobby B. Simmons, Grand Treasurer; and WB Thomas E. "Eddie" Gurley, Grand Chaplain.

Back row (standing from left): David C. Wall, Grand Tyler; WB Donald Combs, Second Grand Steward; WB Johnie M. Garmon, Junior Grand Deacon; WB Mark A. Bradley, Grand Marshal; Mrs. Carol McDonald, First Lady; WB Michael Wilson, First Grand Steward; WB Jan Giddens, Second Grand Steward; and WB Mike Kessler, Third Grand Steward.



National Soujourners color guard presents the colors to open the 228th Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.



Wor. Bro. Eddie Gurley (left), Grand Chaplain, and Wor. Bro. Tim Ingram, Grand Marshal, were presented Distinguished Service Medals for their work for Grand Lodge this past year.



Grand Master Land presents Wor. Bro. Mark Bradley a plaque naming him the recipient of the Dr. Rupert H. Bramblett, PGM, Award.



Grand Tyler F. Keith Hales is presented a plaque recognizing his work this year.



Mrs. Barbara Land pins the Past Grand Master's Pin on her husband as PGM E. Ray Knittel looks on.



Ladies of the Grand Lodge



Front row (seated from left): Mrs. Nancy Simmons; Mrs. Ruth Leazer; Mrs. Carol McDonald; Mrs. Jane Wilson; and Mrs. Linda Watson.

(Standing from left): Mrs. Jody Wall; Mrs. Margo Giddens; Mrs. Eva Garmon; and Mrs. Susan Combs.

Several ladies were not present.



Grand Master-elect Douglas McDonald taking his obligation as Grand Master on the altar, Bible and square and compasses he used when raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Master.

Grand Master McDonald speaks to the Brethren after his installation.



Past Grand Master Clyde E. Griffin (1996) presents Grand Master Douglas W. McDonald to the Brethren.



Grand Master Douglas McDonald with Worshipful Master Phillip V. Burkhalter during his Official Visit at Cherokee Lodge No. 66 on November 4.

December 2014 / 5

Notes from Grand Lodge Annual Communication

Twenty-two guests from eight Grand Lodges were presented to the East.

District Lodges of the Year were announced:

1st Dist.	Hinesville No. 271
2nd Dist.	Dougherty No. 591
3rd Dist.	Marion No. 14
4th Dist.	Midland No. 144
5th Dist.	Tucker No. 42
6th Dist.	Hampton No. 70
7th Dist.	Rockmart No. 97
8th Dist.	Nancy Hart No. 595
9th Dist.	Hudson No. 294
10th Dist.	A. J. Miller No. 204
11th Dist.	Waycross No. 305
12th Dist.	Cochran No. 199

Waycross Lodge No. 305 was named Lodge of the Year and took the Grand Master's Cup home.

Wor. Bro. Robert L. Sharp received the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award.

Elections and Appointments of Incoming Grand Lodge Officers took place on Tuesday afternoon.

The highlight of the Grand Lodge session for many people is the cookout on Tuesday evening.



Code Bills

- 01-2014: Saluting the Flag - Passed
- 02-2014: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag - Passed
- 03-2014, 04-2014, 05-2014: Not in Proper Legal Form
- 06-2014: In conflict with 23-110
- 07-2014, 07A-2014, 13-2014: Not in Proper Legal Form
- 08-2014, 18-2014: Criminal Background Check - Failed
- 09-2014: Emblems Worn by Female Relatives - Passed
- 11-2014: Balloting upon a Petition - Failed
- 12-2014: Physical Qualifications - Passed
- 14-2014, 15-2014, 17-2014: Not in Proper Legal Form
- 16-2014: In conflict with 49-101
- 19-2014: State Chairman of the District Deputies - Passed
- 20-2014: Duties of State Chairman of DDGM - Passed
- 21-2014: Reports Submitted by DDGMs - Passed
- 22-2014: Lodge of Sorrow - Passed
- 23-2014: Rescheduling Lodge for Safety Issues - Passed
- 24-2014, 25-2014, 26-2014, 27-2014, 28-2014, 29-2014, 30-2014: Related to Charges - Withdrawn by Sponsor

6 / December 2014

10th District Trailer



The officers and members of the 10th Masonic District have purchased and equipped an enclosed trailer as a mobile kitchen that can be used each year at the Georgia Grand Lodge Tuesday night cookout in Macon. It will also be available for use by the lodges in the 10th District for lodge outings where it can provide most anything needed to cook for their groups. The trailer can also be used in case of disasters where it can be used by lodges or groups working together.



At this time we have the following items in the trailer and ready for use: a three-burner stainless steel propane grill (with two propane tanks), a turkey cooker with a basket to be used for fish or stews, three tables, a large lateral file cabinet to hold supplies, two ice chests, coffee pot, three folding chairs, stainless aluminum trays and various cooking utensils.

This project was started by last year's Master of the 10th District, Wor. Bro. James Huggins and completed by this year's Master, Wor. Bro. Tom Bell. Procurement of items for the trailer and much of the work setting it up was done by Past Masters of the District, Wor. Bros. Roy H. Stampley, Jr. and Gerald J. Wuchte (pictured above).

For questions about the trailer or to make arrangements to use it, contact any officer of the 10th District or Wor. Bro. Wuchte at 706-793-3935 or email him at gwuchte@comcast.net.



Most Worshipful Bro. Douglas W. McDonald, Sr.

Grand Master Douglas W. McDonald, Sr. was born November 18, 1945 in Habersham County where he continues to make his home. He is married to the former Carol Masters; they have four children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Bro. Doug is an active churchman and a member of Level Grove Baptist Church where he has been a Sunday school director, teacher, and deacon, as well as chairman of the board of deacons, and church secretary. He continues to teach a Sunday school class and serve on the finance committee of the church.

He is a member of Gideons International, the Habersham County Airport Commission since 2007 and the Sons of the American Revolution. He is a former member of Georgia Jaycees, Kiwanis, and the Chamber of Commerce.

Bro. Doug is an attorney by profession with McDonald & Cody, LLC, of Cornelia

Wor. Bro. McDonald was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Mt. Airy Lodge No. 141 in 1967 and is a perpetual member today. He is a former secretary of Mt. Airy Lodge. He served as Worshipful Master of his lodge in 1971.

He has been a York Rite Mason since 1968 in Chapter No. 24 in Toccoa. He is a Knight in the Philemon Commandery No. 33, KT, also in Toccoa. His other York Rite Orders include the Order of the Holy Sepulcher, Order of St. John the Evangelist, the Red Cross of Constantine in the Alexander Conclave since 2008 and Luther G. Palmer York Rite College. He has been a member of the E. L. McConnell Council No. 40, R&SM since 2008 and received the Super Excellent Masters Degree in the E. L. McConnell Council the same year. He is an Alexander Conclave cast member as Harbinger in Novice and Knight of St. John the Evangelist and was initiated in the Luther G. Palmer York Rite College No. 123 on August 30, 2012.

Bro. Doug is a 32 KCCH Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Atlanta; he received his red cap in 2007, and has been a member of Yaarab Temple in Atlanta since June 12, 1968. He is a member of the Mountaineer Shrine Club (Charter Member) and the Shrine Flying Fez, Unit Member, where as an Airplane Pilot since 1975 (Single Engine/Multi-Engine/IFR/Commercial Rated), he has flown many Shrine Missions for burned children to Texas and Ohio in his personal aircraft without charge for time, equipment or fuel. Bro. Doug was also the personal pilot for Most Worshipful Brother Tommy Irvin in his travels around the State during his year as Grand Master in 1993-1994, where they attended as many as three Masonic meetings from the Southern to the Northern ends of Georgia, in a single day.

Wor. Bro. McDonald was Vice Chairman, Ninth Masonic District Trial Commission (1989-2007), a Properties and Investment Committee Member, Grand Lodge of Georgia (1995-98), author of *Masonic Trial Statutory Guide* (February 12, 2000 – fifty-six pages, approved by Grand Lodge Educational and Historical Commission for Masonic use state-wide (a first in the 200+ year history of the Grand Lodge of Georgia), Parliamentarian at Grand Lodge in 2003, Worshipful Master Ninth Masonic District Convention F. & A.M. (2004-2005), and a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Taxes in 2005. He received the Outstanding Georgia Free Masons Designation in 2005 and is a Life Member, George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association.

Bro. McDonald is a GACHIP Charter Member of the Executive Committee and was appointed sub-committee chairman of the GACHIP Program Funding Acquisition Sub-Committee Chairman in September 2007.

He is a charter member of the Past Grand Tylers Association and served on the Grand Lodge Jurisprudence Committee in 2007 and served as advisor to the Grand Lodge Appeals and Grievance Committee in the same year.

Among his many other Masonic activities, he received the Allied Masonic Degrees in 2008, was Masonic Trial Seminar Chairman in January 2009, and a member of the Grand Master's Committee to Defend Gate City Litigation (2009). He was named a member of the Grand Lodge Youth Council in 2012, and chairman of the Grand Lodge Special Endowment Fund Committee, also in 2012. He has served as an Ex-Officio Member, Board of Trustees, Masonic Home of Georgia, since October 2013.

He is a honorary member of several lodges including Resaca Daylight Lodge No. 724, Dougherty Lodge No. 591 and the 7th Masonic District Convention.

