

# Masonic Messenger



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

October 2014



**Grand Master  
Edgar Land and  
First Lady Barbara  
hope to see all  
of you at  
Grand Lodge**



**Grand Lodge Office: 478-742-1475**  
**Please send changes of address to the Grand Secretary at 811 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31201-6779 on your lodge secretary's monthly report. The editor does NOT keep the list of addresses.**

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— FROM GRAND MASTER EDGAR M. LAND

Beloved Brethren:

Our annual Grand Lodge Session will soon be here. Even though it has almost been a year since you elected me as your Grand Master, the time in service to you seems much shorter. I encourage each of you who are able to do so, to attend your Grand Lodge and participate in its proceedings on October 28-29. You will have the opportunity to renew old friendships, make new friends and enjoy several hours of refreshment. We have a great and entertaining banquet planned for Monday night and also the awesome "Farmer's Market" experience again this year on Tuesday night. Even if you are not a voting Worshipful Master or Past Master, please consider coming and observing the proceedings. You might be surprised how much you will learn. Sometimes the debate is both interesting and entertaining! I was privileged to come for three years before I became a Worshipful Master and have always felt I was a better Worshipful Master because of the understanding I acquired at Grand Lodge Session about how our fraternity worked.

The Masons of Georgia have had a successful year. Even though we still did not reach our goal of a "net" increase instead of a decrease in membership, we are looking forward to a "net" increase in the near future. As we make our meetings more interesting and more brethren attend, our suspensions will be less and more candidates will be attracted to our fraternity. We had a large number of donations for pavers for The Children's Garden, blood donations, Georgia children identified through the GaChip program, Masonic Education Leadership Development classes and the first State-wide Leadership Conference! Many brethren have assisted in other ways by contributing



their time to work at the Masonic Home. Also both the Christmas Appeal and the Grand Master's Appeal did well this year. Our TEAM concept served us well this year. **Together Everyone Achieves More!**

I wish to again express my sincere appreciation to each individual who has contributed in any way to our fraternity this year. It takes us all to be successful. The Holy Bible teaches that, as each member of our natural body is special in its own way, each individual lodge member is special and important. Even though we serve in many different roles, everyone is important! I am very much indebted to Almighty God who has given us reasonably good health and safe travels over thousands of miles throughout the State. Your Grand Line has done a super job and we are all indebted to them. As I retire from the Grand Line in a few days, I will leave the Grand Lodge in great hands of leaders who have the knowledge, love and dedication to have a superior year not only next year, but for many years in the future. Your Grand Lodge Committees have done an outstanding job. For this, I am very grateful. And yes, I am very thankful to my Mother Lodge, Oak Bowery No. 81 of Ellijay,

for accepting me as a member forty-seven years ago. They continue to give me encouragement and support. At times I am sure I did not meet their expectations but their love and compassion have far exceeded anything I have earned or deserved. To the Mighty Ninth Masonic District Convention, I thank you again for allowing me to serve as your Worshipful Master in 2000. That was a fulfilling experience that helped me prepare for this year. Even though I visited each of the 64 lodges in the Ninth District in 2000, it was impossible for me to visit each of the approximate 425 Lodges in the State this year. But I will remember each lodge I visited in a positive manner by constantly viewing the photographs I have. We have many strong small lodges that continue to work exceptionally hard. There are also some struggling lodges. Each of these stronger lodges would be delighted to assist the weaker lodges. The only effort that is required is just to ask. If a lodge cannot help the less fortunate lodges, please at least keep the struggling lodge in your prayers. Please remember to pray for Barbara and me as we continue our Masonic journeys. We will certainly pray for each of you.

As most of you know, I was really excited about acquiring enough funds so we could be serious about getting started on plans for construction of the Cottages at the Masonic Home. We have desired this for so long. The "Children's Garden" is beautiful and is another monument to hundreds of Masonic brethren in Georgia who have donated well over one hundred thousand dollars toward achieving that goal. We had a beautiful and wonderful day on September 6, when we held the dedication ceremony. Hopefully in the near future we will decide on an exact location for the cottages on the Masonic Home property as well as some good architectural drawings to present to qualified donors who will assist us in our financial goal toward construction.

Anyone who has ever desired to be a Scottish Rite Mason and a Shriner, should wait no longer. On November 7-8, a combined class is planned with a greatly reduced fee. You might call it a 2 for 1 special or either a 50% discount as you can join both organizations for only \$200. The Scottish Rite degrees will be conferred all day Friday and Saturday morning and then the Shrine ceremony will be the balance of the day on Saturday. If you have any questions, call the Scottish Rite office at 404-873-3659 or Yaarab Temple at 404-872-5818.

Let's all keep in mind that we are Brothers in the greatest fraternity ever known to man. All of us regardless of our creed, color, religion or political persuasion gather together to learn how to be better members and enjoy some of the greatest fellowship in the world! Remember our motto, **"Building on our Foundation."**

Throughout the state this year, I have discussed each of us always maintaining a "servant's heart" and preferring our brethren before ourselves. I would like to close this article by a quote from Henry Ward Beecher, "Pride slays thanksgiving, but a humble mind is the soil out of which thanks naturally grow. A proud man is seldom a grateful man, for he never thinks he gets as much as he deserves."

Good Lord Willing, Barbara and I will see you at Grand Lodge.

Cordially and fraternally,  
Edgar M. Land, Grand Master  
Grand Lodge of Georgia,  
Free and Accepted Masons

## Grand Master Land & his Officers Dedicate the Square & Compasses at the Masonic Home



A blazing hot September day could not stop the Grand Lodge officers and hundreds of guests from attending the dedication at the Masonic Home of the world's largest



Square and Compasses. Speakers included other Masonic dignitaries as well as local and state political leaders.

*“Building on our Foundation!”*

# **Welcome to Grand Lodge**

**The 228th Grand Lodge Session will be held at the  
Macon Centreplex Convention Center  
October 28-29**

**The Headquarters Hotel is  
The Macon Marriott City Center Hotel  
478-621-5300 or 800-228-9290**

*Most Worshipful Grand Master  
Edgar M. Land and First Lady  
Barbara invite you to join our  
Masonic Family and enjoy our  
Annual Communication to renew  
friendships as well as meet  
new friends.*

**(When making  
reservations, be certain  
to say you are with the Grand  
Lodge of Georgia) Discounted rooms  
are no longer available.  
Call the Grand Secretary  
for other options.**

In keeping with tradition, the Grand Lodge Family Cookout will be Tuesday evening. The cookout and entertainment will begin at 6:00 P.M. Dress is casual and all Masons and their families are invited for great food and entertainment.

The First Lady's Reception will be on Monday from 1:30 - 3:00 P.M. in the Hospitality Room. Please stop by to meet First Lady Barbara.

First Lady Barbara invites the Ladies to a luncheon on Tuesday at 11:30 A.M. with entertainment. Purchase your ticket and come enjoy food, fun, and friends. Sunday dress please.

# 228th Annual Communication

## Grand Lodge of Georgia, Free and Accepted Masons

*The Hospitality Room at the Marriott Macon Center Hotel will be supplied with homemade goodies and open Monday through Wednesday at designated hours for everyone's enjoyment.*

GRAND LODGE BANQUET	HONORS BREAKFAST	LADIES LUNCHEON	FAMILY NIGHT COOKOUT
<b>Marriott Hotel</b> Monday - October 27 6:00 P.M. (Dark Suit, Formal or Sunday Dress required) Tickets: \$40 <i>Limited to 200 people</i> Number of tickets _____ (NO tickets sold at the door.)	<b>Marriott Hotel</b> Tuesday - October 28 6:30 A.M.  Tickets: \$20.00 Number of tickets _____	<b>Marriott Hotel</b> Tuesday - October 28 11:30 A.M.  Tickets: \$25.00 Number of tickets _____	<b>Farmers' Market</b> Tuesday - October 28 6:00 P.M.  Tickets: \$5.00 Number of tickets _____

**Veterans' Luncheon:** Information concerning the Veterans' Luncheon was not available at press time. Please check the Grand Lodge Website for information on the Veterans' Luncheon. Go to [www.glofga.org](http://www.glofga.org) or call the Grand Secretary's office at 478-742-1475. No transportation is provided.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Member of either of these Honor Groups: Red Cross \_\_\_\_\_ K.Y.C.H. \_\_\_\_\_ 32° K.C.C.H. \_\_\_\_\_ 33° \_\_\_\_\_

Guests \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to: **Grand Lodge of Georgia**

Send all orders to:  
**Grand Secretary**  
**P.O. Box 4665**  
**Macon, GA 31208-4665**

*All tickets must be ordered by October 15th*

# Continue

## Floyd Edmondson, Grand Orator

When I was a youngster (many years ago), I remember hearing a story about a woman struggling to raise her young family. Times were tough, as they are now. One afternoon, the woman heard a knock at her door. When she went to the door, there was no one to be found. The lady looked down and beside the door was a bag of groceries. I remember asking my cousin (who was telling me the story) “Who gave her the bag of groceries?” He told me everyone thought it must have been a Mason. He said the Masons were good people and were always doing something to help someone. I asked him if he was a Mason and he said “No.” I asked him if he knew anyone who was a Mason and he told me the names of a few men I happened to know. I remember thinking to myself, “These are good men.” I know it would not be advisable (for a lot of reasons) to try to use this method to help someone today. However, Masonry has helped and continues to help mankind in a variety of ways today. It helps its members by taking good men and making them better by teaching them many lessons based on the Sacred Law. It encourages the practices of Brotherly Love, Morality, Truth, and Charity (among other great and important lessons) for all of its members who will accept them and apply them to their lives.

Georgia Masons support and maintain the “Heart of Georgia Masonry”— the Masonic Children’s Home in Macon. The Superintendent, Wor. Brother John Snipes, and his staff work hard and do a great job to provide a place for children to leave an undesirable environment and receive the care and attention they need to develop themselves physically, mentally and spiritually. If you have never visited the Home, I encourage you to do so—Monday thru Friday hours are from 9 to 5; to schedule weekend and/or group visits (be sure to include family members, if possible), please call 478-743-5154. After you see some of the children and hear from them how much the Home means to them, I believe you will be touched with a desire to try to do more to help “our” children.

While at the Home, you will see the Children’s Garden, the brainchild of Worshipful Brother David Wellman and Grand Master Edgar Land, which is a brick paver program that forms the world’s largest square and compasses. This is a fund-raiser project where donations for the brick pavers go to benefit the Children’s Home. It has already raised over \$100,000 and has the potential to raise several million dollars to benefit the Home.

Georgia Masons have numerous programs and charities to benefit mankind, a few of which are: The Georgia CHIP program (A comprehensive Child Recovery, Identification

and Abduction Awareness Program); blood drives; Royal Arch Research Assistance Program for Autistic children; the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation (Research using your own adult stem cells working for the cures of diabetes, heart disease, COPD/lung disease and more); Knights Templar Eye Foundation; numerous scholarships; the Scottish Rite and Shriner’s Hospitals, etc., etc.

As long as there is Good in the world, I believe there will still be Masons who will continue to help their fellow man. Doesn’t it feel good to know you are a part of such a wonderful Fraternity? Let’s continue to do our part to support our Lodge activities and make this world a better place in which to live. May God Bless.

### Check for Masonic Home Children



Lady April Foster presents Worshipful Master Tom Harrison a check in the amount of \$200.00. This is from a fund raiser she held in order to purchase winter coats for children at the Masonic Home who do not have coats. Some lodge members from Laurens No. 75 found out that 21 kids do not have winter coats so they added monies to the money that Lady April raised to be used towards purchasing coats for those children.



**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.

## ***THE YORK RITE IN GEORGIA***

**Editor: Benjamin W. Polston, II, KYCH, KCCH, Email:  
[http://www.yorkrite of ga.org](http://www.yorkriteofga.org)**

### **Chapter Degrees**

1. Learn the value of your "Mark"!
2. Learn 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!

### **Council Degrees**

- Fill in the Gaps of the Blue Lodge Degrees!
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!

### **Commandery or Christian Orders**

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.

### **Website**

[www.yorkriteofga.org](http://www.yorkriteofga.org)

### **PETITION FOR YORK RITE**

[www.yorkriteofga.org/bpfiles/combpet.pdf](http://www.yorkriteofga.org/bpfiles/combpet.pdf)

### **FIND THE CLOSEST YORK RITE**

<http://www.yorkriteofga.org/bpfiles/bycity.pdf>  
Or Call: (478) 742-2557

### **Grand York Rite of Georgia**

Greater Atlanta York Rite Festival  
38 New York Rite Masons



### **Covington York Rite Festival**

**Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 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 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

Time: 6:30AM 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](mailto:bpolston@yorkriteofga.org)

## Grand Master Land Visits Woodbine Lodge No. 326

Grand Master Edgar M. Land visited Woodbine Lodge in September for the lodge's family night celebration.

Founded in 1895, Woodbine Lodge meets in its original building, although the building was moved over one lot in 1898. That was the same year a hurricane destroyed much of the town of Woodbine. The lodge building was the only two-story building standing in the town after the hurricane has passed. It still leans a little, noticeable when one walks up the stairs, silent testimony to the strength of the hurricane.

Something not quite so silent are the alleged ghosts in the lodge. The lodge once rented the lower floor to a grocer; some believe the ghosts are related to that tenant. Mem-



bers have reported the smell of pipe tobacco in the building, although no member smokes a pipe. Lights have mysteriously come on in the lodge.

