

# Masonic Messenger



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

February 2018

***Most Worshipful Brother Larry Nichols,  
Grand Master of Masons in Georgia***

## ***Grand Lodge Biographies***

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## ***Cottage Dedication***

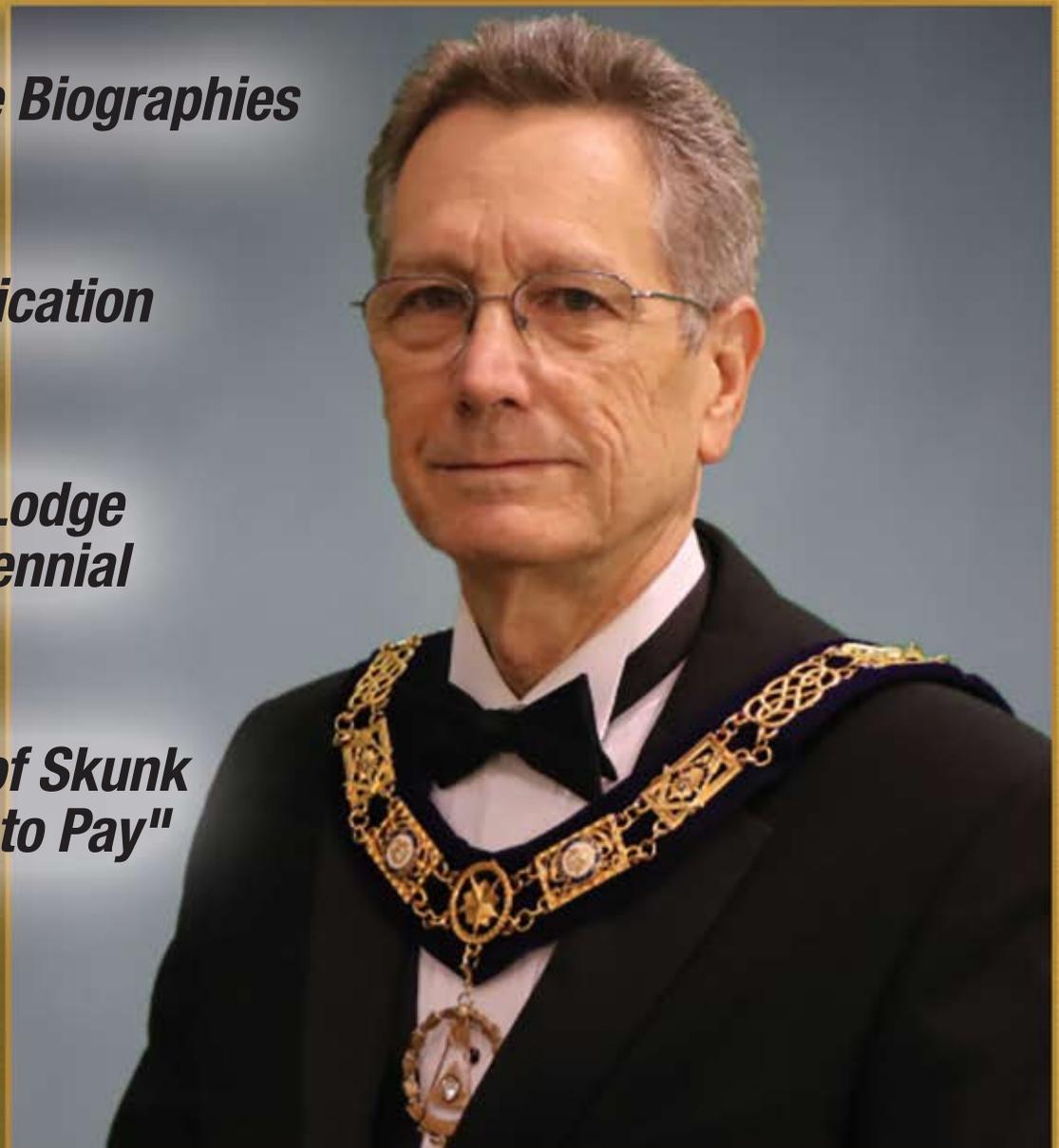
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## ***"The Smell of Skunk and No Way to Pay"***