Right Worshipful Bro. McDonald was appointed (February 18, 2014) chairman of the Planning Committee for Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc., which meets in Vancouver, B.C. Canada, in February 2015.

Bro. McDonald was appointed Grand Tyler in 1993 by Most Worshipful Bro. Tommy Irvin. In 2007, he was appointed Third Grand Steward to begin his pilgrimage to the Grand East as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

Wor. Bro. Michael A. Kessler Appointed Third Grand Steward

Right Worshipful Brother Larry W. Nichols appointed Michael A. Kessler, PM as Third Grand Steward at the 2014 Grand Lodge session. Wor. Bro. Mike was born in Atlanta on September 12, 1948. He graduated from Henry W. Grady High School in Atlanta, Vanderbilt University with a degree in mechanical engineering, and Woodrow Wilson College of Law with a juris doctor degree. Following law school he entered private practice and has been practicing law in the Atlanta area for 39 years focusing on domestic and commercial, and construction litigation. He is also an arbitrator and mediator. Wor. Bro. Mike currently resides in Brookhaven.

Bro. Mike was married to the late Sheryl Fussell Kessler for 29 years. He has 3 stepsons and 5 granddaughters. Sheryl's father, Tollie Fussell, is a member of Frank F. Baker Lodge No. 46 of Garden City and a 57 year Mason. Wor. Bro. Mike's father and an uncle were Masons.

Wor. Bro. Mike was initiated, passed, and raised in Fulton Lodge No. 216 in 1973 and served as Worshipful Master in 1981. He has chaired the Lodge Budget and Finance Committee for over 25 years, was a member of the 150th anniversary committee, blood drive chairman, and chaired the by-laws committee. He is currently serving as secretary of the Lodge for the second time. He shared the Fulton Lodge Brother of the Year Award in 2007.

Bro. Mike has been the Fulton Lodge director and trustee and has served on the Atlanta Masonic Temple Company board of directors since 1982 where he has served as chairman of the finance committee, vice-president, and has been president of the temple company since 2006. He is the Deputy Master of the Fifth District Masonic Convention and served as president of the Chamblee Past Masters Club in 2013.

From 2000 until 2008, Wor. Bro. Mike was counsel for the defense for the Fifth Masonic District. In 2008, he was appointed Chairman of the Fifth District Trial Commission and has presided over cases in other Masonic districts.

As a member of the Scottish Rite, Valley of Atlanta, Bro. Mike holds the rank and decoration of a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour. He served as chairman of the Valley of Atlanta membership committee and presently serves as chairman of the Valley executive committee. He is the Orient membership chairman for Georgia. He is a trustee and counsel for the Scottish Rite Foundation of Georgia, Inc. and an honorary member



the Appalachian Mountain Scottish Rite Association.

A member of Yaarab Temple for 40 years, WB Mike was commander of the Flying Fezzes in 1977. He has been a pilot since 1970 holding a commercial license with multi-engine and instrument ratings.

Wor. Bro. Mike serves on the Grand Lodge Jurisprudence Committee and is chairman of the Laws Committee. He has served as parliamentarian for four Grand Lodge sessions. In 2013 he received the first Rupert H. Bramblett, PGM Award from the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

Bro. Mike enjoys studying history, especially biographies, civil war and Masonic history. He has presented programs on the history of Masonic temples in Atlanta.

Wor. Bro. Mark Bradley Appointed Grand Marshal

Wor. Bro. Mark A. Bradley was born in Tampa, Florida on September 4, 1962. His family moved to Georgia when Mark was very young so he has always considered himself a Georgia native. He graduated from Forest Park High School in 1980. He has been married to the former Gay Bettevy of Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana since 1989. Mark and Gay recently welcomed their first granddaughter, Lily, born to their daughter Lacie and her husband Jeremy. Mark attends a Methodist church.

He began his apprenticeship in the tire industry while in high school and has owned and operated Trinity Tire & Auto in Jefferson, Ga. since 1998. He and his company maintain membership in numerous professional organizations and have been honored with several vocational based awards, including being named "Best Tire Store" in Jackson County every year since 2011.

Bro. Mark serves as a Director of several non-profit Boards in Jackson County, including the Boys & Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity, Family Connection, Young Life and Peace Place, a domestic violence ministry serving Barrow, Banks and Jackson counties. He is a Past President, Secretary and Treasurer of both the Jefferson Lions Club and the Jefferson Rotary Club. He served the Lions Clubs of Georgia as the State Chairman of Youth Services from 2010 until 2014. He is a member of the Jackson West Camp of the Gideons International as well as Woodman of the World Lodge 1344, where he was named "Fraternalist of the Year" in 2004. He organized an "Honor and Remembrance" Ceremony in Jefferson every September 11th from 2003 until 2013. Mark was named "Citizen of the Year" by Albert Gordon American Legion Post No 56 in 2008. He has twice been recognized as "Citizen of the Year" by the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce in 2007 and 2013.

Bro. Mark has enjoyed an active Masonic journey since being raised a Master Mason in 1999. He is a Past Master and perpetual member of Unity Lodge No 36 in Jefferson. He is a Past President of the Barrow/Jackson Masonic Association. He served as the 9th District Director for GACHIP from its beginning under Grand Master Ted Collins in 2007 until 2009 when he was asked to serve as a District Deputy to the Grand Master. Mark served as the 9th District Chairman, as well as the State Chairman, for the District Deputies to the Grand Master from 2011 until 2014 under Most Worshipful Brothers Jerry Moss, Ray Knittel and Edgar Land. He is a recipient of the Grand Lodge of Georgia "Distinguished Service Award" as well as the "Rupert H. Bramblett Past Grand Masters Award". He is currently in the Ninth District Masonic Convention Officer Line. Mark is a Past High Priest of Winder Chapter No 84, Royal Arch Masons, as well as the current Scribe for the 9th District Royal Arch Convention. He is the Vice-President of the Georgia Council of the Holy Order of Anointed High Priests and is also currently serving the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Georgia as the Excellent Grand Principle Sojourner. As a Past Illustrious Master of Winder Council No 77, Royal & Select Masters, he is currently serving as the Conductor of the Council in the Northeast Georgia Council Convention. He is a Past Commander of Arnold de Troye Commandery No 31 in Buford where he currently serves as Prelate. Mark served the Grand Commandery of Georgia, KT, as Grand Liaison Officer for the 6th Division from 2009-2012 and currently serves on the Ritual & Tactics Committee, the Inspection Reports Committee and is the Chairman of the Easter Sunrise Service Committee. He is a recipient of the Knight Commander of the Temple and the Knight Templar Cross of Honor by the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar USA. Mark is also a member of Fidelitas Chapter of the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests. Mark is a Life Member of the Valley of Atlanta Scottish Rite. He was invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander Court of Honor in 2011. He currently serves as the 1st Deacon in the Council of Kadosh and is active in several Degrees, serving as Degree Master in the 6th Degree and Assistant Degree Master in the 30th Degree. Mark has been an active participant of the Valley of Atlanta JROTC Award presentation team since



joining the Scottish Rite in 2003. He is also a Past President of the Athens-Piedmont Scottish Rite Association where he currently serves as Secretary/Treasurer. Mark has been a cast member of "The Traitor" since 2006. Mark is a member of Luther G. Palmer York Rite College No 123 in Atlanta where he currently serves as Prelate and is also a Charter Member of W. Joe Clarke York Rite College No 203 in Jefferson where he has served as Secretary since its beginning in 2009. He is a recipient of the Order of the Purple Cross from the York Rite Sovereign College of North America. He is currently serving as Senior Warden of Dave H. Keever Council No 365, Allied Masonic Degrees. Mark holds membership in numerous other Masonic bodies including the Royal Order of Scotland, Georgia Highlands Clan, Knight Masons, Order of Eastern Star, Knight York Cross of Honor, Red Cross of Constantine, Order of St. Thomas of Acon, Georgia College S.R.I.C.F and is a Charter Member of the George Washington Chapter, Order of DeMolay. Mark is also a Noble of the Ancient Order of the Mystic Shrine.



David C. Wall Appointed Grand Tyler

Wor. Bro. David C. Wall is a native of Habersham County with family roots in Habersham and Rabun Counties. He is a graduate of Habersham Central High School and an honor graduate of Gupton – Jones College. David is a licensed funeral director and embalmer. He is a former partner and vice president of Whitfield Funeral Homes. He served as Coroner of Habersham County for 12 years before becoming Clerk of Superior Court for Habersham County in 2005. He then completed the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government Certificate Program for Superior Court Clerks. David has been a member of Clarkesville Baptist Church for over 30 years where he is an ordained Deacon and currently serves as a Trustee.

For over 20 years David has held membership in the Cornelia Kiwanis Club and served as President in 2001. David has been a member of Clarkesville Masonic Lodge No. 325 for 28 years and served as Master in 1993. He also served the Lodge as its Chaplain for 16 years immediately following being Master. He currently serves in the Ninth Masonic District Convention as Junior Steward. David has served as Vice Chairman for five years then Chairman for the last three years for the Ninth Masonic District Trial Commission. David is deeply committed to charitable service fraternities serving as a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason, York Rite Mason, a member of Toccoa Chapter Number 21 Royal Arch Mason, Philemon Commandery Number 33 Knights Templar, E.L. McConnell Council Number 40 Royal & Select Masons, and a member of the Yaarab Temple Shrine. David is also a member of the Joseph Habersham Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. David is a member of the Northeast Georgia Antique Auto Region where he has served three terms as President and currently serves on the Board of Directors. He is also a member of the Habersham County Chamber of Commerce.