James Clayton Perry, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Georgia in 1948, was a member of Woodbine Lodge.

Below left: Masons and their Ladies pose for a photo. Directly below, Grand Master Land signs the lodge's altar Bill



## Special Words of Thanks from the Grand Tyler

It seems like it has just been a few days ago since our Grand Master asked me to serve as the Grand Tyler of the Grand Lodge of Georgia. This has been a very busy year as we have traveled all over this great state. It has been a privilege to visit the many lodges and those Brothers who strive to keep our fraternity operating within those principals set by our forefathers. To all of those Brothers who have extended to me their hospitality I would say thank you, I never visited a lodge that I did not feel at home and welcome. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the progressive Grand Lodge officers and their ladies for making Diane and me feel welcome. It has also been a privilege to serve as Grand Tyler with such a great group of leaders. Without a doubt the Grand Lodge of Georgia will have excellent Masonic leadership for many years to come.

I must also thank the Brothers of my lodge, Pickens Star Lodge No. 220, for the support they have shown me this year.

Words cannot express my feelings to our Grand Master for asking me to serve as the Grand Tyler this year. It has been a privilege and honor to travel this state with him to the many events we have attended. As we all know our Grand Master has emphasized that our family should be involved.

He and the First Lady Mrs. Barbara have included our wives as we have attended many open meetings this year.

So as this phase of my masonic service comes to an end, I would like to say thank you again. It has truly been an honor that I will always cherish. I will continue to enjoy all of the blessings and privileges of being a Free and Accepted Mason. I look forward to seeing you at Grand Lodge. May God bless each of you and your families.

Sincerely and fraternally,  
F. Keith Hales  
Grand Tyler

## 31st Annual Shady Dale Rodeo donates \$30,000

At a dinner held at Monticello Baptist Church, Walton Lodge No. 200 and Jasper Lodge No. 50 donated \$30,000 profits receiving from the rodeo. Donations included 23 \$500 scholarships to college-bound scholars, \$3,500 to the Masonic Home of Georgia, \$3,500 to the Scottish Rite's Rite Care, \$3,500 to the Molly Mosley Fund, \$3,500 to the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children, \$500 each to the Jasper County Mentors' Program, the Jasper County Food Bank, and the ML&J Fund for children's clothing.



# Flint Hill Lodge No. 371 Destroyed by Fire; Police Cite Arson



## History and Memories are Fireproof Buildings, Pictures and Documents are Not

Ross M. Laver, P.M.

The phone rang at 4 a.m. No matter what, a phone call at that hour is alarming. Answering the phone the voice of Sr. Warden Gary McEntire said, "Ross, I have bad news. The Sherriff's Department called and said that someone had broken into our Lodge and burned it to the ground." I told Gary I was getting dressed and heading to the Lodge. Those last several hundred feet approaching the building were devastating. Lights from Douglas County's fire trucks illuminated the east and west walls. There was nothing between. I stopped at the Sherriff's patrol car that was positioned across Highway 5. The Deputy started to say something but I spoke over him saying, "I am a Past Master of the Lodge." I stood there. The floodlights in the dark of night created an eerie seen. I felt empty. Then my mind started to do an inventory. What was gone that couldn't be recovered? Photos? Documents? Our Charter from 1892? A building that was built in the late 1800's. Your mind plays funny games at moments like these. With some jubilation I thought of the Insurance policy we had just purchased in anticipation of purchasing the 50% interest held by the church that had been our partner for over one hundred years. Originally decided to both Flint Hill Lodge No. 371 and Flint Hill Methodist Church, the church had reformed a decade or so ago as New Covenant United Methodist Church and had built a new sanctuary several miles up the road. Oddly, we were to close the deal in the next week. I could go on about the history of the Church and Lodge as a center of the community known as McWhorter but there is an important message for all lodges.

No amount of insurance can recover photos and documents. The realization that they were gone was most devastating. Then the anger set in. I was angry that we had never thought to scan those photos, making digital copies. Angry that the minutes of the Lodge were consumed. As the days wore on we were to learn that the "Fire Proof" file cabinet, by the Grace of the Grand Architect, did the job and that the Minutes had survived.

Today is the day that everyone reading this should call on the Master of their Lodge to immediately devise and execute a plan to scan every photo and document in your Lodge. Once the digital files have been created, the media (CDs, Thumb Drives, external Hard Disk) should be removed from the Lodge and stored off-site. PGM C. Danny Wofford, Curator of the Atlanta Masonic Library and Museum has offered to copy your digital files to a storage system at the Library. This failsafe will be there in the event the digital copies you create are lost or damaged. Be sure to update the digital files on a regular basis.

Take photos of each room in your building. The smallest room may have something stored that should be reported as "Contents" if the worst happens. Since everything was lost, a number of Brothers of Flint Hill Lodge each created a list of every item they could remember. The lists were then compared to make sure that every item was listed.

Review your insurance policy. Make sure that the values are realistic. You won't find out that the "Insurance" you have undervalues the property or contents until it's time to settle the claim. That's the wrong time.

Finally, on behalf of the Brothers of Flint Hill Lodge No. 371, thanks for the many messages of support and the generous gifts. Thanks to the nearby lodges that offered their lodge halls so that we could continue to meet. For now we are meeting at Campbellton Lodge No. 76. As we move through the claims adjustment to the engineering phase which will leave us in the hands of the Douglas County Building authorities we will need your continued prayers. As we enter the construction phase we will need the help of those of you with trade skills.

Some time ago, before Facebook, a brother tagged the handle "Little Lodge with the Big Heart" to Flint Hill Lodge. With the help of God and the Brothers of the Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, that Heart will be rebuilt and beat stronger than ever.

## Exciting Evening at Amity No. 731

The Brethren of Amity Lodge No. 731 enjoyed an evening of work on August 26. After an enjoyable meal, the lodge presented Ms. Gina Elliott from Extra Special People (ESP) of Watkinsville a check for \$1,000. The donation was matched by another organization. ESP provides after-school activities and nine weeks of summer camp for children and young adults who have developmental disabilities such as behavior disorders, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Autism, Asperger's, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Angelman Syndrome, Spina Bifida, and many more.

Operating since the 1980s, ESP, a non-profit organization, has outgrown its facilities and is seeking donations to build a larger facility. There is a long waiting list for children and young adults to get into the program, simply because the program is full. Forty campers were not able to get into the summer camp program. Amity Lodge stepped forward with a much appreciated check.

At 7:30, the lodge was called to order and three Fellowcraft Masons were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. The candidates were Kyle Thomas Dawkins from John H. Jones Lodge No. 348, and David Edward Gueth and Jeremy Vinson James from Amity Lodge.

The degree was put in superb form by the Elbert/Wilkes Fellowcraft Club. In the photo to the right are Right Worshipful Gary Leazer, Junior Grand Deacon, Bro. Jeremy James, Bro. Kyle Dawkins, and Bro. David Gueth.

The Elbert/Wilkes Fellowcraft Club will put on a Master Mason degree at the Macon Scottish Rite Center on Monday, October 27, at 9:00 a.m. All Master Masons are welcome.



Wor. Bro. John Cullens, Treasurer, and Wor. Bro. Patrick E. Smith, Worshipful Master, present Ms. Elliott a check for \$1,000.



## Ancient York Lodge No. 127 Passes Three Fellowcraft Masons



In my Grand Lodge travels this year, I am encountering more lodges who are initiating, passing or raising multiple candidates at a time. Amity Lodge 731 raised three on August 26 when I visited. Ancient York Rite No. 127 passed three Fellowcraft Masons on September 15 when I visited.

In the photo above the three new Fellowcraft Masons, surrounded by lodge Brothers are Jonathan Johnson, Patrick Honigford, and Richard Jackson.

On September 20, Golden Fleece No. 6 raised five Master Masons, including one from Rising Star No. 4. — Gary Leazer, editor

## Grant Park Lodge No. 604 Presents Scholarship



Grant Park Lodge No. 604 presents this award to the graduating senior from the Masonic Home with the highest GPA. This year's recipient was Allisa Walters. The award has been given each year since 1997 by Grant Park with exception of last year when we had no seniors. The award is named The John V. Welsh award after our Past Master who is a retired principal from Atlanta Public Schools. Pictured to the right are (from the left) Wor. Bro. Estes PM, John M. Dilbeck, Allisa Walters, Robert W. Young, PGT, PM; and Walter D. Wilson DDGM, PM.

## Middle Georgia Daylight No. 756 Always Has a Great Meeting



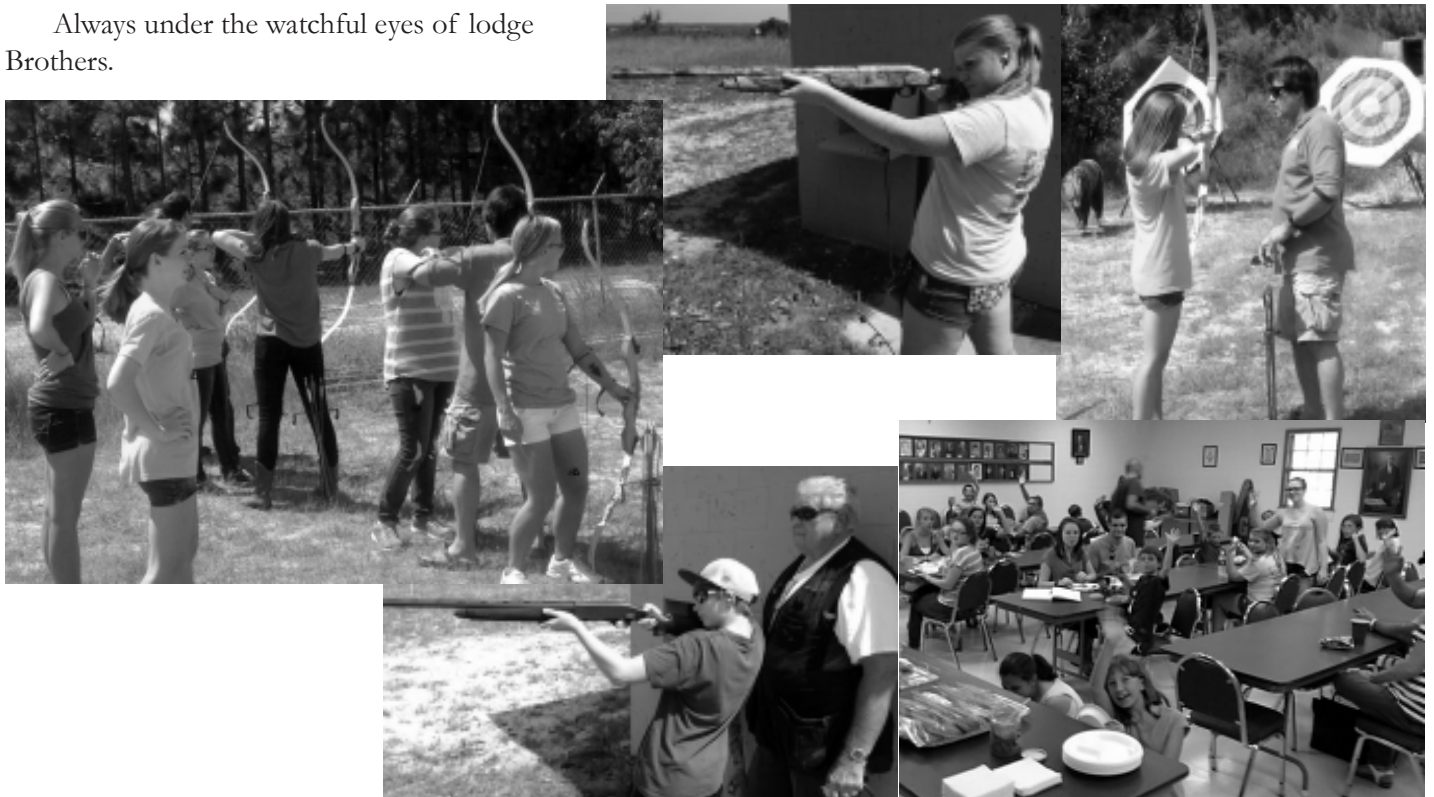
We had a great Labor Day celebration at Middle Georgia Daylight Lodge No. 756. We started off with a great breakfast prepared by our Lodge Ladies, then a musical program provided by Wor. Bros. Ken Howell and Thomas Brannen and then a short Lodge communication. The musical program took us from Viet Nam and Afghanistan to Beulah Land and along the way there was not a dry eye in the house. A special thanks to Wor. Bros. Ken and Thomas for this program.

Pictured Left to Right are Wor. Bros. Ken Howell; James Piper, Worshipful Master; and Thomas Brannen.

The Brethren of MGD L No. 756 shows all of us how to have a packed-house every meeting: serve good food, involve the Ladies, and have either good entertainment or an outstanding educational program.

## Harlem No. 276 Hosted Kids from the Masonic Home for a Fun Day on September 20

Always under the watchful eyes of lodge Brothers.





# The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

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

Web Site:  
GaScottishRite.org

The months ahead will be extremely busy for the Scottish Rite, **Valley of Atlanta**.

- **November 1st Arturo de Hoyos 33°G.C.** "Is Freemasonry Still Relevant?" Steak dinner will be served by DeMolay and Rainbow. Benefit RiteCare™. Tickets (\$60) are going fast. Call 404-873-3659 with your credit card.

- **November 6th Stated Meeting honoring Veterans.**

- **November 7 & 8 Combined Class with Shrine.**

Visit [www.AtlantaScottishRite.org](http://www.AtlantaScottishRite.org) for details.

- **Dec 4th ... Ring and Cap Ceremony ...** Bring Toys for our children at Scottish Rite Hospital

- **Jan 1st...** No meeting (New Years Day)

- **\*\*\*Saturday Feb 28th 2015. Statewide Blue Lodge Appreciation Event, Macon**

- o **Ill. Robert Davis, 33° G.C.** Secretary Valley of Guthrie Oklahoma

- o **Germania Lodge of New Orleans** will confer one of the three Degrees as only a RED LODGE can.

Lodge of Perfection at the **Valley of Augusta** meets on the First Thursday of each month. Dinner is served at 7:00 PM, Program begins at 8:00. The Feast of Tishri Ceremony, Dinner with a Guest Speaker and Skit was held on October 2. Our Fall Reunion will be held on Friday and Saturday, October 10-11. Our November 6 meeting will highlight an impersonator of General Pershing. The December LOP meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> will be a Christmas Musical Program.

We welcome visitors and friends to all of our programs. Call or email General Secretary, Gregory Oblak, with any questions. (email: [scottishrite2553@comcast.net](mailto:scottishrite2553@comcast.net) Telephone: 706-733-5387).

## The Valley of Columbus

Scottish Rite Freemasonry is alive and well in the River City. We will hold our Fall Reunion on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of October, this is the first two (2) day class in many years and we are looking forward to a great reunion. The Valley of Columbus invites you to Rosehill Lodge No. 484 to celebrate with, PGM and Illustrious A. Charles Knowles, Personal Representative of the SGIG in the Valley of Columbus as he is recognized for his 60 years of service to the Craft. He is married to LaVerne Booth Knowles. They have two daughters, Dr. Linda Knowles Nash of Marietta, and Kathy

Knowles Ninas of Phenix City, Al. and two grand children.

Bro. Knowles was made a Mason on August 2, 1954 in Rose Hill Lodge No. 484 of Columbus, served as Worshipful Master in 1960, was Secretary for 15 years, served as Director of Work and on the Board of Directors. He was Master of the Fourth Masonic District in 1970. He was appointed to the Grand Lodge line in 1975 and served as Grand Master of Masons in Georgia in 1983.

Scottish Rite: He received the 32° in the Valley of Columbus on November 4, 1954, was honored with the Knight Commander Court of Honor on October 20, 1969 and was Coroneted a 33° Honorary on December 5, 1981. Presently he serves as Personal Representative of the SGIG in the Valley of Columbus.

York Rite: He is a member of Darley Chapter No. 7 RAM, Hope Council No. 4 R&SM and St Aldemar Commandery No. 3 KT, a member of Chattahoochee York Rite College No. 166, Past Sovereign of New Covenant Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine and a charter member of Muscogee Conclave RCOG, Columbus, Ga. He holds Order of DeMolay Legion of Honor.

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](http://scottishritecolsga.com) for more information

The **Valley of Savannah** is busy with multiple Fall activities; Feast of Tishri, combined (all 5) SR Associations meeting; Fall Reunion, Awards Night and Dedication of Gordon B. Smith Memorial Library. As the year closes we will also participate in the Salvation Army Kettle Drive and hold our End of Year Social in December.

For complete details visit our website at <http://www.savannahscottishrite.org>.

The **Valley of Albany** is having their Fall reunion and we hope to have several candidates for the reunion. We are having a Boston Butt and Turkey Breast sale in November for Thanksgiving. In November we will be having our nominations for officers for 2015. We have a Christmas celebra-

# Blaine Lodge Hosts Ninth Masonic District Convention

Blaine Lodge No. 534 hosted the 109th Annual Communication of the Ninth Masonic District Convention at Jasper High School on September 27. The District Officers opened lodge at 9:00 and Grand Master Edgar M. Land was escorted in by eight DDGMs and the Grand Marshal. He was given private grand honors. The Grand Lodge officers and distinguished guests were introduced. Brother and Chief Magistrate Judge Allen Wigington, a member of Blaine Lodge, welcomed all to Jasper.

Twenty-one young scholars were presented \$1,000 scholarships to assist them in their advanced studies.



Scholarship Winners

tion scheduled for December 19 and Old Man Santa will be here and we need children and we will have a special program with some performers. Plan to attend our Christmas celebration.

Our regular meetings are Second Tuesday of each month and we eat at 7:00pm and meeting afterwards. Please come and bring your significant other.

## Snellville Lodge Honors Mason of the Year



Snellville Lodge No. 99 honored Bro. J. R. Mattiucci, Senior Warden (center), as Mason of the Year. Pictured with him is Worshipful Master Paul Carahan (left) and Wor. Bro. Mark Dugger, Secretary



Pickens Star Lodge No. 220 won the Attendance Banner.



Wor. Bro. Andrew David Burns, Director of Work for Hudson Lodge No. 294, was named Mason of the Year.



Hudson Lodge No. 294 won the Lodge of the Year plaque (above).

The GACHIP director reported another successful year with 681 kids ID'd in the past twelve months.

The Custodian of the Uniform Work reported 1,402 attending Schools of Instruction this year. Proficiency cards issued were 380 white, 283 blue, 39 green and 48 orange.

Twenty-five percent of the Masons attending the first annual Wardens Workshop in July were from the 9th District.

A \$520 offering was received for the Masonic Home.

The 2015 District Convention will be held at Gainesville Lodge No. 219 on the 4th Sunday in September.

# 3rd Annual "Barn Degree" by Solomon's Lodge No. 1's Degree Team

On September 27, the Solomon's Lodge No. 1 Degree Team utilizing the "Ancient Work," for which they are so well-known about the State and around the South, dramatized the Hiram Legend at Wor. Bro. Charlie Long's Farm in Ranger, Wor. Bro. Long and the Dallas Masonic Lodge No. 182's Fellowcraft Club co-hosted this 3rd Annual "Barn Degree."



Wor. Bro. Charlie Long

He and his Lady Barbara most generously invited all Master Masons where-soever dispersed to their home and properties in Ranger as a means of continuing the Ma-

sonic Education of the Craft; to help raise funds to benefit Senior Grand Warden Drew Lane's 2016 expenses; and to provide a day of fellowship, friendship, and renewal.



Right Wor. Drew Lane talks with Past Grand Master Jerry Moss.

The Dallas Fellowcraft Club Degree Team was formed in 2008 and is led by their President and Founder Wor. Bro. Eddie Gurley, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, and Wor. Bro. Duane Fennell, their spiritual leader and their Director of Work. The Club travels and dramatizes throughout the State and elsewhere. The Dallas Fellowcraft Club wants to thank everyone for their

most generous donations and support.

Several key Brothers from Solomon's Lodge worked diligently with Bro. Eddie to coordinate their participation, travel arrangements, etc. Especially helpful were WB Ray Johnson, Director of Works and the Master at the Dramatization, WB Bill Overstreet, the Worshipful Master of Solomon's No. 1, and Gary Hart II, Senior Warden. It was just the second time in over 30 years that their Degree Team had ventured to Northwest Georgia, since their appearance at the Rock Quarry in 1984. Others from the Solomon's Lodge No. 1 Degree Team who made the trip from Savannah and participated in the Dramatization were Matt Mikell, Scott Eisenhart, Bryan Hoffman, Mike Burke, Rick Willis, Drew Troxler, Ron Weiner, Mark Levine, Rusty Bridges, JJ Kane, & Floyd (BJ) Williams.



Degree team from Solomon's Lodge

This year's Barn Degree was attended by over 275 Masons representing 86 lodges from 3 states, plus many wives, relatives, friends and children. Delicious meals were served of course, there were games for the kids, and some great live down-home bluegrass music provided by the aptly named "Band of Brothers," consisting of Bros. Tim Adair, guitar, Greg Brown, banjo, Kenneth Hood, banjo, and Jerry Rogers, mandolin.

Wor. Bro. Rick Willis, PM and Secretary of Solomon's Masonic Lodge No. 1, commented:

*"The work we performed is (as far as we can tell) the same ritual used in England at the time the Grand Lodge of England was founded in 1717. I say as far as we can tell because the ritual is word of mouth and no doubt some variations have crept in over the last 275*



This year's Barn Degree was attended by over 275 Masons representing 86 lodges from 3 states, plus many wives, relatives, friends and children.

Two Brothers from Sugar Valley Lodge No. 733 were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

*plus years. What you saw was the same thing including the costuming we use for every Master Mason's degree. We have portrayed this ritual many times both in and out of the state. At one time we celebrated the anniversary of the Lodge every year at the site of the first meeting at Sunbury, portraying or conferring whatever degree was necessary for the available candidates or we exemplified the Master Masons Degree if there was no active candidate. We no longer do this as it became cost prohibitive.*

*We would like to thank everyone who had anything to do with hosting this event, especially Charlie Long, Dallas Lodge and of course the Grand Master and his line and everyone attending. We were very well (I can't think of a better word unless I repeat "very" about a million times) received and everyone was just as helpful as they could be and we thank everyone for this opportunity. I believe we got more from the experience than anyone else because, like the Grand Master said "We may take different routes but we all get to the same destination", and now there are many more people that realize that we are just another Masonic Lodge that happens to be very old and practices a different ritual and everyone is welcome at our meetings."*



## Veterans Corner

### Rick Conn , State Chairman, GL of Ga. Veterans Committee

Brothers, this month I want to inform you of the Veterans License Plates for your car. There are several different Veterans Specialty plates that you can apply for. Note however, regardless of the type of tag, you will need to fill out form MV-9W. This form can be obtained from the Department of Motor Vehicles or you can download it online from their website.

Veterans who served in any of the Branches of the Armed Forces, Active, Reserve Components, or National Guard are entitled to several different Speciality Plates free, or at a reduced rate for them and their spouse. And in one instance their family members also may qualify. I will go over them in this article. See the Georgia Code Manual O. C. G. A. for complete qualifications for these plates.

***Chosin Reservoir Campaign of 1950 License Plates.*** Veterans who served during this campaign may obtain tags for a fee of \$25. There is no charge for the annual registration fee for this tag. The spouse also may receive one tag for an additional \$25. If the Veteran was KIA, the surviving spouse of the veteran is also eligible for this tag.

***Commemorative Service License Plate.*** Anyone who served during an active military combat period is eligible for this plate. Only requirement is veteran is that a Georgia resident with a discharge under Honorable conditions during one of the following campaigns: WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Global War on Terrorism (Ex Order 13289, section 2), Afghanistan and Iraq Operations Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom. There is no registration fee, manufacturing fee, or annual fee for this plate. It is totally free. You may obtain an additional tag for a one-time fee of \$25.

***Disabled Veterans License Plates*** are also available, if the veteran is a Georgia resident, has qualifying service, meets the disability requirements, and/or has an Honorable Discharge. Veterans who qualify should take this information to the Georgia Dept of Veterans Services along with proof of your Honorable service and proof of residency to your local Veterans Service Officer to receive form to present to DMV when purchasing tags. Veterans will receive two (2) free plates or revalidation decals each year for vehicles other than motorcycles. If veteran has a motorcycle they will receive one (1) free plate for their bike.

***Gold Star License Plates.*** The spouse, mother, father, sibling, child or step parent of a veteran who is a KIA is entitled to a plate. Upon payment of all ad valorem taxes and other fees due at registration of a motor vehicle they may receive a Free plate. They may also purchase additional plate for members stated above who reside within the State of Georgia for vehicles registered in the State of Georgia. Renewal decals shall be issued at no cost to any person who received a free plate upon the payment of ad valorem taxes and other registration fees, provided renewal is applied for on or within 30 days prior to the renewal date of the eligible person.

***Military Medal Award License Plates.*** Anyone whose service during active military combat periods resulted in the award of a

qualifying medal may be eligible for a Free Military Medal Award Plate. These plates are available to both Honorably discharged veterans and active duty service members who are Georgia residents. The surviving spouse of a qualified veteran is also eligible as long as they have not remarried. There is no registration fee, manufacturing fee, or annual fee for this plate. Applicants are also required to pay a \$25 fee if you request an additional plate. Qualifying service during active military combat periods includes WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Global War (as defined by Presidential Ex Order 13289 section 2) Afghanistan and Iraq. See O.C.G.A. 40-2-85.1 (2012) for list of qualifying medals for this speciality plate.

***National Guard License Plates.*** Members of the Georgia National Guard are entitled to one Free National Guard Plate. The surviving spouse is also eligible for a plate as long as they have not remarried. There is no registration fee, manufacturing fee, or annual registration fee for this plate. Applicant is also entitled to one (1) additional plate upon payment of a fee of \$25 annual registration fee for the additional plate only.

Another Veteran Speciality Plate includes, ***Pearl Harbor Plates, and POW Plates.*** These plates can be obtained for a manufacturing fee of \$25 plus the annual registration fee of \$20. An additional plate also may be purchased by the qualifying veteran.

***Reserve Component License Plates.*** An assigned or attached member of troop program units of any branch of the active reserve components of the United States inside or outside the State of Georgia is entitled to one free plate, which will identify the veterans specific reserve military branch of service. A retiree from any branch of the active reserve components is also entitled. Surviving spouse of the veteran is also eligible as long as they have not remarried. There is no registration fee, manufacturing fee or annual fee for this plate. Also as all the above a second plate may be obtained for a fee of \$25 manufacturing fee plus an annual registration fee of \$25 for the additional plate only.