Professional organizations include Past President of the Georgia Coroners Association and Past President of the Academy of Graduate Embalmers of Georgia, Inc. David was appointed twice to the Georgia Coroners Training



Council by then Governor Zell Miller and reaffirmed by Governor Sonny Perdue. He is a member of the Association of Superior Court Clerks and currently serves on the legislative and conference committees. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Habersham Electric Membership Corporation.

David's professional experience and community service have strengthened his skills in management, fiscal responsibility, and public relations and have provided him with a well rounded background to serve in any capacity.

David and his wife Jody York Wall are life long residents of Habersham County and reside in Clarkesville Georgia.

Other Grand Lodge Officers Appointed

Several other Grand Lodge officers have served the Grand Lodge in the past. They are:

Most Worshipful Bro. B. Palmer Mills, PGM, who is serving in the ensuing year as Grand Orator.

Wor. Bro. Thomas E. "Eddie" Gurley, who is serving as Grand Chaplain, for the second year in a row.

Wor. Bro. Ross M. Laver is serving in a new position having been named Grand Photographer by Grand Master Douglas W. McDonald.

Grand Master's Forums Scheduled

The Grand Master's Forums have been scheduled. They begin January 3rd in Savannah and continue January 16th in Tifton, January 17th in Columbus, January 24th in Augusta, January 31st in Kennesaw and February 7th in Macon.

The Grand Master and all of his officers encourage every Mason to make a concerted effort to attend the Forum nearest his home. The Grand Master will outline his plans on the trestleboard.

You won't want to miss the Forums.

English Mason visits Golden Fleece Lodge



Bro. David Lewin, PM from the Lodge of the Golden Fleece Lodge No. 2081, Leicester, England visited Golden Fleece Lodge No. 6 in Covington on September 23.

Worshipful Brother Lewin presented a beautiful plaque from the brethren of Lodge No. 2081. He also gave a presentation of the differences in our meetings, signs of recognition and history. He also stated that there was only 3 Lodges in World named Golden Fleece.

Floyd County Masonic Convention Held



The 87th Communication of Floyd County Masonic Convention was held at Oostanaula Lodge No. 113 on November 1. Officers elected for the ensuing year are:

Back row: Wor. Bros. Anthony Fricks, Senior Deacon, No. 120; Ronald Morris, Sr., Senior Steward, No. 455; and Wayne Lovvorn, Treas./Sec. No. 455

2nd row: Wor. Bros. Aaron Nickles, Deputy Master, No. 100, Lynn Woodall, District Master, No. 167, Danny Morrison, Senior Warden, No. 66, and George Sisson, Junior Warden, No. 751.

Front Row: Wor. Bros. Ronald A. Davis, Chaplain, No. 167, and James R. Gray, Tyler, No. 167.

MELD Certificates Presented



MELD Certificates for Masonic Etiquette were presented at Frank F. Baker Lodge No. 46 by MELD Director for District 1-D Brother Joe Oliver

Pictured from left are Wor. Bro. Ron Boatright, DDGM; and Bros. Jamie Corcelius; Matthew Butler; Anthony Brennen, Wor. Master; Paul Craig; Eaton D. David Jr.; and Donald C. Combs, 2nd Grand Steward.

Not present to receive their certificates were Bros. Joseph T. Carter; William F. Duggan; Walter W. Dumas; Anthony Brian Hughes; Justin Hughes; and Bobby L. Winn.

Congratulations to each of these Brothers.



MELD Certificates for Masonic Etiquette and Rules of Order were presented at Clinton Lodge No. 54 by District 1-D MELD Director Joe Oliver.

Pictured from the left are Bros. Christopher Ashley Thompson; Richard Benjamin Neville, SW; Mark Daniels, JW; James Robert Heynes, SD; Patrick D. Welch, PM; Barry T. Mock, PM; Wayne Conner, PM; Kenneth R. Kramer, PM; and Michael K. Nichols, PM.

Congratulations to each of these Brothers.



Cornelia and Yonah Lodges Hold Car Show for Veterans



On October 11, Cornelia Lodge No. 92, F&AM and Yonah Lodge No. 382, F&AM, hosted a car show at the Walmart store parking lot in Cleveland. The car show was to raise donations for the Wounded Warrior Project. Due to poor weather at the beginning of the event participation was kept to a low total of 26 cars, trucks and motorcycles. By noon, the weather had improved and we had sunny weather for the remainder of the event.

The Colors were presented by North Georgia College and the veterans present were honored.

W.M. Randall Jewart of Cornelia Lodge # 92, F&AM helped present trophies. P. M. Gary Dorman of Yonah Lodge #382, F&AM also helped present trophies.

Spectator admission was free with all donations accepted.



Cadets from North Georgia College present the Colors



(Above) P. M. Gary Dorman of Yonah Lodge No. 382 helped present trophies.

(Left) W.M. Randall Jewart of Cornelia Lodge No. 92 helped present trophies.



Grand Master McDonald Makes Official Visit at MGDL No. 756; Officers Installed

We were very pleased to have the Most Worshipful Brother Douglas McDonald, Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, and members of the Grand Line as our guests at MGDL No. 756. Most Worshipful Brother McDonald presented James Piper, PM, his past master's apron. Junior Grand Warden Larry Nichols led in the Public Grand Honors, First Grand Steward Jan Giddens was the Installing Marshal, Third Grand Steward Mike Kessler was the Installing Master and Grand Photographer Ross Laver was the Installing Chaplain. (Traditionally, the Third Grand Steward is invited to install the lodge officers in December after his appointment in October.)

The new Lodge officers are: Bro. Jeff Adams, Worshipful Master; Bro. Pat Starnes, Senior Warden; Bro. Dave Holley, Junior Warden; Wor. Bro. Alan Shaw, Treasurer; Most Worshipful Bro. Bobby Simmons, Secretary; Wor. Bro. B.J. Vest, Chaplin; Wor. Bro. John Lindsey, Senior Deacon; Wor. Bro. Doc Bowman, Junior Deacon; Bros. Kevin Gomes, Senior Steward; Guy Crowe, Junior Steward; Buddy McDowell, Tyler; Wor. Bro. Doc Bowman, Home Ambassador; and Wor. Bro. Bob Parker, Director of Work.

MGDL No. 756 meets the first Monday of each month



Bro. Jeff Adams takes his obligation as incoming Worshipful Master on the Holy Altar



Most Worshipful Grand Master Douglas W. McDonald presented outgoing Worshipful Master James Piper his Past Master's apron.



**State Wide
BLUE LODGE APPRECIATION EVENT
February 28th, 2015 -- Macon Scottish Rite Auditorium – 10 am**

**Questions & More Questions
--- Possible Answers ---**

If any of the following questions interest you then you want to be part of the discussion with Illustrious Robert Davis, 33° GC who has written books on these and other Masonic Subjects.

What is Initiation? What is its purpose? What is required for Initiation to work? What does it mean when we say we are "Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft"? Where does this passing take place? Why?

What is the Meaning of the Myth of Hiram? Who is the tragic hero in the Third Degree? Why are the Ruffians so important to our drama?

It is often claimed the MM Degree is the highest Degree in Masonry. What is the basis of this claim? How is this statement true? How is it not true?

Is Freemasonry a secret society? What should we know about teachings that imply Freemasonry is a secret society?

What is the hidden quest of a Freemason? Why should we want to be on this quest? What makes the Masonic quest the most important quest ever conceived for men?



Executive Secretary,
Guthrie Scottish
Rite Foundation

**Degree Conferral
as done in
New Orleans**

They do things a little different in New Orleans. The degrees are a tad bit spicier. With permission of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, Free and Accepted Masons and the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, Free and Accepted Masons, Germania Lodge No. 46 will present the Entered Apprentice Degree. Known as a "RED" Lodge, the lodge works in the Scottish Rite Symbolic ritual and is one of "only ten lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana which work in this historic ritual." Among the several noticeable differences in the Scottish Rite Symbolic ritual are: no Stewards are used in the ritual, the Junior Warden attends at the altar; the Junior Deacon is called the Inner Guard and the Senior Deacon is called the Master Expert. The Master Expert does the same work as a Senior Deacon in a Georgia lodge, except at the altar. During the Louisiana Entered Apprentice degree, five very loud noise makers were used, as well as spray bottles of water and five-foot high flames of fire. You will experience EARTH, WIND & FIRE

Who Says There Aint No Free Lunch?

Lunch will be provided to all who attend. There will be no charge for anything.

Limited Space

Be Sure to Make a Reservation

Contact the Nearest Scottish Rite Valley Office
Albany.....229-432-6939 Atlanta.....404-873-3659 Augusta.....706-733-5387
Columbus.....706-322-3091 Macon.....478-745-4025 Savannah.....912-232-5132

This is a Tyled event. You must be a Master Mason in Good Standing and a member of a Lodge Recognized by the Grand Lodge of Georgia. Credentials (current dues card) will be checked.

Presented by the Valleys of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Orient of Georgia
Leonard Buffington, Sovereign Grand Inspector Gen

December 2014 / 13



THE LIFE AND TIMES OF MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE: STATESMAN, GENERAL . . . and FREEMASON?