***Retired Military Veterans License Plates.*** Veterans who retired from active duty with any of the branches of the United States and are Georgia residents are entitled to one (1) free speciality license plate. Surviving spouse of qualified veteran is also eligible for a free plate as long as they do not remarry. There is no registration fee, manufacturing fee, or annual registration fee for these speciality plates. Applicants may also receive one additional plate for the fee of \$25 and also be required to pay an annual \$25 registration fee for the additional plate only.

These plates are in addition to your Georgia FREE drivers' license if you have not applied for it already. These are benefits given by the State of Georgia that you have earned and deserve. Check out which type of plate you want as you may qualify for several of them according to your service. THANK YOU for your service Brothers and may God Bless you and your families always. And may God Bless the USA.



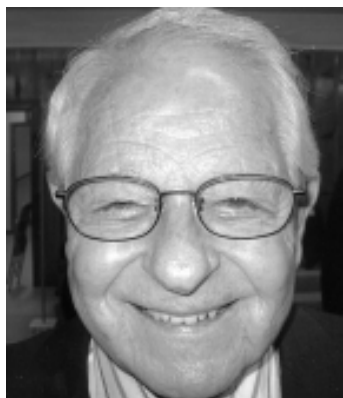
William L. Hardy  
Latham No. 12



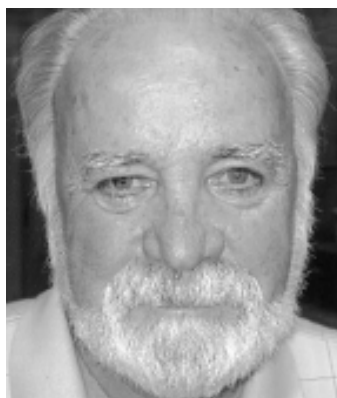
Olen E. Little  
Latham No. 12



Frank M. Smith  
Latham No. 12



Douglas S. Vining  
Latham No. 12



Roy E. Whitaker  
Latham No. 12



Grady Lassiter  
Chipley No. 40



Jesse Thomas Beckham Jr.  
St. John No. 45



Joseph Oscar Stonecipher  
St. John No. 45



Ted Terry  
Cornelia No. 92



Clyde Harkins  
Alleghany No. 114



Larry Lawrence  
Alleghany No. 114



Don Phillips  
Alleghany No. 114



Troy Phillips  
Alleghany No. 114



John Rodda  
Alleghany No. 114



John W. Shaw, Jr.  
Mackey No. 120





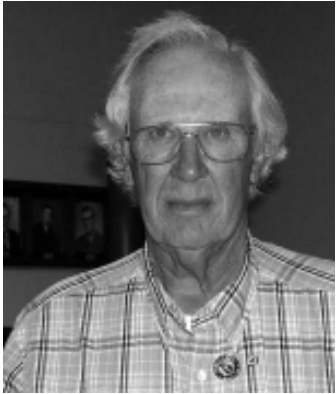
Roger William Clowdus, Jr.  
Midland No. 144



Carlise James Cobb  
Adairsville No. 168



Bobby Canady  
Waynesboro No. 274



Howard Thomas Threlkeld, Sr.  
Shannon No. 404



Bubba Tedder  
Acacia No. 452



Ralph Chandler with Wor. Bro. Frank Vexler, DDGM  
Clarkston No. 492



Billy Paul Chastin  
Eton No. 509



James L. Moored and his Lady with  
PGM Bobby B. Simmons  
Lizella No. 663



Farish Alvin Hughes  
E. A. Minor No. 603



Richard Brazo  
with Paul E Wells DDGM  
Ft. Benning No. 579

Robert Eddie Coash  
Fleming No. 718



(Right) Wor. Bro. Walter Wilson, DDGM-5C, presented Bro. Albert L. Gruensfelder, a member of Mitzpah Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 40, St. Louis, Mo, with his 50-year award as requested by the Grand Lodge of Missouri. The presentation took place in Gate City Lodge No. 2 in Atlanta. Pictured are Wor. Bro. Victor N. Marshall, PM of Gate City Lodge, who acted as Worshipful Master for the evening; Wor. Bro. Walt Wilson, P.M. of Alpharetta Lodge No. 235; Bro. Gruensfelder; and Bro. John (“Jay”) Mathewson IV, a member of Mitzpah Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 40, who is a close friend of Bro. Gruensfelder and who attended at his request.



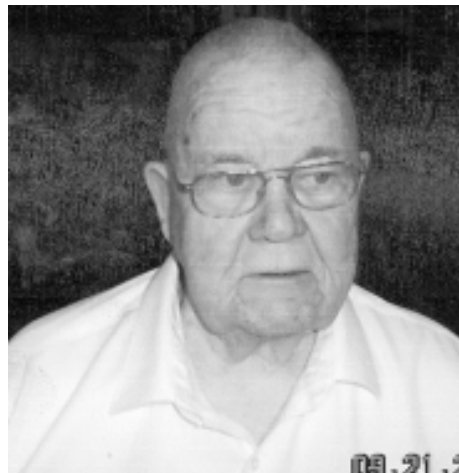
## 60 Years



Harold W. Dunn  
Latham No. 12



Grover C. Gibson  
Latham No. 12



Marvin E. Sanders  
Latham No. 12



Grady S. Smith  
Latham No. 12



Merrill Pearson  
Chipley No. 40



Wink Stephens  
Cherokee No. 66

# 60 Years



Charles Howard Elmore with DDGM Joey Jackson and WM Allen Burke presenting the 60-year certificate to Brother Elmore. Our Lodge is Ridgeway 104.



Bennie L. Anderson (front center) stands next to Wor. Master Michael E. Leavell and the Brethren of Meyerhardt No. 314 after receiving his 60-year award.

The presentation was made by Worshipful Brother Jan Giddens, Second Grand Steward of Georgia, with the assistance of Worshipful Brother Bennie's granddaughter, Jennifer. Worshipful Brother Giddens offered many accolades in honor of Worshipful Brother Bennie, followed by tributes from many of the people present. Worshipful Brother Bennie thanked all who were present and then introduced the members of his family present. The Masons saluted Worshipful Brother Bennie with public Grand Honors and the visitors retired.

A delicious dinner of fried chicken, ham, assorted vegetables and desserts was provided by Kennesaw Chapter No. 414, OES.



John Hinely  
Acacia No. 452



Harry Allgood  
Battle Hill No. 523



James Dwight Seymour  
Ft. Benning No. 579  
is presented his 60-year award  
by Wor. Bro. Paul E. Wells, DDGM



(Left) Woodrow Leo Leggett joined Dallas Lodge No. 182 in June 1948; pictured with Bro. William McPherson

# 65 Years

# 65 Years



Wendell Lowen Jones, Age 90, joined Dallas Lodge No. 182 in 1947 with Bro. William McPherson



William Gordon Robinson, Age 84 and a member of Dallas Lodge No. 182 since March 1949 with Bro. McPherson.

## Fulton Lodge No. 216 Donates Pavers to Home

Fulton Lodge has donated ten bricks for the children's garden at the Masonic Home of Georgia. They were donated in honor of: Mendle Boorstin, PM, Ronald Boorstin, PM, Sheldon Little, PM, MWB Al Garner, MWB Joe Suttles, Sidney Parks, PM, Isadore Heiman, PM, Jerry Fields, Worship Master Al Hazan of Fulton Lodge, and MWB Edgar Land.



John Charles Wallace with Most Worshipful Joseph Suttles Battle Hill No. 523

## Kennesaw Lodge visits Campbellton Lodge



Kennesaw Lodge No. 33 presents Campbellton Lodge with a set of custom gavels made by Brother Will Hester. Along with Jewels, Aprons, a Masonic Bible, and a love offering collect from Kennesaw's annual BBQ fundraiser. It may have been one of the best lodges I have visited so far. What a great group of men! — Jeff Carter

**2014**  
**BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**  
**AND**  
**SUMMARY BY JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE**

Secretary must make available copy of  
the 2014 Bills and Resolutions to any member  
of his Lodge to read for himself or  
make photostatic copy at members expense.

See Section 3-114 of the Code.

**2014 BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS AND  
SUMMARY BY JURISPRUDENCE COMMITTEE**

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia, F. & A.M.:

On Friday, August 8, 2014, the Jurisprudence Committee convened at the Grand Lodge Office in Macon at 10 a.m. as required by Section 3-114 of the Masonic Code and reviewed thirty (30) Code Bills to amend, add or delete (repeal) portions of the Masonic Code.

At the request of the Grand Master, the committee also reviewed one hundred fifty-five (155) dispensations issued by the Grand Master before August 8, 2014. Three (3) Rulings by the Grand Master were also reviewed.

The one hundred fifty-five (155) dispensations reviewed were found to be properly handled in accordance with our Masonic Code as were the three (3) rulings made by our Grand Master. These will be presented for consideration at the 2014 Annual Communication along with the twenty (20) Bills found to be in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

The Jurisprudence Committee respectfully reports that four (4) members of our committee were present for the August 8, 2014 meeting, thereby exceeding the quorum requirements of Code Section 2-224. Additionally, Most Worshipful Edgar M. Land, MWGM, PM (81); Most Worshipful Gary D. Lemmons, PGM, PM (154); Right Worshipful Douglas W. McDonald, DGM, PM (141); Right Worshipful Brother F. Andrew Lane, Jr. SGW, PM (182) and Worshipful Brothers Wiley A. Gammon, PM (729); T. Edward Tante, IV, PM (7); Thomas W. Tinley, III, PM (677) were visitors at the meeting.

Fraternally submitted,  
Clyde E. Griffin, PGM, PM (693), (1), Chairman  
Clarence E. Horne, PGM, PM (288)  
Michael A. Kessler, PM (216)  
A. Charles Knowles, PGM, PM (484)

**CONSTITUTIONAL BILLS**  
None Submitted

**BILLS**

**CODE BILL NO. 01-2014**

A Bill to provide for how the Flag of the United States should be saluted during the Pledge of Allegiance by adding a new section to the **Masonic Code of Georgia** to be known as **Section 23-103.2. Saluting the Flag of the United States of America.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that a new section of the **Masonic Code of Georgia**, entitled **Section 23-103.2 Saluting the Flag of the United States of America** be adopted so that when adopted the section shall read as follows:

**Section 23-103.2 Saluting the Flag of the United States of America** - When rendering the Pledge of Allegiance in a symbolic Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Georgia all brethren, who are citizens of the United States, shall salute the Flag by placing their right hand over their left breast. Brethren, who are active members of or veterans of the armed forces of the United States, if they do desire, may render the military salute while rendering the Pledge.

Terry L. Hensley, PM, Coosawattee Lodge No. 306  
Gary D. Lemmons, P.M., Morning Star Lodge No. 349

(Summary) This bill seeks to add Section 23-103.2 Saluting the Flag of the United States of America to the Masonic Code of Georgia.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

**CODE BILL NO. 02-2014**

A Bill to provide for how the Flag of the United States should be saluted during the Pledge of Allegiance by amending **Section 25-125. Master's Duty Relative to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America of the Masonic Code of Georgia.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that **Section 25-125. Master's Duty Relative to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United**

**States of America of the Masonic Code of Georgia** be amended by the addition of the following sentences at the end of the existing code section, so that when amended the said code section shall read as follows:

**Section 25-125. Master's Duty Relative to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America of the Masonic Code of Georgia.** - It shall be the Master's or Acting Master's duty to see that, at the opening of every tiled Lodge meeting, all brethren who are citizens of the United States are invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country. All brethren, who are citizens of the United States, shall salute the Flag by placing their right hand over their left breast. Brethren, who are active members of or veterans of the armed forces of the United States, if they do desire, may render the military salute while rendering the Pledge.