History's brush strokes, from the broad and the bold to the small and the intricate, combine to paint an evolving mural of humanity. From this mural history is viewed on a spectrum, and the evolution of such things as countries, institutions, individuals, and events can be seen to coalesce from mere points on a time line to the grand drama of the planet. The closer we look, the more the details reveal themselves, and their place in the drama becomes clearer.

In the eighteenth century, Western history was dominated by the growth of the Age of Enlightenment, as well as the continued development of the Scientific Revolution. Philosopher-Scientists such as Galileo, Kepler, Newton, Bacon, and Locke had laid the groundwork for a new world view which was influenced by major scientific discoveries as well as social theories that called for individualism, education, and the burgeoning concepts of personal liberty and equality.

Into this milieu was born, in Southern France, Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roche Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de LaFayette, in 1757. As evidenced by his name, his family was aristocratic, not wealthy but well connected in French politics. His father and grandfather were prominent military figures. His father was killed in battle during the Seven Years' War, while LaFayette was still quite young. His mother and grandparents raised him as an "impoverished noble" but saw to it that he got an excellent liberal and military education in France. During this young, formative period, he came to pity the plight of the poor peasants who worked his family's land. In his thirteenth year, both his mother and grandfather died, and from the latter he inherited a huge fortune. The following year he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Army, and at age 16 married the daughter of another wealthy, aristocratic French family, who was two or three years his junior. She supported her husband unconditionally throughout their marriage. At the time, neither his early age of military service or marriage was considered unusual; not common, but not rare for members of the French aristocracy.

Early on in his life and during his formal education, the political and social thought that was to be his for the rest of his life was formed, and he was a zealous advocate of democracy, the rights of man and the abolition of slavery. Zealous may be understating the ferocity of his passionate devotion for the advancement of these beliefs, especially as they pertained to freedom. Shortly after his marriage, he was promoted to Colonel, and it was during this time that some scholars believe that he was initiated, in France, into the mysteries of Freemasonry.

However, the issue of where, when, and even if he was ever

made a Mason remains debatable. There is scant documentation to validate any of the various contradictory claims associated with the beginning of his Masonic career. Most of the evidence is in the form of "tradition" and oral history.

However, the 1825 minutes of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee note that in that year he was made an honorary member of that body, after which he delivered an historic address.

Earl B. Dellzell, in the "Grand Lodge Bulletin," Iowa, November, 1930, states "In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee of 1825, pages 133 and 135, the minutes of the Grand Lodge of Wednesday, May 4, 1825, state: 'Our illustrious brother General Lafayette was unanimously elected an honorary member of this Grand Lodge.'

And yet, continuing from the same source:

Contrast this with the statements made by Dr. George W. Chaytor, addressing Lafayette Lodge No. 14, A.F. & A.M., Wilmington, Delaware, January 18, 1875, on the fiftieth anniversary of its constitution. (Quoted from the Guthrie article in "The Builder," March, 1925):

"He was not a Mason when he landed in America, nor was he a Mason at the Battle of Brandywine. The Army under Washington, in December, 1777, retired to Valley Forge, where they wintered. Connected with the Army was a Lodge. It was at Valley Forge that he was made a Mason. — Short Talk Bulletin, Volume X11, No. 4, April 1934 Author Unknown.

Regardless of when and where, when, or if he became a Mason, the fact is that he was that after the American Revolution, he was warmly welcomed into many Grand and subordinate Lodges in many states.

Inspired by the Revolutionary events transpiring in America, LaFayette in 1777 purchased and outfitted his own ship and sailed for America against the orders of the King of France. He made port near Charleston, SC and then traveled to Philadelphia. The Second Continental Congress was less than impressed by his arrival there, even after his offer to serve in the Continental Army for no pay. He became discouraged and considered returning to France. However, Brother Benjamin Franklin, convinced of LaFayette's honorable intentions, military leadership abilities, and diplomatic capabilities, wrote to his friend and Brother, General George Washington, and the Marquis de LaFayette was commissioned a Major General and an aide-DE-camp to General Washington. The Battle of Brandywine (Pennsylvania) was LaFayette's initiation into the Revolutionary War. He was wounded there, but refused medical treatment until the ordered retreat was underway. Because of his bravery and leadership, General Washington recommended him for honors and divisional



command. He later said of LaFayette that he possessed “uncommon military talents”.

The admiration and esteem in which LaFayette held George Washington was immense. Some have attributed this to the early childhood loss of his father, with Washington seen serving as a surrogate father. Others point to the symbolic and real defense of Liberty for which Washington stood, and for which LaFayette devoted his life. A combination of these was more probably the cause. He looked on Washington as friend, advisor, role model, and hero. He named his first son George Washington LaFayette.

He saw action in many other Revolutionary battles. In 1779, he returned to France, was forgiven by the King for disobeying him, and successfully lobbied the Royal Court for money, supplies, and troops for the American rebels’ cause. Brother Franklin reported to General Washington on his friend’s efforts there. There is no doubt that he was instrumental in securing additional diplomatic, financial, and perhaps militarily significant aid from the French government in support of the Americans.

He returned to America in 1781 and was given increased command responsibility. He was instrumental in the American victory at The Battle of Yorktown (Virginia), the final major conflict of the Revolution, where General Cornwallis was defeated. Afterward, he returned to France and continued to serve his country, and was hailed as “The Hero of Two Worlds”.



Lt. Gen. LaFayette (1791)

In 1824, at the invitation of the U.S. Congress, he returned to the United States and for the next 14 months toured all 24 states, in each of which he was honored and regaled as a great friend of the Nation and of Liberty and Equality.

In March, 1825, LaFayette landed at the port of Savannah, and was welcomed there by an exuberant crowd. He assisted in laying cornerstones in Savannah for monuments honoring two other Revolutionary War heroes, Poland’s Count Pulaski, and General Nathaniel Greene. Georgia Governor Troup had arranged a tour through Georgia, and so he and his entourage visited Augusta, Macon, Warrenton, Sparta, Milledgeville, and other stops along the way.

In Sparta, he was met by a welcoming committee which threw a Ball at the “Eagle Tavern” in his honor. It was noted that the brethren of Stith Lodge No. 17 of Sparta paid particular care and attention to their Brother during his visit there.

The Master of Benevolent Lodge No. 3 in Milledgeville, Samuel Rockwell, was on the official Welcoming Committee which met General LaFayette upon his arrival in the Capital City. Later, General and Brother LaFayette attended a communication of Benevolent Lodge. According to tradition, a mahogany, red-velvet covered chair with Masonic emblems carved on its back was used at the communication, and is held by the Lodge today.

He met with Revolutionary War veterans on his journey through Georgia, and was particularly delighted to meet the veteran who helped rescue him from the field of battle at Brandywine, where he had been wounded.

His party pressed on westward from Macon, and travel was rugged. Thunderstorms, poor roads, and primitive accommodations marked the trek. (He dried his rain-soaked clothes in front of a fire and a group of Creek Indians at a tavern in Marion County, afterward spending the night in a log cabin.) Finally, on March 31 after an arduous tour of the State, he crossed into the newly formed (1819) state of Alabama. He completed his southern tour that spring, and hurried back to Massachusetts for a celebration and reunion at Bunker Hill, in June 1825.

There he performed the Ceremony of laying the cornerstone of the Bunker Hill Memorial on the site of a previous, smaller wooden obelisk that had been erected by King Solomon’s Lodge (Massachusetts) in 1794 honoring fallen Bunker Hill Revolutionary War hero Dr. Joseph Warren, a Mason. Daniel Webster delivered the Oration, and the Services were conducted by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Massachusetts.

After returning to France, and after the defeat of Charles X, he was offered the office of Dictator, which he refused. He was then named Commander of the National Guard.

He died in 1834 in France, and was buried under a ton of earth that he had shipped from Bunker Hill.

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Respectfully submitted,
Phil Pearce, Webmaster
Dallas Masonic Lodge No. 182
www.dallasmasoniclodge182.org

December 2014 / 15



**GRAND
CHAPTER**
MICHAEL H. WILSON
M. E. G. H. P.



**GRAND
COUNCIL**
CHARLES E. TAYLOR
M. I. G. M.



**GRAND
COMMANDERY**
TERRY L. HENSLEY
R. E. G. C.

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Covington York Rite Festival **Saturday, January 31st, 2015** **DEGREE WORK BEGINS AT 7:30AM**

Chapter, Council Degrees and Orders of Commandery Conferred
Candidates must have PROPER PAPERWORK!

PLACE: Golden Fleece Lodge No. 6
1104 Clark Street
Covington, GA 30014
Date: Saturday, January 31st, 2015
Time: 6:30 AM Registration
REGISTRATION FEE: \$10
LUNCH: DONATION
PATENTS: \$5 EACH, ALL THREE \$15
Degree Work to begin promptly at 7:30 AM

Contact: Ben Polston
(678) 571-2738
Email: bpolston@yorkriteofga.org



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.

- November 6 — LOP Meeting: Impersonator Dane Coffman, nationally known for his impersonation of General of the Armies John J. “Black Jack” Pershing.
- December 4 — LOP Meeting: Christmas Musical Program with the Brazel Family Singers.
- January 8, 2015 — LOP Meeting will be held the second Thursday this month due to the New Year Holiday. Our guest speaker will be Second Grand Steward, Don Combs.
- February 5, 2015 — LOP Meeting: Election of officers and Ring Ceremony for our 2014 Fall Class.

Scottish Rite Freemasonry is alive and well in the **Valley of Columbus** and in the beautiful River City. On the 21st of November 2014 we held our awards night which was enjoyed by all. It was an honor and privilege to receive PGM and Illustrious Leonard E. Buffington, 33°, S.G.I.G. of the Orient of Georgia, under an arch of steel. Awards presented at the ceremony were to acknowledge years of service to the Scottish Rite: PGM and Ill. A. Charles Knowles Jr. received his 60 year award from his longtime friend, PGM and Ill. Leonard E. Buffington, 33°. Bro. James D. Seymour, 32° KCCH, was present and received his 50-year certificate, pin and Blue Scottish Rite Cap.

Bros. James White 32°, Kenneth Fisher 32°, Franklin Horton 32°, Harold Oliver 32°, James Peters 32°, and James Davis will receive their 50-year certificate and pins.

We presented twenty-five year certificates and pins to Bro. Sidney Cooley Sr., 32° KCCH, Bro. Jerry Elliott 32°, Ill. Theo Mathis, 33°, Bro. Henry Wilson, 32° KCCH. The following will receive their Certificates and pins: Ill Bro. Craig Haggas 33°, Ill Bro. Michael Majcher 33°, Bro. Thomas Keller 32°, Bro. Jerry Johnson 32°, and a special presentation will be made to Ill. Bro. Charles K. Wilson 33°.

We presented four (4) Double Eagle Medallions and thirty-three (33) members received their advancement bars. Two members advance to their Red Ribbon.

The **Valley of Savannah** will close out the year 2014 with our annual Christmas Social on December 18 after three days of helping with the Salvation Army Christmas Kettle

Bell Ringing Project. On January 3, 2015 we will host the Grand Master's Workshop and Forum at our SRC. On February 3 we will hold the Ring Ceremony for the new members of the Fall 2014 Class. Our annual Spaghetti Fundraiser will take place on February 13. For complete details visit our website at www.savannahscottishrite.org.

The **Valley of Albany** will have their elections in December 2014 for the year of 2015. We had a special celebration on December 9 which was our regular meeting night. It was the York Rite Commandery Christmas Observance for 2014; a large crowd attended

We had our Veteran Appreciation Day on November 11 which was Veterans Day. We have over 100 people attend. It was a moving experience.

We meet second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM to eat and meeting follows. Bring your Lady and come. "If you are not a Scottish Rite Mason you need to be".

The **Valley of Macon** finished the year with 28 new 32° Scottish Rite Masons, from the Fall Joint Scottish Rite/Shrine Reunion, and a Christmas party that left everyone in attendance in the Christmas Spirit after being entertained by the “Singing Saints” From Forest Hills Methodist Church

We will start off the New Year with a new slate of officers, committees, and a Capping Ceremony on January 2. We will eat at 6:30 and the Capping at 7:30.

On February 6, 2015 the Valley of Macon will have its annual Blue Lodge Appreciation Night with the play “The Traitor”, there will be a free meal starting at 6:30 PM and the play will start at 7:30 PM All Master Masons are invited, and the Grand Master will be in attendance.

Please mark your calendars for a Great Evening in Macon.

Q: What is Perpetual Membership?

A: Perpetual Membership allows a Brother to voluntarily give to his Particular Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Georgia an amount of money equal to his annual dues times 21. He is no longer required to pay annual dues.

Q: Is this beneficial to my Lodge?

A: Yes. The income from the Perpetual Membership Fund is available for use by your Lodge and the Grand Lodge every year, even after your death. Contact the Grand Secretary for more information.

Grand Master Installs Officers at Solomons



Most Worshipful Douglas W. McDonald installed the Officers of Solomons Lodge No 1 at the 280th Annual Communication of this lodge on December 4. Solomons Lodge is the oldest continual service lodge in the Northern Hemisphere, having been chartered in 1734. Pictured in the photo from left to right are Wor. Bro. Mark Bradley, Grand Marshal, Wor. Bro. Eddie Gurley, Grand Chaplain, Most Worshipful Brother Douglas W. McDonald, Sr. and the Second Grand Steward, Wor. Bro. Donald C. Combs.

Golden Isles No. 707 Surrenders Charter, Sells Property

Chartered in November 1952, but faced with declining attendance in recent years and dependent on Brothers from other lodges to open, Golden Isles Lodge No. 707 on St. Simons Island voted to close and held a family night and its last meeting on November 13.

After a fine meal, Worshipful Master David Beard opened lodge. Seventeen members and 50 Brethren total were present. The building was sold the day after being listed for the price asked with 10 percent designated for Masonic charities, 10 percent to provide perpetual membership to members requesting it, and the remaining moneys going to Brunswick Lodge No. 717 which has been faithful in help-

ing Golden Isles Lodge. The buyer said the lodge building will be demolished to make room for condos.

Golden Isles Lodge won the Grand Master's Cup in 1988.

The Second Grand Steward, Wor. Bro. Donald Combs presented two 25-year awards, a 50-year award and two 60-year awards. Right Worshipful Brother Gary Leazer, Senior Grand Warden, closed the lodge for the last time.

Brothers immediately began removing items to be given to Brunswick Lodge and Flint Hill Lodge No. 371. Flint Hill was burned earlier this year by an arsonist. Two Flint Hill officers, Wor. Bro. Rose Laver and Worshipful Master Darin Ross Glover were present with a U-Haul truck to take home items given to Flint Hill Lodge to replace some of the items lost in the fire..



To the left: Three of the Brothers receiving awards on November 13 were Kenneth Jenkins (left), a member of Brunswick Lodge No. 717 and a lodge in New Hampshire, who received a 50-year award; and George Lewis Reed (center) and Austin Pearce, both members of Golden Isles Lodge. Both of these Brothers received 60-year awards.



Frank Major Smith
Latham No. 12/Oakland City 373



Ben Augustus Stewart
Strict Observance No. 18



Rodney Rector and Ann
Pythagorus No. 41



William Wayne Mitchell
Quitman No. 106



Carl McDaniel
Ocilla No. 134



Walter Long Stearman
Fergus No. 135



Olen Charles Akins and Carolyn
Mableton No. 171



Benjamin Luther Turner
Acworth No. 178



Jim Prichard, MWB Jim Underwood and Glenn Staton
Hickory Flat No. 205



Billy F. Hales
Pickens Star No. 220



Dillard Silvers
Pickens Star No. 220



Mrs. Hoyt Gazaway and W. B. Gazaway;
Bro. Albert Edward Defoor and his Lady

On October 18th Tilton Lodge No. 291 presented two members with their 50- year awards: Bro. Albert Edward Defoor and W.B. Hoyt Wayborn Gazaway.

Bro. Defoor was raised on November 4th, 1961 and has always supported Tilton Lodge. Bro Defoor runs his own business and is well known for building racing engines. Tilton Lodge was proud that he, his family and friends could attend the presentation.

W.B. Hoyt W. Gazaway was raised on October 17th, 1964. In his early years he was very active in the Lodge and was elected Master in 1966, and again in 1969. He helped build the Lodge building we now meet in as well as coaching many candidates down through the years. He is also our Senior Past master. Tilton Lodge was delighted to have W.B. Gazaway's family in attendance for the presentation.

The presentation was conducted by M.W.P.G.M. E. Ray Knittel.



Albert Arthur Southerland
Buford No. 292



Carl Curtis Pilcher
Adel No. 310/Berlin No. 465



Ernest "Pappy" Ward
Madison No. 376

Ernest "Pappy" Ward, age 100, was awarded his 50- year apron on September 27 with many of his family and friends present. He was born November 6, 1913 in Homer, GA, in Banks County. Pappy was raised to Master Mason on August 29, 1964. (Mr. Ward has passed away since receiving his apron.)



Charles Marlin Berry
Milan No. 393



Freddie Eugene Doris Sr.
Milan No. 393



Jimmy Jack Taylor
Milan No. 393



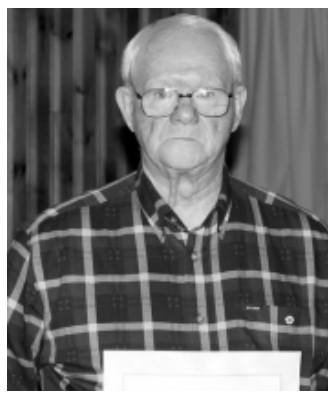
Raymond Eugene Taylor
Milan No. 393



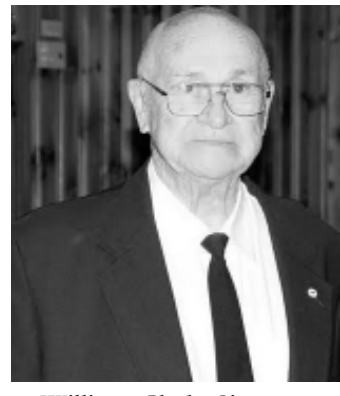
John Albert Bell
Wolihin No. 390



Franklin Eugene Crummie
Forest Park No. 399



Willie Floyd Henderson Sr.
Forest Park No. 399



William Clyde Simpson
Forest Park No. 399



Henry Bartow Aderhold
Rose Hill No. 484



Bernard Edward Bentfield
Rose Hill No. 484



Orville Perry Carlile
Rose Hill No. 484



Cecil Don Cotton
Rose Hill No. 484



James Benjamin McCoy
Rose Hill No. 484



Joseph Marcus Waller
Rose Hill No. 484



Francis Sibley Bryan, Jr
Chappell No. 511



Charles Julian Davison
Chappell No. 511



Charles Richard Preston
E. A. Minor No. 603



William Alfred Bynum, Sr.
Lizella No. 663



Felton Frankie Tucker
Lizella No. 663



Raymond Thwatt
Riverdale No. 709



Ralph Franklin Weatherford
Riverdale No. 709

60 Years



William Bryant Boyer
Laurens No. 75



James Henry Little
Hickory Flat No. 205



Joseph Franklin McKee, Jr.
Leroy Duncan No. 262



Guy Cecil Gober
Buford No. 292



A. Charles Knowles, PGM (1983)
Rose Hill No. 484
Above: Grand Lodge Officers at his
reception



A closeup of Past Grand Master
A. Charles Knowles and two beautiful
Ladies.