Terry L. Hensley, PM, Coosawattee Lodge No. 306  
Gary D. Lemmons, PM, Morning Star Lodge No. 349

(Summary) This bill seeks to amend Section 25-125. Master's Duty Relative to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America of the Masonic Code of Georgia by adding a new sentence.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 03-2014**

A Bill to amend Section 41-102 of the Masonic Code relating to balloting on Restoration of members suspended for non-payment of dues and suspension of members for a definite period after trial.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that said Code Section 41-102 be amended by striking the words in **Section 41-102. Joint Ballot** currently written:

**41-102. Joint Ballot.** *A joint secret ballot may be had upon two or more candidates for the degree of Entered Apprentice or for advancement to the degree of Fellowcraft or Master Mason, or upon two or more petitions for either affiliation, demit or restoration from expulsion, but a joint ballot may not be had on more than one class of petitions or applications, or relate to more than one degree. In any case when joint ballot shall be taken, if the same should be unfavorable, then a separate secret ballot shall be had upon each application. ~~Restoration from suspension for non-payment of dues or suspension for a definite period after trial will be determined by a majority of members present and voting. See Code Sec. 86-102.~~*

and inserting the following words. so that when amended Section 41-102 shall read as follows:

**41-102. Joint Ballot.** A joint secret ballot may be had upon two or more candidates for the degree of Entered Apprentice or for advancement to the degree of Fellowcraft or Master Mason, or upon two or more petitions for either affiliation, demit

or restoration from expulsion, restoration for non-payment of dues or suspension for a definite period after trial, but a joint ballot may not be had on more than one class of petitions or applications, or relate to more than one degree. In any case when joint ballot shall be taken, if the same should be unfavorable, then a separate secret ballot shall be had upon each application. See Code Sec. 86-102

Gary D. Lemmons, PM, Oothcaloga Lodge No. 154  
Thomas L. Blanton, PM, Cartersville Lodge No. 63  
Harry Worthington, PM, John W. Akin Lodge NO. 537  
Kenny Head, PM, East Floyd Lodge No. 728  
Howard M. Howell, PM, Cartersville Lodge No. 63

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 41-102 of the Masonic Code relating to balloting on Restoration of members suspended for non-payment of dues and suspension of members for a definite period after trial.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is not in proper legal form.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 04-2014**

A Bill to amend Section 86-102 of the Masonic Code relating to balloting on Restoration of members suspended for non-payment of dues and suspension of members for a definite period after trial.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Code Section 86-102 be amended by striking the following words from the code section as currently written:

#### ***Code section 86-102. Restoration, How Obtained.—***

*Any member suspended for a definite time, must, upon expiration of that time, make application for restoration to the Lodge from which he was suspended, after due investigation by a committee, may be restored by majority of members present and voting in the Lodge from which he had been suspended. This shall not apply to any person who was sentenced prior to adoption of this provision (1983).*

*Indefinite suspension may never be imposed as a penalty except for non-payment of dues. Upon the payment of such dues and reinstatement fees required by the Lodge suspending him, and upon written petition (See Appendix), and after due investigation by a committee, a member suspended for non-payment of dues may be restored by majority of members present and voting in the Lodge suspending him. A member of a Lodge, the charter of which has been surrendered or forfeited, who was suspended for non-payment of dues prior to such surrender or forfeiture, shall be entitled to the issuance by the Grand Secretary of a certificate in lieu of demit upon his payment to such Grand Secretary of the dues for non-payment of which he was suspended, plus a fee of \$3.50 to the Grand Secretary; and upon the payment thereof the Grand Secretary shall issue to such applicant his certificate which will show that such member was suspended for non-payment of dues in a lodge*

*which is now defunct; that such arrears of dues have been paid; that such certificate is issued by the Grand Secretary in lieu of and to have the same effect as a demit to such applicant as a Master Mason, and that the certificate does not constitute a recommendation as to character.*

*Restoration after expulsion is not within the power of a Constituent Lodge, which has power only to recommend the restoration of the expelled member upon unanimous secret ballot. A like petition is required with at least one of the recommenders being a member of the Lodge to which the petition is submitted. Only the Lodge from which expulsion was recommended may recommend restoration, regardless of the residence of such expelled member. See Secs. 44-102, 86-107, 86-108.*

*Following suspension or expulsion for failure to comply with Code Section 44-104, an individual may apply for restoration, and if restored to good standing the requirement for examination on the Catechism of the Master's Degree shall immediately become effective, according to Code Section 44-104, with time limits and all other provisions to apply to the restored individual the same as one who has just received the Master Mason's Degree.*

and inserting the following underlined words so that when amended **Section 86-102. Restoration, How Obtained** will read as follows:

**86-102. Restoration, How Obtained.** Any member suspended for a definite time, must, upon expiration of that time, make application for restoration to the Lodge from which he was suspended, after due investigation by a committee, member may be restored to good standing by unanimous secret ballot in the Lodge from which he had been suspended.

Indefinite suspension may never be imposed as a penalty except for non-payment of dues. Upon the payment of such dues and reinstatement fees required by the Lodge suspending him, and upon written petition (See Appendix), and after due investigation by a committee, a member suspended for non-payment of dues may be restored to good standing by unanimous secret ballot in the Lodge suspending him. A member of a Lodge, the charter of which has been surrendered or forfeited, who was suspended for non-payment of dues prior to such surrender or forfeiture, shall be entitled to the issuance by the Grand Secretary of a certificate in lieu of demit upon his payment to such Grand Secretary of the dues for non-payment of which he was suspended, plus a fee of \$3.50 to the Grand Secretary; and upon the payment thereof the Grand Secretary shall issue to such applicant his certificate which will show that such member was suspended for non-payment of dues in a lodge which is now defunct; that such arrears of dues have been paid; that such certificate is issued by the Grand Secretary in lieu of and to have the same effect as a demit to such applicant as a Master Mason, and that the certificate does not constitute a recommendation as to character, each member that has been issued such certificate must upon written petition (See Appendix), and after due investigation by a committee, may be restored to good standing by unanimous secret ballot in the Lodge to which he has made application.

Restoration after expulsion is not within the power of a Constituent Lodge, which has power only to recommend the restoration of the expelled member upon unanimous secret ballot. A like petition is required with at least one of the recommenders being a member of the Lodge to which the petition is submitted. Only the Lodge from which expulsion was recommended may recommend restoration, regardless of the residence of such expelled member. See Secs. 44-102, 86-107, 86-108.

Following suspension or expulsion for failure to comply with Code Section 44-104, an individual may apply for restoration, and if restored to good standing the requirement for examination on the Catechism of the Master's Degree shall immediately become effective, according to Code Section 44-104, with time limits and all other provisions to apply to the restored individual the same as one who has just received the Master Mason's Degree.

Gary D. Lemmons, PM, Oothcaloga Lodge No. 154  
Thomas L. Blanton, PM, Cartersville Lodge No. 63  
Harry Worthington, PM, John W. Akin Lodge No. 537  
Kenny Head, PM, East Floyd Lodge No. 728  
Howard M. Howell, PM, Cartersville Lodge No. 63

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 86-102 of the Masonic Code relating to balloting on Restoration of members suspended for non-payment of dues and suspension of members for a definite period after trial.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is not in proper legal form.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 05-2013**

A Bill to amend Section 40-101 of the Masonic Code relating to the length of time a recommender must know a petitioner for the Degrees of Masonry from twelve months to six months.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Code Section 40-101 shall be amended by deleting the words twelve months and adding the words six months so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

40-101. Requisites. - An application for initiation must be signed by the petitioner and not by another. The petitioner must be vouched for by two Master Masons, known to the petitioner for a period of time not less than six months, and one of whom must be a member of the petitioned Lodge. The petition shall state whether the candidate has been previously rejected, and if so, when, and by what Lodge. It must be read in open Lodge at a regular meeting, referred to a committee, and lie over until the next regular meeting, and shall be granted only upon unanimous secret ballot.

William Kayma, PM, Sandy Springs Lodge No. 124  
Charles Beasley, PM, Ben Hill Lodge No. 674  
James Rothrock, WM, Campbellton Lodge No. 76  
Mac McGuirt, PM, Stone Mountain Lodge No. 449

Michael Lynch, PM, Sandy Springs Lodge No. 124

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 40-101 of the Masonic Code relating to the length of time a recommender must know a petitioner for the Degrees of Masonry from twelve months to six months.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is not in proper legal form.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 06-2014**

A Bill to amend Section 23-109 of the Masonic Code relating to the adjournment in advance of a Lodge.

Said Code section now reads:

**23-109. No Adjournment in Advance-** The Master may not adjourn a regular communication of the Lodge prior to such communication

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that code section 23-109 be amended to read:

**23-109. No Adjournment in Advance-** The Master may not adjourn a regular communication of the Lodge prior to such communication except in such cases where travel to the communication might endanger the brethren which includes: snow, ice, hurricanes, tornadoes or other acts of God If the communication is adjourned prior to said communication, the Secretary shall make the appropriate notations in the minutes of the Lodge as to the action taken prior to said adjournment and the conditions causing it.

Ralph O. Dennis, PM, E.W. Hightower Lodge No. 679

Gary D. Lemmons, PM, Oothcaloga Lodge No. 154

Scott N. G. Childress, WM, E.W. Hightower Lodge No. 679

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 23-109 of the Masonic Code relating to the adjournment in advance of a Lodge.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in conflict with Section 23-110 and Ancient Landmarks.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 07-2014**

A Bill to amend Section 77-127 of the Masonic Code.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that:

Code Section 77-127 of the Masonic Code as reads:

Carrying Weapons in Lodge Room. - It is a violation of Masonic law and contrary to the rules of decorum and common decency for a member to enter the lodge room carrying a deadly weapon; and should he do so, he shall be charged and tried for unMasonic conduct. **This Code Section must be posted outside the entrance to the Lodge room. Edict 01-2004.**

Be amended by adding the words Active, off-duty or retired law enforcement officials shall be exempt. after the word conduct but before the bold print words.

So that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Carrying Weapons in Lodge Room. - It is a violation of Masonic law and contrary to the rules of decorum and common decency for a member to enter the lodge room carrying a deadly weapon; and should he do so, he shall be charged and tried for unMasonic conduct. Active, off-duty or retired law enforcement officials shall be exempt. **This Code Section must be posted outside the entrance to the Lodge room. Edict 01-2004.**

Huey P. Davis, Jr., PM, Blackshear Lodge No. 270

A Bill to delete Section 77-127 of the Masonic Code.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that:

Code Section 77-127 of the Masonic Code as reads:

Carrying Weapons in Lodge Room. - It is a violation of Masonic Law and contrary to the rules of decorum and common decency for a member to enter the lodge room carrying a deadly weapon; and should he do so, he shall be charged and tried for unMasonic conduct. **This Code Section must be posted outside the entrance to the Lodge room. Edict 01-02004.**

Be Deleted Entirely

Huey P. Davis, Jr., PM, Blackshear Lodge No. 270

So that said section as deleted shall only read:

77-127 **Deleted**

Huey P. Davis, Jr., PM, Blackshear Lodge No. 270

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 77-127 of the Masonic Code by allowing law enforcement officials to carry weapons in the Lodge.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is not in proper legal form.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 07A-2014**

A Bill to delete Section 77-127 of the Masonic Code.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that:

Code Section 77-127 of the Masonic Code as reads:

Carrying Weapons in Lodge Room. - It is a violation of Masonic Law and contrary to the rules of decorum and common decency for a member to enter the lodge room carrying a deadly weapon; and should he do so, he shall be charged and tried for unMasonic conduct. **This Code Section must be posted outside the entrance to the Lodge room. Edict 01-02004.**

Be Deleted Entirely



Huey P. Davis, Jr., PM, Blackshear Lodge No. 270

So that said section as deleted shall only read:  
77-127 Deleted

Huey P. Davis, Jr., PM, Blackshear Lodge No. 270

(Summary) This Bill seeks to delete Section 77-127 of the Masonic Code

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is not in proper legal form.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 08-2014**

A Bill to amend Sections 40-101, 39-103, 39-114, 40-102, 40-104, 43-108 of the Masonic Code relating to the criminal background check of the petitioner and the disposition of fees and information pertaining to same.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Code Section 40-101 shall be amended by inserting the words 'The petitioner must sign a separate Applicant Waiver Form agreeing to a background check by a firm appointed by the Grand Lodge to perform background checks and pay the fee for background check'. And inserting the words 'It shall be the responsibility of the Lodge Secretary to order the criminal background investigative report. No copies of the criminal background report shall be made nor shall its contents be revealed by or other than to the members of the Investigation Committee. The Committee, or any member thereof shall not, after having made its report, disclose any information which was received by the Lodge concerning the criminal background investigation', so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

**40-101. Requisites.**—An application for initiation must be signed by the petitioner and not by another. **The petitioner must sign a separate Applicant Background Waiver form agreeing to a background check by a firm appointed by the Grand Lodge and pay the fee for the background check.** The petitioner must be vouched for by two Master Masons, known to the petitioner for a period of time not less than twelve months, and one of whom must be a member of the petitioned Lodge. The petition shall state whether the candidate has been previously rejected, and if so, when, and by what Lodge.

**It shall be the responsibility of the Lodge Secretary to order the criminal background investigative report. No copies of the criminal background report shall be made nor shall its contents be revealed by or other than to the members of the Investigating Committee. The Committee, or any member thereof shall not, after having made its report, disclose any information which was received by the Lodge concerning the criminal background investigation.** It must be read in open Lodge at a regular meeting, referred to a committee, and lie over until the next regular meeting, and shall be granted only upon unanimous secret ballot. See Section 47-101.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE

AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Code Section 39-103 shall be amended by inserting the words 'and the fee for a criminal background investigation' and the words 'The fee received for initiation shall to be returned to the candidate if rejected, however the fee received for the criminal background investigation shall be retained by the Lodge' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

**39-103. Requirements.**—A candidate shall pay not less than \$30.00 for the three degrees. Before filing his petition he must have attained the full age of twenty-one years; must be free-born and his own master: and at the time of his initiation must be in respectable circumstances; and must, previous to his initiation, subscribe his name at full length to the petition prescribed by the Grand Lodge of Georgia. The fees for initiation **and the fee for a criminal background investigation** must accompany the petition. **The fee received for initiation shall to be returned to the candidate if rejected, however the fee received for the criminal background investigation shall be retained by the Lodge.**

(See Section 7-102 re Special Fee.)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Code Section 39-114 shall be amended by inserting the words 'A Lodge may not ballot on a petition until the Investigating Committee has reviewed a criminal background investigative report' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

**39-114. Character.**—It is the duty of the whole Lodge to examine into the character of a candidate. Any member may report against him, and it is his duty to do so if he knows anything rendering him unworthy; but a specific committee must be appointed in every case. **A Lodge may not ballot on a petition until the Investigating Committee has reviewed a criminal background investigative report.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Code Section 40-102 shall be amended by deleting the word 'fee' inserting the words 'fees and the Applicant Background Waiver Form' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

**40-102. Fee Accompanying.**—The **fees and the Applicant background Waiver Form** should accompany the petition. A note may not be taken there for.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Code Section 40-104 shall be amended by inserting the words 'and the Applicant Background Waiver Form' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

**40-104. Property of the Lodge.**—A petition **and the Applicant Background Waiver Form** once read becomes the property of the Lodge.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Code Section 43-108 shall be amended by inserting the words 'however the fee received for the criminal background investigation shall be retained by the Lodge,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

**43-108. Fees Returned, When.—**The fee accompanying a petition should in all cases be promptly returned if the applicant be rejected, **however the fee received for the criminal background investigation shall be retained by the Lodge,** whether by ballot or objection.