Harold L. Dempsey
Acworth No. 178



Tom Harold Whitten
Bremen No. 456



55 Years



Jerry LeBron Wheat
Sumach No. 55



Bobby Joe Phillips
Rockmart No. 97

We had the honor of presenting a 55-year-apron to Bobby Joe Phillips (who now has 56 years) on Thursday, September 28 at our regular communication. He has served as Master of the Lodge (1958), served as our director of work for many years, coached some 70 Masons as they travel through their journey into our Fraternity. I must say "HATS OFF TO B.J. A GREAT MAN, A GREAT MASON, and he strives to set a standard for all of us to follow through our Masonic journey.

60 Years

148 Years of Freemasonry

(To the right) Bro. J. Walter Tuten, Sr., PM., was presented his 60-year apron at Guyton Lodge No. 428 by his son Jack W. Tuten, Jr., PM., and his son-in-law Joseph R. Oliver, Jr., PM. All three Brothers have been Past Masters twice. Brother Walter is presently Senior Warden at Coastal Daylight Lodge No. 750. He will be 89 in January. Bro. Jack is a 45-year Mason and Brother Joe is a 43-year Mason.



70 Years



Aubrey Strickland
Ezel No. 335



British Mason Visits Golden Fleece No. 6



Wor. Bro. David Lewin, PM from the Lodge of the Golden Fleece Lodge No. 2081, Leicester, England visited Golden Fleece Lodge No. 6 in Covington on September 23.

Worshipful Brother Lewin presented a beautiful plaque from the brethren of Lodge No. 2081. He also gave a presentation of the differences in our meetings, signs of recognition and history. He also stated that there are only three lodges in world named Golden Fleece.

Cornelia Lodge No. 92 Honors Veterans



On November 10, Cornelia Masonic Lodge had the pleasure of honoring all the Veterans that were in attendance at our regular meeting. The Lodges represented were Clarkesville Lodge No. 325, Cornelia Lodge No. 92, Hollingsworth Lodge No. 355, and Stone Mountain Lodge No. 449. These brothers have served our country well and we are indebted to them for our freedom.

24 / December 2014

Steel Goat Riders Donate J-Dollars



Traveling Men, Chapter 19, Steel Goat Riders donated J-Dollars to Dykes McCullan. Mr McCullan recently lost his house in a fire. Making the presentation is Wor. Bro. Bennie Dixon.

Cornelia Lodge Honors W. B. Fred Reid



On November 8, members, family and friends of Cornelia Masonic Lodge gathered together to enjoy food and fellowship while celebrating the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas season. Many were in attendance and a great time was had by all. Also, Cornelia Lodge # 92, F&AM honored Brother Fred Reid, P.M. Brother Reid will be retiring as Secretary of Cornelia Lodge at the end of the year. Brother Reid has served as Secretary for about 11 years. While Brother Reid will no longer serve as secretary, he plans to remain active with the Lodge.

Pictured with Brother Reid is Worshipful Master Randall Jewart of Cornelia Lodge.





Georgia Specialty Tag We Need Your Help



Many brothers have already placed an order for one or more of the License Tags that will bear the Square & Compasses of which we are all so proud. The design of the tag was a gift from WB Brian Germann of Columbian Lodge No. 7. Brother Germann is a graphic designer who maintains his membership here despite the fact that he was transferred to Colorado.

The Georgia Department of Driver Services will not accept the application for our tag until we meet the minimum order requirement of One Thousand tags. There is some confusion about this process. To be clear, don't wait until your tag renewal date. Request your tag now by completing an application for each tag you want and mailing it along with \$25 for each to

**Specialty Tag
Grand Lodge of Georgia
811 Mulberry St.
Macon, Ga. 31201**

When we reach the minimum of One Thousand the Grand Secretary will complete the process with the state and you will be notified how to get your Specialty Tag.

Every year, when the tag is renewed, **Georgia Masonic Charities Foundation** will receive \$10. When the first One Thousand are ordered, **Georgia Masonic Charities Foundation** will benefit to the tune of TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS. There is little doubt that when brothers across the state start seeing the license tags many more will be requested. If Forty Thousand Masons in Georgia purchased only Three Thousand tags a year, the annual revenue would be Thirty Thousand Dollars.

The application with complete instructions can be downloaded at <http://goo.gl/m8Si14> which is Case Sensitive. Enter it exactly as you see it.



Encourage

Wor. Bro. Floyd Edmondson, Grand Orator for Most Worshipful Bro. Edgar Land, was unable to present this article at the October Grand Lodge Communication. Therefore, I have taken the liberty of printing it here.

Most Worshipful Grand Master; Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters; Grand Lodge officers and my Brethren all; my name is Floyd Edmondson and I am a Past Master of Oak Bowery Lodge No. 81 of Ellijay. I have been honored by our Grand Master, Edgar M. Land, also a past Master of Oak Bowery Lodge No. 81, by being appointed Grand Orator for this Grand Lodge year. Most Worshipful Grand Master, I thank you for this appointment and I thank all of the Brethren of our great state of Georgia for the warm welcome and hospitality they have extended to the Grand Master and to all of the Grand Lodge officers this year, wherever our travels have taken us. Brethren, I encourage you to welcome and support the incoming Grand Master, his officers and his program with the same enthusiasm or greater that you have supported Most Worshipful Brother Edgar, his officers and his program. To our Most Worshipful Grand Master and to all of the Grand Lodge officers, both elected and appointed, I say “Thank you” for welcoming me into your group. I have been humbled, honored and blessed to have had the privilege of serving with you this Masonic year. I have enjoyed our time together and I will cherish the memories as long as I live or as long as the Lord allows me to remember. I pray God will bless each of you and your family.

My Brethren, as this Grand Lodge year comes to a close—and what a great Grand Lodge year it has been under the leadership of our Grand Master, Edgar M. Land! —, I want to leave you with a little food for thought. We are often reminded that Masonry is religious, but it is not a religion. It is composed of members of a vast number of religions. I am a member of the Christian religion and I am of the Baptist faith, although I admit, a poor and weak example of one. I use the King James Bible as the Rule and Guide for my faith and practice. Please bear with me if your religion and/or Bible is/are different from mine as I make reference to them in my remarks.

In my Bible, we learn that in the beginning, God created the Heaven and the Earth and the Earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters and God said “Let there be Light” and there was Light. God created everything that is in Heaven and on Earth. On the sixth day He created man, male and female, and gave man dominion over the fish of the sea, the fowl of the air, the cattle and over all the Earth and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the Earth; and on the seventh day He rested. God’s Earth provided an abundance of everything man needed for food without any help from man. As the

years have progressed, the Earth now needs some help from man-kind if it is going to produce abundantly. The Earth has lost some of its original fertility. For example, if you plant corn in poor soil, the plants may come up and grow to a diminutive height and produce little or no corn to be harvested. However, if you properly cultivate and nourish the poor soil, it will oftentimes produce abundantly.

I have found the members of the Masonic Fraternity who are Brothers to be some of the finest people you will ever want to meet. We know that the membership in our great fraternity has been steadily declining since about 1970, while the general population has been steadily increasing. The decline has now reached a level so low as to cause a hardship on some of our lodges and their members. We have fewer members paying ever-increasing costs. Until the early 1970’s Freemasonry was flourishing in Georgia with over 90,000 members. Has Masonry somehow lost something that enabled our forefathers to flourish? Could it be we are not properly cultivating and nourishing our membership?

There were three degrees in Operative Masonry as there are in Speculative Masonry. Well-skilled Operative Masons erected some of the world’s finest examples of architecture, many of which are standing magnificently today. The Operative Entered Apprentice Masons served an apprenticeship for several years as bearers of burdens. No doubt, under the watchful eyes of the Overseers, they learned the most reliable and efficient ways of bearing those burdens. After having served their apprenticeship as bearers of burdens, those so desiring to advance in Masonry became Fellow-craft Masons. They then had the opportunity to learn the skills necessary to perform their work in such a manner as would meet the approval of the Master Masons. After several years of training, where they learned all of the aspects pertaining to stone masonry, those Fellow-craft Masons who desired and were qualified, became Master Masons. The Master Masons were the most knowledgeable and skilled of the Craftsmen. They had to be because their future depended upon their ability to build the very best structures of their time.