William Kayma, PM, Sandy Springs Lodge No. 124  
Charles Beasley, PM, Ben Hill Lodge No. 674  
James Rothrock, WM, Campbellton Lodge No. 76  
Michael Lynch, PM, Sandy Springs Lodge No. 124

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Sections 40-101, 39-103, 39-114, 40-104, 43-108 of the Masonic Code relating to the criminal background check of the petitioner and the disposition of fees and information pertaining to same.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

**APPLICANT BACKGROUND WAIVER**

(Please Print)  
Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
                                First                                Middle

\_\_\_\_\_ Last

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Street                                Apr./Suite

\_\_\_\_\_ City                                State                                Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
                                Month        Day        Year

Social Security No.: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*

I hereby authorize the Masonic Lodge (Lodge) to which I have submitted a Petition for the Three Degrees of Freemasonry, for Dual Membership or for Affiliation, to contact any company or individual they deem appropriate to investigate my background, criminal and civil court history, character and qualifications.] further consent to their review of any and all information obtained as a result of this, investigation. I understand that any matter deemed inappropriate as having possible adverse effects on the The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Georgia (Grand Lodge) or Freemasonry as a whole is justification for rejection of my Petition. I hereby waive my right to bring any cause of action against the Grand Lodge, their Officers or Members for defamation, invasion of privacy or for any other reason arising from their investigation.

I agree that if my Petition is accepted, I will abide by all of the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations as set forth by the Lodge and Grand Lodge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge receipt of the original criminal background investigation obtained by the Lodge this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ and acknowledge that my social security number has been redacted.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\*The current cost of this report is \$20.00; payment must be made apart of this petition and is not refundable. The report will be delivered to the petitioner at the conclusion of the investigation. Petitioner will sign for the report on the original petition, located on the back below the References

\*\* Note: Upon execution of the receipt portion of this form by the individual, the Social Security Number will be redacted (delete the first five numbers).

**CODE BILL NO. 09-2014**

A Bill amending section **71-105. Emblems Worn By Female Relatives** of the **Masonic Code of Georgia**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that the following section **71-105. Emblems Worn By Female Relatives** of the **Masonic Code of Georgia** be amended by striking the word unmarried where-so-ever appearing in said Code Section, to wit:

**71-105. Emblems Worn By Female Relatives.—**It shall be lawful for the wife, mother, ~~unmarried~~ sister, or ~~unmarried~~ daughter of a Master Mason who is living and in good standing, or for the widow during her widowhood, mother, ~~unmarried~~ sister or ~~unmarried~~ daughter of a deceased Master Mason who was in good standing at the time of his death, but not for the wife, widow, sister, or daughter of a demitted Mason, to wear a Masonic badge, pin, or emblem.

So that when enacted the section shall be amended to read as follows:

**71-105. Emblems Worn By Female Relatives.—**It shall be lawful for the wife, mother, sister, or daughter of a Master Mason, who is living and in good standing, or for the widow during her widowhood, mother, sister or daughter of a deceased Master Mason, who was in good standing at the time of his death, but not for the wife, widow, sister, or daughter of a demitted Mason, to wear a Masonic badge, pin, or emblem.

Gary D. Lemmons, PM, Oothcaloga Lodge No. 154

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend section 71-105. Emblems Worn By Female Relatives.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia

**CODE BILL NO. 10-2014**

**WITHDRAWN BY SPONSORS**

A Bill to amend section **51-104. Member Under Charges** of the **Masonic Code of Georgia**.

**CODE BILL NO. 11-2014**

A Bill to provide for balloting upon a Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry by adding section **41-118. Balloting upon a Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry** to the **Masonic Code of Georgia**.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that the following section

**41-118. Balloting upon a Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry** be added to the **Masonic Code of Georgia**:

**41-118. Balloting upon a Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry.**—The ballot upon the Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry shall be for the purpose of determining the appropriateness of the character of the petitioner, based upon the actual knowledge of the Brother casting the ballot or the report of the investigating committee. Casting a ballot for any other reason, save character, is gross un-Masonic conduct.

So that when enacted the Section shall read as follows:

**41-118. Balloting upon a Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry.**—The ballot upon the Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry shall be for the purpose of determining the appropriateness of the character of the petitioner based upon the actual knowledge of the brother casting the ballot or the report of the investigating committee. Casting a ballot for any other reason, save character, is gross un-Masonic conduct.

Gary D. Lemmons, PM, Oothcaloga Lodge No. 154  
E. Ray Knittel, PM, Cohutta Lodge No. 64, F.&A.M.

(Summary) This Bill seeks to add Section 41-118. Balloting upon a Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry to the Masonic Code of Georgia.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia

**CODE BILL NO. 12-2014**

A Bill to provide for the repeal of section **39-108. Physical Qualifications** of the **Masonic Code of Georgia** in its entirety and to provide for the enactment of a new section **39-108. Physical Qualifications** of the **Masonic Code of Georgia**.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that section **39-108. Physical Qualifications** of the **Masonic Code of Georgia** be repealed in its entirety,

Every candidate for initiation should be upright in body, not deformed or dismembered at the time of making, but of hale and entire limbs, organs and members:

If the petitioner, however, be physically defective by reason of deformity or being maimed and still be able to earn a livelihood and honestly acquire a means of subsistence and can conform substantially to the forms and ceremonies of Masonry and be instructed in its mysteries, eligibility shall first be determined by the Lodge to which the candidate shall have applied. Until this action, if favorable, shall have been submitted to and approved by the Grand Master in writing the petitioner shall not be eligible to receive the Masonic degrees. See Secs. 47-104, 24-102.

and that the following section **39-108. Physical Qualifications** of the **Masonic Code of Georgia** be adopted:

**39-108. Physical Qualifications** – Every petitioner for initiation should possess the physical and mental abilities to conform substantially to the forms and ceremonies of Freemasonry.

If a petitioner shall be physically impaired, but, with or without the assistance of a brother, shall be able to conform to those, aforementioned, forms and ceremonies, if said petitioner can be instructed in the mysteries of Freemasonry, and if said petitioner shall be able to earn a livelihood and honestly acquire a means of subsistence, he shall be deemed physically qualified and shall not be denied membership owing to his physical impairment.

The investigating committee appointed to investigate any petitioner having a physical impairment as described in this section, shall report the same to the Lodge as a part of the investigating committee's report on the petition.

The secretary of the Lodge shall submit the details of the petitioner's disability in writing to the Grand Master. The Grand Master shall determine whether or not the petitioner is qualified for membership under the provisions of this section and respond to the Lodge secretary in writing.

If the Grand Master approves consideration of the petition, the Lodge must be made aware of this approval and may proceed to act upon the petition in the normal fashion.

If the Grand Master disallows the petition, any fees paid by the petitioner are returned to the same, and the issue shall be closed.

so that when adopted said section shall read as follows:

**Section 39-108. Physical Qualifications** – Every candidate for initiation should possess the physical and mental abilities to conform substantially to the forms and ceremonies of Freemasonry.

If a candidate shall be physically impaired, but, with or without the assistance of a brother, shall be able to conform to those, aforementioned, forms and ceremonies; if said candidate can be instructed in the mysteries of Freemasonry; and if said candidate shall be able to earn a livelihood and honestly acquire a means of subsistence, he shall be deemed physically qualified and shall not be denied membership owing to his physical impairment.

The investigating committee appointed to investigate any candidate having a physical impairment as described in this section, shall report the same to the Lodge as a part of the investigating committee's report on the petition.

The secretary of the Lodge shall submit the details of the petitioner's disability in writing to the Grand Master. The Grand Master shall determine whether or not the petitioner is qualified for membership under the provisions of this section and respond to the Lodge secretary in writing.

If the Grand Master approves consideration of the petition, the Lodge must be made aware of this approval and may proceed to ballot upon the petition in the normal fashion.

If the Grand Master disallows the petition, any fees paid by the petitioner are returned to the same, and the issue shall be closed.

Gary D. Lemmons, PM, Oothcaloga Lodge No. 154

E. Ray Knittel, PM, Cohutta Lodge No. 64

(Summary) This Bill seeks to repeal section 39-108. Physical Qualifications in its entirety and to provide for the enactment of a new section 39-108. Physical Qualifications to the Masonic Code.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 13-2014**

This amendment is intended change Chapter 25-102 which currently reads

"Eligible though never before an officer"

"Any Master Mason may be elected Worshipful Master, although never having been a Lodge Officer"

Amended as:

"A Master Mason must have served at least one year as a Warden in the Lodge in order to qualify for election as Worshipful Master"

Reason: It is blatantly obvious that no one could serve as a Worshipful Master without some experience as a lodge officer, especially a Warden. It would be a calamity to let someone without any leadership training to be a Master of a lodge and lead to its downfall.

Michael V Caputo, Jr, PM

Irvin Cox, PM, Director of Works & Sub District #1C Director

John Bridges, PM & Past Dir of Works

C. Mack Griffin, PM

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Masonic Code Chapter 25-102. The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is not in

proper legal form.

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 24-101 of the Georgia Code relating to the lodges five elected officers.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is not in proper legal form and is in conflict with Sections 28-112 and 77-130.

#### **CODE BILL 14-2014**

A bill to amend Section 24-101 of the Georgia Code relating to the lodges five elected officers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Section 24-101 be amended by adding the underlined language so that amended section shall read as follows:

**24-101. Elective and appointed Officers.** The officers of the Lodge shall be as follows:

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Worshipful Mater | 6. Chaplain        |
| 2. Senior Warden    | 7. Senior Deacon   |
| 3. Junior Warden    | 8. Junior Deacon   |
| 4. Treasurer        | 9. Senior Steward  |
| 5. Secretary        | 10. Junior Steward |
|                     | 11. Tyler          |

The first five officers above shall be elected annually by ballot, at the first meeting on or next preceding the festival of St. John the Evangelist, December 27, before any business is taken up, and a majority of all voted presented shall be necessary to a choice. Nominations are not required, and if made do not affect the privilege of those present to vote for any member of a subornment lodge and the installation, if circumstances will permit, shall be had at the same meeting. The other officers shall be appointed as follows: the Chaplain and Senior Deacon by the Master-elect; the Junior Deacon by the Senior Warden-elect; the Stewards by the Junior Warden-elect; and the Tyler, in the absence of By-Laws providing for his election, shall be appointed by the Master-elect. No member shall hold the corresponding office of Worshipful Master, Treasurer or Secretary in more than one lodge simultaneously, but is not prohibited from serving in any other elective or appointed office in another lodge during the same time period.

Charles Lloyd Mashburn Jr., PM Thunderbolt Lodge No. 693

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 24-101 of the Georgia Code relating to the lodges five elected officers.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is not in proper legal form and is in conflict with Sections 28-112 and 77-130

#### **CODE BILL NO. 15-2014**

A bill to amend Section 31-105 of the Georgia Code relating to a masons may not be suspended unit he is one or more years in arrears for Dues. However, no Mason who is in any branch of the military service of the United States may be suspended for non-payment for dues while a state of war exist between the United States and any foreign power. Likewise, no Mason over

seventy years of age may be suspended unless an investigation is held by committee into his ability to pay all or part of his dues and the results are reported to the lodge.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Section 31-105 be amended by deleting the strikethroughs language and adding the underlined language so that amended section shall read as follows:

### **31-105. Suspension.**

A Mason may not be suspended until he is ~~one or more~~ six months or more years in arrears for Dues. However, no Mason who is in any branch of the military service of the United States may be suspended for non-payment for dues while a state of war exist between the United States and any foreign power. Likewise, no Mason over seventy years of age may be suspended unless an investigation is held by committee into his ability to pay all or part of his dues and the results are reported to the lodge.

Charles Lloyd Mashburn Jr., PM, Thunderbolt Lodge No. 693  
Keny Drescher, PM, Thunderbolt Lodge No. 693  
Butch Mosley, PM, Thunderbolt Lodge No. 693  
Jamie Gillespie, WM, Thunderbolt Lodge No. 693

Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 31-105 relating to dues arrearage.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is not in proper legal form.

### **CODE BILL NO. 16**

A Bill to amend Section 77-128 of the Masonic Code relating to Masonry Not Used for Advertising.