In today’s world of Speculative Masons, the Entered Apprentice Mason will be coached to learn or memorize the catechism for the Entered Apprentice degree on which he will stand examination in open lodge. He will then receive the Fellow-craft degree; after which he will again be coached to learn or memorize the catechism for the Fellow-craft degree on which he will stand examination in open lodge. Finally, he will receive the Master’s degree. Suddenly, he disappears, never bothering to learn or memorize the Master’s catechism. And of course, there are those who disappeared after receiving the Entered Apprentice and Fellow-craft degrees. Of those who stand examination on the Master’s catechism, only a small percentage continue attending lodge



meetings and some of those, too, drop by the wayside. Those who disappear never produce any fruit for the benefit of the lodge. Of those Master Masons who continue their attendance in their Blue Lodge, we soon ask to join the Scottish Rite, York Rite or Shrine, receiving again basically the same results achieved in the Blue Lodge; although a catechism is not required in those degrees. In some cases, three or four months or more have elapsed from the time they received the Entered Apprentice degree until they receive their Master's degree. I know we live in a world of instant self-gratification. Everyone wants everything and they want it now. In this short period of time, have we really given the new Brother a good look at Freemasonry? Does he know anything about our Masonic Children's Home—the Heart of Georgia Masonry? In addition to learning his catechism, has he been taking the teachings and lessons to which he has been exposed and applying them to his life? Has he been told anything about the Georgia CHIP Program or the Masonic Blood Drive or the charities of the various appendant bodies?

Also, is it possible, in our thirst for new members, that we are allowing poor seeds or weakly plants (those people of little or no morals) to join our fraternity? We are told that Masonry takes good men and makes them better through its teachings and principles. In the Northeast corner of an Entered Apprentice Mason's lodge, we were told that we had begun the erection of a Spiritual Temple in our heart. Some of us had already done so. Since then, have we labored in the quarries and demonstrated our zeal for the erection of a Temple to Jehovah; or have we been busy in the erection of a temple to our self-edification? For those who never come back after their brief introduction to Freemasonry, were they not impressed with our degree work? Was our conduct in their presence that which would be expected of a Mason? Were they looking for something Freemasonry does not offer? Did we do our part to make them feel welcome in our midst? Are we giving our members the food they need to grow and remain healthy and strong as Masons? Are we doing those things to which our obligations allude? Are we living the life of a Mason in our everyday lives? Do we rest on the Sabbath Day and keep it Holy? Are we following the first of fifteen points, or laws for the government of the Craft, said to have been made at the meeting in York, in the year 926, which is that every Mason shall cultivate brotherly love, and the love of God, and frequent Holy Church?

What I am saying is that Masonry, that wonderful fraternity which we love so much and which does so much to help man-kind, has some serious problems that need fixing. I want to encourage you to find ways to make our lodges financially sound without being a burden on its members; I encourage you to find out all of the reasons you can for our decline in membership and work to address those problems; I encourage you to find ways to increase attendance at and

interest in our meetings; and I encourage you to visit our Masonic Children's Home while you are here and to plan a group visit from your lodge, including Church and family members.

It is going to take a lot of hard work with everyone working together in peace and harmony to revitalize our great fraternity. Can't is a contraction that combines the words can and not—cannot or can't for short. Did you know “can't” can't do anything? It never has and it never will. We have no time for idle chatter. We need to act now while our fraternity is still strong enough to get back up on its feet. No one is going to come to us and tell us how to solve our problems or how to strengthen our fraternity. We are going to have to rebuild our fraternity ourselves.

The future has many paths for us to choose. One of those paths leads to a life-long journey of striving to improve our lives and the lives of those around us. It is filled with opportunities, successes and failures, joys and disappointments; but ultimately leads to the satisfaction of knowing you have done your part to make the world a better place in which to live. In order to make an effort to rejuvenate our great fraternity and preserve for future generations those things we enjoy as Masons and those things our forefathers enjoyed as Masons, are you willing to make such a journey?

I am glad to hear you speak thus, for Masonry regards with high esteem those men who are willing to stand and work for that which is good. My Brother, if you are wearing the cloak of inaction, apathy, and doubt and are using the crutch of can't, I ask you to lay them aside; and I encourage all Master Masons who will undertake this journey to go forth filled with the Spirit of Friendship and Brotherly Love, buoyed up and encouraged by the knowledge that of your own free will and accord you have decided to act for the Good of the Order without the hope of a pecuniary fee or reward; shod with the iron-clad shoes of Ambition and Determination; wearing a white robe as a symbol of your virtue, integrity and the purity of your intentions; with this burning taper, the Great Light of Freemasonry, in your left hand and the working tools of a Speculative Master Mason in your right hand. And may the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; your God and my God, go with you; shield, guide and protect you on this, your very important journey, on which the future of Freemasonry rests. As long as your feet follow the path illuminated by the Great Light in your left hand, your voice extolls and your right hand performs those things which are acceptable in the sight of God; so may the Lord lift up the Light of His countenance upon you, give you peace and ever keep you from falling. Thank you and may God bless.

Respectfully submitted,
Floyd Edmondson,
Grand Orator, 2013-2014

December 2014 / 27



Masonic Home Christmas Article

Brethren,

It is hard to believe that Christmas is already upon us. I want to thank all of the brothers, their wives and other guests for coming to Masonic Home Appreciation Day on December 6th. We certainly had a wonderful time. Thank you also for taking this time to remember our children during the holiday season. I hope each guest was able to go on a tour with one of the children and hear them tell you about their home.

The Christmas appeal letter has had a great response. The generosity you show for our children and this home is overwhelming and greatly appreciated.

The children have been able to make a number of trips since we met at Grand Lodge. Among them were a Ghost Tour of Savannah, the annual Stone Mountain trip and a weekend at Cloudland Canyon State Park. Many lodges have made these trips and other activities possible. The lodges assisting with these recent trips include Ogeechee No. 213, Tybee Island No. 762, Philadelphia No. 73, many lodges in the Dekalb County Masonic Association and Trenton No. 179.

I hope to see everyone at one of the Grand Master's forums. They begin January 3rd in Savannah and continue January 16th in Tifton, January 17th in Columbus, January



24th in Augusta, January 31st in Kennesaw and February 7th in Macon. This will be an opportunity for me to answer any financial or daily operation questions concerning the home.

I sincerely hope that each of you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Fraternally,

John Snipes, PM, MGDG No. 756
Superintendent

Generous Offer for Fundraising Opportunities

Brethren, God's holy grace and good fortune has smiled upon our Masonic Brother William "Whitey" White throughout the years. In Brother Whitey's efforts to "pay it forward", he would like to offer his services to your Lodge or Masonic body where selling patches, coins, and other memorabilia would assist in a fundraiser or special recognition of Brothers. Previously, Brother Whitey, a retired military officer, in his spare time, created an online business making/selling patches, coins and other memorabilia for different military units and squadrons. Brother Whitey ultimately sold the company he formed to conduct his previous online business. However, Brother Whitey retained the contacts and relationships that he had worked diligently to establish. Brother Whitey now is willing, as a "hobby" to offer his "services" to Lodges and Masonic bodies AT HIS COST, and not for profit, thereby contributing his time and efforts to Freemasonry without charge. Brother White, a Perpetual Member is also Junior Warden of Allegheny No. 114, F. & A.M., Blairsville.

Brother Whitey, currently works full time supporting our Armed Forces and is not offering his services to the Craft for additional income. His pure enjoyment of "creating something" and his sheer love for Masonry is his desire to

28 / December 2014



be of assistance. Brother Whitey will donate to Georgia Masonic Charities Foundation, Inc., any proceeds voluntarily paid Brother Whitey, over and above his cost. Brother Whitey will designate those donations to be paid to the Masonic Home of Georgia Endowment Fund.

Brother White is to be congratulated for his generous offer of time and efforts. All that is necessary is an idea and Brother Whitey can work it for you, from there. His contact information is phone: 478-997-1011, address: 101 Falcon Drive, Blairsville, Georgia 30512, email: whiteyinga@av8rstuff.com.



Veterans Corner

Rick Conn, Grand Lodge Veterans Committee, State Chairman

Brothers, this is the month that is special at the VA Medical Centers nationwide. This month there is tree decorating, present wrapping and then gift distribution to the patients in the VA and also the ones in the Nursing Home. In Atlanta, the Gwinnett County Masonic Association puts up a tree at the Decatur VAMC. The CAP composite Squadron 112 Cadets under the leadership of Col Deb Schmid, have done a terrific job the last 4 years in decorating the tree. They have taken First place the last 4 years in the tree decorating contest. Maybe a Masonic body in the other two VA's in the state could start a similar program. Col Schmid and the CAP Cadets also does the Wreaths Across America program at the VA Cemeteries laying wreaths on the graves of Veterans. I would urge each of you to contact her and donate a wreath, or two, to place on a grave. They have several donation levels from \$15 up. Deb would really appreciate it, and you are always welcome to attend the laying ceremony where the Grand Master usually lays the first wreath. Hot coffee and Hot chocolate and donuts are also provided which are always good on a cold morning.

This is the time of year when a lot of older veterans in the VA get really lonesome for family. Some of them do not have families and the VAVS (Veterans Administration Volunteer Services) Christmas program puts volunteers in the hospital visiting these patients and giving them some special Christmas Cheer. These volunteers come from several Veterans Service organizations such as the American Legion, VFW, Purple Heart Veterans, 40/8, Order of the Cootie, Marine Corps League among others. They are always looking for volunteers to help the Veterans all year long but especially around the Holidays when the patients really appreciate them and the services they perform.

The week of Valentines Day is National Salute to Veterans Week and the entire month of May is Military Appreciation Month. They are other occasions that Volunteers are needed to help with the veterans and make them feel special at special times during the year.

Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year is the time of the year when so many 'Special' days are so close together and veterans long for family and friends for support. There are some in the VA that have no families and this time of year is especially lonely for them. The VAVS volunteers offer their services to help make their time less lonely and make them feel as special as they really are.

Brothers if you have any free time that you might want to volunteer for Americas Heroes, contact your Local VAVS office located in the VAMC's and see what you can do to help. One hour a day, one hour a week, one hour a month, what ever you have will be greatly appreciated by the veterans and will make a lasting impact on them that will last for years. You can truly MAKE A DIFERENCE in a veterans life. One Veteran at a time. Tell them you want to volunteer your time to the MSA program. (Masonic Service Association). We like to keep track of how many volunteer hours the Masonic Fraternity puts in.

Check in with your VAVS and ask about the Volunteer program and how you might be able to help. It could change your life also in ways that you can only imagine. Remember the words of the late Brother Danny Thomas when he said... "Masons Care and we will always be there".

I want to wish all a very Merry Christmas and the best of New Years. Remember the Reason for the Season and may God Bless each and every one of you.

Rick Conn.

Masonic Home Appreciation Day



On December 6, dozens of lodges, individuals and a church donated \$14,915.06 on the Masonic Home Appreciation Day. Here is a photo of Wor. Bro. Joe Bush, Worshipful Master of Snellville Lodge No. 99, presenting a donation to Most Worshipful Bro. Douglas W. McDonald.

In Memorium

Members Reported Deceased
from October 3, 2014
to December 8, 2014

Lodge No.	Name	Lodge No.	Name		
168	ABERNATHY	JAMES HOLLIS	728	EDWARDS	JAMES RANDALL
068	ADAMS	DAVID HARRY	184	ELLIS	GLYNN THOMAS
042	ADAMS	ROY FRED	219	EVANS	CHARLES THOMAS
196	ADKINS	ROBERT CHARLES	104	EVANS	HUGH EDWARD
443	ALLEN	BERLIN MALLOY	309	FINDLEY	FELIX ELBERT
154	ANTHONY	DAVID WAYNE	073	FOLSOM	GENNIS HILTON
008	BAELL, JR	HENRY CLINTON	144	FOWLER	HARRY EDWARD
092	BAKER	TROY CORNELIUS	217	FRANCIS	RANDOLPH CLINTON
110	BARKER	ROBERT EUGENE	216	FREEDMAN	ROBERT IRVING
693	BARNER	JAMES KILPATRICK	523	GABLE	GEORGE CAMP
006	BARNES	DANNY RAY	399	GARDNER	LESTER EUGENE
054	BARNES, JR	SIDNEY BURKETT	270	GARDNER	SAMUEL WILLIAM
168	BARTON, IV	ROBERT DUDLEY	699	GAY	JOHN WALTER
030	BATTEN	DONALD WAYNE	622	GIVENS	JAMES ALVIN
023	BEARD	THOMAS DANIEL	709	GOLDEN	CLYDE GARLAND
399	BENNETT	ROBERT LEE, JR.	083	GORDON	AARON [NMN]
722	BLAND	GERALD (NMN)	295	GOWER	RICHARD NIAL
452	BRADDOCK	CECIL GREY	295	GOWING	CHARLES JAMES
399	BRASWELL	JAMES TAYLOR	509	GREEN	JOHNNY HERBERT
708	BRECKENRIDGE	LLOYD LEROY	197	GRIFFIN	JOHN THOMAS
042	BRITT	GEORGE OLIVER	069	GRIFFITH	HAROLD ALAN
748	BROWER	ROBERT WREN	112	GRINER	RAIFORD WILLIAM
279	BROWN	ELLIS WILSON	523	GULLELT	EDDY EARL
597	BROWN	JOHNNIE ROYCE	397	HALES	ROBERT TONY
037	BROWN	LESLIE E. (IO)	704	HAMMOND	JOE JONES
171	BRYANT	JAMES EDWIN	708	HANCOCK, JR	LAWRENCE CHARLES.
664	BURGER	EDWARD LEE	755	HARRIS	ORBIE (NMN)
087	CARDIN	CHARLES RAYMOND	074	HARRIS	ORBIE [NMN]
255	CHAMBLEE	JAMES ELBERT	492	HAWKINS	THOMAS MICHAEL
292	CHEELEY	WILLIAM EDWARD	216	HAZAN	JACK ISAAC
265	CHUGG	WILLIAM (NMN)	734	HERRING, SR	LARRY WELDON
111	CLARK	RAYMOND EARL	027	HEWETT	CLARENCE HENRY
603	COGGIN	BURREL THOMAS	1SOL	HIERS	WARREN WINTHROPE
289	COKER	ROYCE FREDRIC	035	HILL	FRANK TYRONE
405	COLLINS	CLINTON	603	HIOTT	JEFF H. (IO), JR
158	COLQUITT	REUBEN DAVID	008	HOLT	WAYNE CHARLES
015	CONNELLY	WILLIAM GEORGE	032	HOLTON	GEORGE SHERROD
167	COOK	RALPH ELLIS	603	HUGHES	FARISH ALVIN
289	COSBY	JAMES ALBERT	652	HUGHES	FRED RONNIE
1SOL	CRAVER, JR	JESSE CAMPBELL	121	HULSEY	WILLIAM ROBERT
289	CRONE	CHARLES CLARENCE	1SOL	HUNTER	ROBERT EARL
212	CROW	JAMES EDWIN	197	JACOBS	LUCIOUS (NMN)
042	CRUCE	RANDALL KENNETH	536	JOHNS	FRED IRVEN
386	DAVIS	ROBERT GLENNWOOD	066	JOHNSTON	JOSEPH EDWARD
1SOC	DENNISON	FLOYD WILLIAM	603	JOHNSTON	RALPH LEWIS
262	DEUTSCH	DAVID	603	JONES	DAVID CHRISTIE
295	DILL, JR.	GORDON EARLE	664	KELLY	RALPH CHAMLEE
184	DORMINEY	HERSHEL LAMAR	677	KIGHT	CHARLES BAXLEY
163	DOUGLAS	JAMES BRYANT	709	KNAUF	JOHN THOMAS
742	DUNN	HAROLD WELBORN	391	KYSER	WILLIAM HANES
012	DYE	PAUL (NMN)	715	KYTLE	JAMES EDWARD
479	EARICK	MARCUS KENYON	038	LAWSON	GARY SAMUEL
711	EASTIN	GRIFFIN HOLT, III	196	LECKIE	OSCAR HERMAN
			056	LEE	QUITMAN [NMN]



Lodge No.	Name
216	LEFF
151	LINDER
066	LITTLE
066	LOFTIN
217	LUCAS
746	LUKE
704	MARTIN
002	MASON
492	MAYNARD
178	MCCULLOUGH
005	MCDUFFIE
753	MCDUFFIE
025	MCKINNEY
452	MCTEER, SR
034	MCWHORTER
603	MCWILLIAMS
469	MILES
271	MILLER
711	MORRISON
038	MOSS
279	MULLIS
444	NASH, JR
053	NASH
034	NASH, JR
234	NELMS
335	NETTLES
740	O'NEAL
171	O'NEIL, JR
591	OLIN
167	OTTING
148	PARKS
418	PERKINS, JR
294	PERRY
271	PIPKIN
112	POPPELL
069	PUCKETT
729	ROBERTSON
182	ROBINSON
009	ROGERS
690	ROYSTON
013	RUMPH
214	RUSSELL
447	SAMUELL, III
1SOC	SANDERS
151	SAUNDERS
280	SCOTT, JR
484	SCOTT
154	SHAW
166	SHEFFIELD, JR
267	SILAS
303	SLATER
444	SMELLEY
304	SMITH
591	SMITH
353	SOWELL, JR
303	SPELL, SR
644	STINCHCOMB
206	STRINGFELLOW
707	STROUD

Lodge No.	Name
166	SURABIAN
722	SWINSON
262	TAYLOR, JR
644	TAYLOR
484	TEAL
289	TEAL
092	TERRY
444	THIGPEN
121	TILLERY
304	TINDALL
167	TOUCHSTONE
171	TOWNSEND
171	TUMLIN
158	TURNER
386	TURNER
718	TURNER
006	TURNER
484	TYLER
289	VANN
048	VEALE, JR
1SOC	VIAR, SR
222	VICTOR
214	WALLING
376	WARD
708	WATSON
176	WEAVER
452	WEIDNER
640	WHEELER
110	WHITLEY
403	WIGGINS
060	WILDER
144	WILDES
399	WILLIAMS
390	WILLIAMS
316	WILLINGHAM
1SOC	WILSON
295	WOODWARD, JR
349	WYATT, SR

ENDOWMENT FUND CONTRIBUTIONS
October 4, 2014 to December 7, 2014

\$500 OR More
Clinton Lodge No. 54
Mary Allen Lindsey Branan Trust
Ninth Masonic District Convention
Jerald Meaders

\$1000 OR MORE
Pickens Lodge No. 220
Leroy Duncan Lodge No. 262
Thunderbolt Lodge No. 693
Rusking Family Trust
Bartow County Masonic Convention
Harold Warren Charitable Trust
Helen Worley Estate
Billy W. Avery
CB James