77-128. Masonry Not Used for Advertising- Masonry shall not be used for advertising purposes. This forbids organizations such as Fellowcraft Clubs within a Lodge, when engaged in raising funds, from selling advertising space on the reverse side of tickets and distributing posters carrying the names of contributors of funds. Business cards carrying Masonic emblems are prohibited, nor should such cards carry any parody or doggerel tending to make light of any Masonic lecture or ceremony. A violation of this edict is gross unMasonic conduct. It shall not be un-Masonic conduct for a Masonic Lodge to engage in advertising for Masonic charitable fundraising purposes. However, said fundraising shall be approved in writing by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Section 77-128 be amended by deleting the strikethroughs so that amended section shall read as follows:

77-128. Masonry Not Used for Advertising- Masonry shall not be used for advertising purposes. This forbids organizations such as Fellowcraft clubs, within a Lodge, when engaged in raising funds, from selling advertising space on the reverse side of tickets

and distributing posters carrying the names of contributors of funds. Business cards carrying Masonic emblems are prohibited, nor should such cards carry any parody or doggerel tending to make light of any Masonic lecture or ceremony. A violation of this edict is gross unMasonic conduct. It shall not be un-Masonic conduct for a Masonic Lodge to engage in advertising for Masonic charitable fundraising purposes. ~~However, said fundraising shall be approved in writing by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.~~

Lew Puckett, PM, Statham Lodge 634  
Cameron Boswell PM, Hudson Lodge No. 294  
B. J. Sosebee, PM, Unity Lodge No. 36

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 77-128 of the Masonic Code relating to Masonry Not Used for Advertising.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in conflict with Section 49-101.

### **CODE BILL NO. 17**

A Bill to provide for the repeal of Section 44-104 Examination Necessary of the Masonic Code of Georgia in its entirety and to provide enactment of a new Section 44-104 Examination Necessary.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Section 44-104, which reads as follows.

44-104. Examination Necessary- An applicant for advancement must show suitable proficiency in catechism of the preceding degree up to and including the obligation, upon examination in open Lodge. The maximum number of candidates to be examined in the Catechism of any one Degree of Masonry at any one particular time shall not exceed seven (7), including courtesy candidates. All persons receiving the Master Mason's Degree shall be required, within 45 days of being raised, to commit to memory the Catechism of the Master's Degree up to and including the obligation, and to demonstrate his proficiency therein in open Lodge to the satisfaction of his Brethren. The Worshipful Master may extend in writing said time upon proper showing. Masonic Charges should be filed after ninety (90) days if the Grand Master does not extend in writing time, or at the end of the extended time allowed in writing by the Grand Master.

Shall be repealed in its entirety,

~~44-104. Examination Necessary An applicant for advancement must show suitable proficiency in catechism of the preceding degree up to and including the obligation, upon examination in open Lodge. The maximum number of candidates to be examined in the Catechism of any one Degree of Masonry at any one particular time shall not exceed seven (7), including courtesy candidates. All persons receiving the Master Mason's Degree shall be required, within 45 days of being raised, to commit to memory the Catechism of the Master's Degree up to and including the obligation, and to demonstrate his proficiency~~

therein in open Lodge to the satisfaction of his does not extend in writing time, or at the end of the extended time allowed in writing by the Grand Master.

And the following shall be enacted:

44-104 Examination Necessary- An applicant for advancement must show suitable proficiency in catechism of the preceding degree up to and including the obligation, upon examination in open Lodge. The maximum number of candidates to be examined in the Catechism of any one Degree of Masonry at any one particular time shall not exceed seven (7), including courtesy candidates. All persons receiving the Master Mason's Degree shall be required, within twelve months of being raised, to commit to memory the Catechism of the Master's Degree up to and including the obligation, and to demonstrate his proficiency therein in open Lodge to the satisfaction of his Brethren. Masonic Charges should be filed after twelve months if the Grand Master does not extend in writing time, or at the end of the extended time allowed in writing by the Grand Master.

Lew Puckett, PM, Statham Lodge 634  
Cameron Boswell PM, Hudson Lodge No. 294  
B. J. Sosebee, PM, Unity Lodge No. 36

(Summary) This Bill seeks to provide for the repeal of Section 44-104 Examination Necessary of the Masonic Code of Georgia in its entirety and to provide enactment of a new Section 44-104 Examination Necessary.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is not in proper legal form.

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend code section 39-101 by requiring petition to be accompanied by a sealed criminal background check from local law enforcement.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 18**

A bill to amend code section 39-101 by adding the words; Each application /Petition shall be accompanied by a sealed criminal history from the local Law Enforcement Department, who is authorized to conduct such Criminal back ground checks. It is the responsibility of the petitioner to furnish said Criminal back ground check at their own expense. No application /petition for degrees shall move forward without a back ground check.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND EXCEPTED MASONS that code section 39-101 of the Masonic Code be amended so that Section 39-101 as amended shall read as follows:

**39-101. Application.** - No one shall be initiated in any subordinate Lodge without being proposed by a written petition at a regular communication which petition shall lie over until the next regular communication, that the character of the

candidate may be fully investigated. **Each application /Petition shall be accompanied by a sealed criminal history from the local Law Enforcement Department, who is authorized to conduct such Criminal back ground checks. It is the responsibility of the petitioner to furnish said Criminal back ground check at their own expense. No application/petition for degrees shall move forward without a back ground check.**

Walter D. Dacus, PM, Buford Lodge No. 292  
Russell Gee, PM, Gainesville Lodge No. 219  
Wiley Q Forrester, III, PM, Buford Lodge No. 292  
Jeff Shoemaker, PM, Stone Lodge No. 715  
Anthony Prickett, PM, Buford Lodge No. 292

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend code section 39-101 by requiring petition to be accompanied by a sealed criminal background check from local law enforcement.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 19**

A Bill to provide for the appointment of a State Chairman of the District Deputies to the Grand Master by adding a new Section 5-105 (A) of the Masonic Code of Georgia. Said section to read as follows:

**5-105(A) Appointment of State Chairman of the District Deputies to the Grand Master. - The Grand Master shall appoint a Leader of the District Deputies to the Grand Master who will serve as the State Chairman of the District Deputies to the Grand Master. The State Chairman so selected should be currently serving as a District Deputy or recently served as a District Deputy. However the State Chairman so appointed will not be able to serve as a District Deputy to the Grand Master during his term as State Chairman of the District Deputies. He will, (a) work with the District Leaders to train and supervise the activities of the District Deputies, (b) receive all quarterly reports due from the District Leaders, compile those reports and furnish a copy to the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, and (c) perform such other duties as the Grand Master may request.**

Mark A. Bradley, PM, Unity Lodge No. 36  
Edgar M. Land, GM, Oak Bowery Lodge No. 81  
E. Ray Knittel, PGM, Cohutta Lodge No. 64  
Douglas W. McDonald, PM, Mt. Airy Lodge No. 141  
Jerry D. Moss, PGM, Mountian Park Lodge No. 729

(Summary) This Bill seeks to add a new Section 5-105(A) to the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to State Chairman of District Deputies.

The Jurisprudence Committee Finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

## CODE BILL NO. 20

A Bill to remove the requirement that the State Chairman of the District Deputies of the Grand Master be a District Deputy and provide for the Grand Master to appoint a permanent member of the Grand Lodge to that position by amending Section 5-105 of the Masonic Code of Georgia. Section 5-105 currently reads:

**5-105. Duties of District Deputy Leaders.** - The Grand Master shall designate in each of the Masonic Districts a Leader of the Deputies of such District, ~~and one such Leader shall be appointed as Chairman of the Leaders~~, who shall (a) appraise and report to the ~~Grand Lodge~~ upon the program and progress of the Craft and make recommendations for its welfare, (b) as requested by the Grand Master coordinate the activities and work of the Deputies in his District (c) Organize and publicize District educational meetings, institutes and seminars in the District, and at the District convention at the request of the Grand Master or District Master, and (d) perform such other duties as the Grand Master may request.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEOERGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Section 5-105 be amended so that said section as amended shall read as follows.

**5-105. Duties of District Deputy Leaders.** - The Grand Master shall designate in each of the Masonic Districts a Leader of the Deputies of such District, who shall (a) appraise and report to the State Chairman of the District Deputies upon the program and progress of the Craft and make recommendations for its welfare, (b) as requested by the Grand Master coordinate the activities and work of the Deputies in his District (c) Organize and publicize District educational meetings, institutes and seminars in the District, and at the District convention at the request of the Grand Master or District Master, and (d) perform such other duties as the Grand Master may request.

Mark A. Bradley, PM, Unity Lodge No. 36  
Edgar M. Land, GM, Oak Bowery Lodge No. 81  
E. Ray Knittel, PGM, Cohutta Lodge No. 64  
Douglas W. McDonald, PM, Mt. Airy Lodge No. 141  
Jerry D. Moss, PGM, Mountain Park Lodge No. 729

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 5-105 of the Masonic code of Georgia relating to duties of State Chairman of District Deputies.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

## CODE BILL NO. 21

A bill to amend Section 5-108 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to the submission of the reports of the District

Deputies to the Grand Master. Said section currently reads as follows:

**5-108 Reports** - The District Deputy shall make quarterly reports to the ~~Grand Master~~ on forms furnished for the purpose, outlining his visits to the respective Lodges assigned to him, the condition in which he found them and all other matters of concern to the Craft, ~~furnishing a copy to the Deputy Grand Master and to his District Leader~~, and make additional special reports to the Grand Master when requested by him.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Code Section 5-108 be amended so that said section as amended shall read a follows:

**5-108 Reports** - The District Deputy shall make quarterly reports to the District Leader on forms furnished for the purpose, outlining his visits to the respective Lodges assigned to him, the condition in which he found them and all other matters of concern to the Craft, and make additional special reports to the Grand Master when requested by him. The State Chairman of the District Deputies shall compile the reports from the District Leaders and forward a copy to the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master noting (a) the progress of the Craft, (b) all matters of concern, and (c) recommendations for its welfare.

Mark A. Bradley, PM, Unity Lodge No. 36  
Edgar M. Land, GM, Oak Bowery Lodge No. 81  
E. Ray Knittel, PGM, Cohutta Lodge No. 64  
Douglas W. McDonald, PM, Mt. Airy Lodge No. 141  
Jerry D. Moss, PGM, Mountian Park Lodge No. 729

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 5-108 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to reports submitted by District Deputies.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

## CODE BILL NO. 22

A bill to amend section 51-109 of the Masonic Code of Georgia by removing the requirement that a Lodge of Sorrow be opened and closed in the same calendar year and adding a requirement that a Lodge of Sorrow be closed at or before the next December communication at which the annual election of Lodge officer is be held. Said code section presently reads (prior to the amendment as follow:

**51-109. Burial Is Part of Lodge Labor** - Charter not Present at Grave. A Masonic burial is part of the labor of the Lodge; therefore, it si improper to call the Lodge from labor to refreshment when leaving its hall to follow the remains of a deceased Brother to their last resting place. It is unnecessary to carry the Lodge charter to the grave. The Lodge must be regularly closed after the burial, unless at the opening of the Lodge of Sorrow, the Master announces that this Lodge of Sorrow will remain open, but darkened, for the purpose of conducting Masonic burial services until some specific date in that calendar

year at which time the Lodge of Sorrow must be regularly closed. The minutes of the lodge must reflect all services (work) performed while a Lodge of Sorrow is open.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the 2014 Masonic code Chapter 51-1, Code Section 51-109, Burial Is Part Of Lodge Labor, only be amended as follows:

**51-109. Burial Is Part of Lodge Labor** - Charter not Present at Grave. A Masonic burial is part of the labor of the Lodge; therefore, it is improper to call the Lodge from labor to refreshment when leaving its hall to follow the remains of a deceased Brother to their last resting place. It is unnecessary to carry the Lodge charter to the grave. The Lodge must be regularly closed after the burial, unless at the opening of the Lodge of Sorrow, the Master announces that this Lodge of Sorrow will remain open, but darkened, for the purpose of conducting Masonic burial services until some specific date in that calendar year in the future on or before the date of the regular December communication of the Lodge when the annual election of officers is to be held, at which time the Lodge of Sorrow must be regularly closed. The minutes of the lodge must reflect all services (work) performed while a Lodge of Sorrow is open.

Raymond Gray, PM, Tucker Lodge No. 42  
Tom D. Bruce, PM, Tucker Lodge No. 42

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend section 51-109 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to Lodge of Sorrow.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 23**

A bill to amend section 23-109 of the Masonic Code of Georgia by providing for the rescheduling of Lodge meetings when weather or other circumstances create public safety issues by providing the Worshipful Master shall have authority to reschedule a regular communication under certain limited circumstances without obtaining dispensation. Said code section presently reads (prior to the amendment) as follows:

**23-109. No Adjournment in Advance.**- The Master may not adjourn a regular communication of the Lodge prior to such communication.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the 2014 Masonic Code chapter 23-1, Code Section 23-109, **No Adjournment in Advance**, only be amended as follows:

By removing the period at the end of the code section, adding a comma in its place, and adding the following words thereafter; "except if the actual or predicted advent of a condition, beyond the control of the Lodge, would pose a danger to the general public, including members of a Lodge, in traveling or attending a regular or called communication of the Lodge. In such case, the Worshipful Master shall have authority, in his sole discretion and without

dispensation, to postpone and reschedule said communication to another date and time provided at least one regular communication is held each month. (See 23-110)." so that the amended code section shall read as follows:

**23-109. No Adjournment in Advance.** - The Master may not adjourn a regular communication of the Lodge prior to such communication, except if the actual or predicted advent of a condition, beyond the control of the Lodge, would pose a danger to the general public, including members of a Lodge, in traveling or attending a regular or called communication of the Lodge. In such case, the Worshipful Master shall have authority, in his sole discretion and without dispensation, to postpone and reschedule said communication to another date and time provided at least one regular communication is held each month. (See 23-110)

John B. Graf, II, PM, Clarkston Lodge No. 492

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend section 23-109 of the Masonic Code of Georgia by providing for the rescheduling of Lodge meetings when weather or other circumstances create public safety issues.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

#### **CODE BILL NO. 24**

A BILL to amend Section 78-107 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to Amendments to Charges and Specifications.

BE IT ENACTED by the Grand Lodge of Georgia, Free and Accepted Masons that Section 78-107 of the Masonic Code be amended by adding the following as the second paragraph:

Any proposed amendment to existing Charges and Specifications shall be offered at a stated meeting, shall be read by the Secretary, and the Lodge shall thereupon determine by majority vote whether or not the same shall be accepted.

So that said section as amended shall read as follows:

**78-107 Amendments to Charges and Specifications.** No new charge or specification may be added by way of amendment after service upon the accused, but changes and specifications after service are amendable in form and substance.

Any proposed amendment to existing Charges and Specification shall be offered at a stated meeting, shall be read by the Secretary, and the Lodge shall thereupon determine by majority vote whether or not the same shall be accepted.

Thomas Edward Tante, IV, PM, Columbian Lodge No. 7  
Thomas W. Tinley, III, PM, John S. Davidson Lodge No. 677

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 78-107 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to Amendments to Charges and Specifications.



The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

### **CODE BILL NO. 25**

A BILL to amend Section 78-109 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to Written Instruments.

BE IT ENACTED by the Grand Lodge of Georgia, Free and Accepted Masons that Section 78-109 of the Masonic Code be amended by adding the following as the second paragraph:

Any written instruments, including but not limited to, petitions, minutes, investigating committee reports, financial record, attendance register, etc. which have any relevance to a charge made against a brother (or which may lead to the discovery of relevant information) and which are (or should be) in the possession of or under the control of a Lodge or the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons shall be made available to the accused brother to inspect and to copy. The accused brother shall be provided the opportunity to inspect and to copy the written instruments at a mutually convenient time within ten (10) days after the accused brother makes a written request to inspect and to copy the written instruments. In no event shall the trial of the accused brother be held less than twenty days after the accused brother has had a reasonable opportunity to inspect and to copy the written instruments. Failure to allow the accused brother the opportunity to inspect and to copy written instruments as set forth above shall be unmasonic conduct by the custodian of the written instruments.

So that said section as amended shall read as follows:

**78-109 Written Instruments.** - Written instruments, where they form a part of the gist of the offense charged, should be recited verbatim in the specifications, and may be introduced by the words "in words and figures as follows." When the substance only is necessary to be set forth, they may be introduced by the words "in substance as follows."

Any written instruments, including but not limited to, petitions, minutes, investigating committee reports, financial record, attendance register, etc. which have any relevance to a charge made against a brother (or which may lead to the discovery of relevant information) and which are (or should be) in the possession of or under the control of a Lodge or the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons shall be made available to the accused brother to inspect and to copy. The accused brother shall be provided the opportunity to inspect and to copy the written instruments at a mutually convenient time within ten (10) days after the accused brother makes a written request to inspect and to copy the written instruments. In no event shall the trial of the accused brother be held less than twenty days after the accused brother has had a reasonable opportunity to inspect and to copy the written instruments. Failure to allow the accused brother the opportunity to inspect and to copy written instruments as set forth above shall be unmasonic conduct by the custodian of the written instruments.

Thomas Edward Tante, IV, PM, Columbian Lodge No. 7  
Thomas W. Tinley, III, PM, John S. Davidson Lodge No. 677

Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 78-109 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to Written instruments.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

### **CODE BILL NO. 26**

A BILL to amend Section 78-128 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to Accepting Charges.

BE IT ENACTED by the Grand Lodge of Georgia, Free and Accepted Masons that Section 78-128 of the Masonic Code be amended by striking the words "and the alleged offense investigated" in the sentence of the first paragraph of Section 78-128 and by adding the words "and one certified copy to the accused brother" at the end of the last sentence in paragraph three of Section 78-128.

So that said section as amended shall read as follows:

**78-128. Accepting Charges.** — Charges offered at a stated meeting shall be read by the Secretary, and the Lodge shall thereupon determine by a majority vote whether or not the same shall be accepted ~~and the alleged offense investigated~~, except that no vote of the Lodge shall be necessary or taken as to whether or not charge(s) and specification(s) shall be accepted ~~and the alleged offense investigated~~ when the charge(s) and specification(s) are founded on a certified copy of the indictment (or accusation), plea, and sentence from the court of record wherein the member was convicted of or pled guilty (or nolo contendere) to a felony.

When a member of a Lodge has been convicted of or pled guilty or (nolo contendere) to a felony in any Court, and a certified copy of the indictment (or accusation), plea, and sentence from the court of record wherein the member was convicted of or pled guilty (or nolo contendere) to the felony is presented in open Lodge, then it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to order the Junior Warden or some other Master Mason who is a member of the Lodge to prepare a suitable charge with an appropriate specification or specifications against the accused and to present the same to the Lodge within forty (40) days.

The Worshipful Master shall order suitable Charge(s) and Specification(s) founded on a certified copy of the indictment (or accusation), plea, and sentence from the court of record wherein the member was convicted of or pled guilty (or nolo contendere) to a felony to be appended to the minutes of the Lodge. The Worshipful Master shall then declare the charge(s) accepted and he shall order the Secretary to immediately transmit two certified copies of such charge(s), specifications, and supporting court documents to the Chairman of the Trial Commission for the district in which such Lodge is located, and one certified copy to the Grand Master and one certified copy

to the accused brother.

Thomas Edward Tante, IV, PM, Columbian Lodge No. 7  
Thomas W. Tinley, III, PM, John S. Davidson Lodge No. 677

(Summary) This Bill seeks to amend Section 78-128 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to Accepting Charges.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Masonic Code of Georgia.

**CODE BILL NO. 27**  
**WITHDRAWN BY SPONSORS**

A BILL to amend Section 78-129 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to Voting Upon the Acceptance of Charges.

**CODE BILL NO. 28**  
**WITHDRAWN BY SPONSORS**

**“Rose on the Altar” Degree Held at Oak Bowery**



The “Rose on the Altar” degree team from Battlefield Lodge No. 523 poses with Wor. Bro. Michael Reece, Wor. Master of Oak Bowery Lodge No. 81 and two Grand Line Officers present, Wor. Bro. Eddie Gurley, Grand Chaplain, and Most Worshipful Brother Edgar Land, Grand Master, on October 4 where they presented the play to the widows and brethren of Oak Bowery Lodge. It followed an excellent meal served to honor the widows of deceased brethren of the lodge. The Wor. Master and Grand Master presented each widow with a rose and made some brief comments about each deceased brother. Oak Bowery Lodge is the home lodge of the Grand Master.

A BILL to amend Section 79-101 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to Trial Chairman Approves Form of Charges: Accused Summoned, Dates of Trial Fixed After Conference.

**CODE BILL NO. 29**  
**WITHDRAWN BY SPONSORS**

A BILL to amend the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to Ex Parte Communication by adding Code Section 79-109.

**CODE BILL NO. 30**  
**WITHDRAWN BY SPONSORS**

A BILL to amend Section 78-101 of the Masonic Code of Georgia relating to Basis for Charges.

**ENDOWMENT FUND CONTRIBUTIONS**

**August 21, 2014 to October 03-2014**

**\$500 OR MORE**

Swainsboro Lodge	No. 244
Douglasville Lodge	No. 289
Thomasville Lodge	No. 369
John W. Akin Lodge	No. 537
Grayson Lodge	No. 549
Ducktown Lodge	No. 572
Thunderbolt Lodge	No. 693
Walnut Grove Lodge	No. 703

Mary Allen Lindsey Branan Trust  
James A. Elrod  
W.S. Fuller  
Helen s. McPheeters Trust  
Michael Medsker  
J. W. Newberne

**\$1000 OR MORE**

Ruskin Family Trust  
Shady Dale Rodeo

Are you a Perpetual Member of your Lodge? Help your Lodge in the future and yourself today by becoming a Perpetual Member. Call the Grand Secretary's office for details.

# In Memorium

*Members Reported Deceased  
from August 21, 2014  
to October 3, 2014*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Lodge No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Lodge No.</b>
HENDERSON, GEORGE HERMAN	1SOL	BETTS, ALEXANDER HENDRY II	125
TURNER, PAUL WEBSTER SR	1SOC	BROWN, SILAS PHILLIP	126
MORING, FRANK HARDWICK	003	GRIGGS, HENRY CLAY	129
WELCH, MACK WAYNE	004	BRINKS, LLOYD [NMN]	134
ODOM, PAUL ROY	005	PATELIDAS, GUS	137
BLANKENSHIP, ELMER HOKE	006	BROWN, ARNOLD GERALD	154
POTTER, GEORGE ARTHUR	007	MYRICK, JOSEPH LAMAR	167
RAY, THOMAS JEFFREY	007	RIGGINS, WAYNE HERMAN	167
DUKE, JAMES VERNON	008	PELFREY, JERRY FAIN	168
WARD, CHARLES THOMAS SR	008	OGLE, JAMES HAROLD	171
PARKER, JAMES ROSWELL	010	ASKEW, JIM CLAY	184
MAYO, HORACE EDWARD	011	MCBATH, JAMES LUTHER	186
DUNN, HAROLD WELBORN	012	WELLS, GEORGE ALBERT	204
RILEY, OWEN LOWRY	016	ANDERSON, ELBERT BUTRAND JR	205
ALLGOOD, JOHN KENNETH	025	ANDERSON, GENE BROOKE	205
MASSENGALE, HUGH MERRILL	026	WILLINGHAM, CLYDE HERBERT	211
HELMS, CHARLES MILWARD	027	DAVIS, CLARENCE ALVIN	216
DALE, JAMES ARTHUR	030	BRADFORD, CHARLES EVERETT	228
HOLMAN, L. J. (IO)	030	HEALAN, THOMAS WILLIAM	230
BURKE, DONALD JAMES SR	032	MURRAY, MELVIN JULIAN	234
MCDANIEL, JAMES BOBBY	032	PHILLIPS, GARY (NMN)	235
SHELTON, C. W. (IO)	033	BROOKS, LONNIE CLEVELAND	241
PARKS, LOY [NMN]	038	BORN, JOHN IVAN	251
BURGESS, ROBERT THERON SR	041	BEARD, LOUIS AUBURN JR	255
WARE, SIM ALEXANDER	051	COOK, GEORGE EDWIN JR.	256
GILL, RILEY ELDON	056	STINNETT, EMERSON HAYNES	267
CLINE, JAMES LEVI JR	057	JOHNSON, MCGUIRE PRICE	288
FORTENBERRY, FOREST WILLIAM	063	ABERCROMBIE, ROBERT FRANKLIN	289
RAY, ROBERT EDWARD	063	HUBBARD, WILLIAM CURTIS	289
SHEPARD, JAMES CURTIS JR	068	JONES, WILLIAM HENRY JR	289
WATERS, GRADY HOWARD	068	PETITT, JAMES EDWARD	289
AYERS, TALMADGE DONALD	069	WATKINS, CRAWFORD BARNWELL JR	289
FOSTER, CHARLES FELTON	070	HOSCH, WALTER LOYAL	292
GOSS, MALCOLM CHARLES SR	070	MITCHELL, WILLIAM EMMETT III	299
LUTHER, PERRY WALTON	072	DONMOYER, PAUL LARRY	304
YOUNG, GENE (NMN)	075	MOORE, WALTER LEE	309
GADDIS, ROBERT LEE	081	MOREY, DANIEL CECIL	312
COWAN, THORNTON ELI	084	WISNER, WILLIAM THOMAS	314
PATRICK, FRANKLIN EDWARD SR	088	BYRD, WEAVER OTTO	325
BROWN, JAMES LAMAR	091	MADDOX, ALTON JEROME	333
ROGERS, JERRY DAVID	091	WHEELER, MITCHELL	333
TENCH, ROY BURGUS	092	CRIBBS, TROY GARLAND	335
OTT, EDWARD RICHARD	093	ZIELINSKI, GREGORY THOMAS	335
TURNER, OSCAR WALLACE SR	093	MAXWELL, GWINNETT AUGUSTUS	356
DAVIS, LYNWOOD EUGENE	098	YOUNG, DAVID HUGH	390
MADDEN, KENNETH DWAYNE	100	GAY, DAVID EDWARDS	424
ROLLINS, THOMAS EDWARD	105	RAINEY, DAN DARRYLL	429
YOUNGBLOOD, WELDON COTHRAN	120	ANDREWS, EDWARD EARL	444

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
MACON, GA  
PERMIT NO. 477

## 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)

Name	Lodge No.	Name	Lodge No.
MOORE, JAMES JOSHUA	444	ASH, LOUMIS GRADY	715
SELF, HUGH EDWARD SR.	444	SULLIVAN, KEVIN DAVID	717
SINGLETON, THOMAS MARION	444	MOSLEY, PHILIP ROBERT	718
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MAYNARD, A. B. (IO) JR	523	EDMISTON, DAVID GLENN	749
JUMP, ROY EMMIT	536	WHEELUS, HAROLD EDWARD SR	753
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