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***Once a Steward, always a Steward***

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

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**MASONIC MESSENGER**

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 DDGM

# In Remembrance

## RESOLUTION

ILLUSTRIOUS ALBERT FRANKLIN GARNER, JR., 33°

Born: April 27, 1937 – Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina

Died: January 28, 2018 – Decatur, Georgia

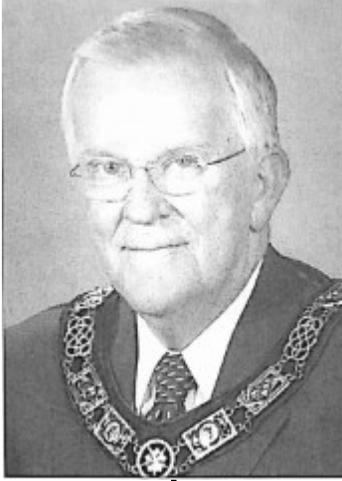
PASSED TO THE GREAT BEYOND IN HIS EIGHTIETH YEAR

WHEREAS, The Officers and Members in the Valley of Atlanta, Orient of Georgia, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, desire to record their deepest sorrow at the death of their Masonic Brother, Illustrious Albert Franklin Garner, Jr. 33° who, since October 7, 1983, has served the Scottish Rite, Valley of Atlanta in several capacities. Brother Garner contributed greatly to mankind and our country through his knowledge and leadership in the various Masonic bodies. His zest for life, his accomplishments will not soon be forgotten and we are much better for his life here on earth.

Brother Garner attended Edwards Military Institute and Wake Forest University graduating with a degree in history and minors in Political Science and Spanish. After graduation, he became a radio “DJ” in Gainesville, Florida doing news and sports announcing. Later he did play by play for the old Washington Senators Florida Grapefruit league team before moving to college sports in Maryland and Texas. He also managed a major music entertainer in concerts in the United States and Europe.

Going further in his vocation he started and managed several radio stations around the United States before going to work in 1981 for WCNN in Atlanta. By 1983 he was the Marketing Director of Satellite Communications in Atlanta, finally becoming the General Sales Manager of Joseph Broadcasting and retiring from there around 2005. Brother Al was initiated in Clarkston Lodge #492 in Clarkston, Georgia on February 22, 1983, passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on March 22, 1983, and raised as a Master Mason on April 12, 1983. He served as Worshipful Master in 1989 and Clarkston Lodge earned the Grand Masters Cup that year. He served several years as a District Deputy to the Grand Master in the Fifth Masonic District and served as the Chairman of the Deputies in the Fifth District. He served as Worshipful Master of the Fifth District Masonic Convention in 1999.

Brother Clarence E. Horne appointed him in 1998 as Third Grand Steward of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia and he served with distinction as Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Georgia in 2005. He was very active in Grand Lodge serving on several



Committees His beloved Lodge, Clarkston #492, was consolidated with Tucker Lodge #42 on November 28, 2017 and he became a member of Tucker Lodge #42. He was also a long time member of Metro Daylight Lodge #743 in Chamblee, Georgia.

He joined Mt. Zion Chapter #16, RAM and Jason Burr Council #13, RSM on November 2, 1996 and Coeur de Lion Commandery #4, KT on November 16, 1996. He was a past presiding officer of all these bodies and was invited to membership in Cherokee Rose Priory #56, Knights of the York Cross of Honour on July 31, 2007.

He became a member of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry on October 7, 1983 as a member of the Lewis Moseley, Sr., 33° Class. He was invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour on October 9, 1995, and was Coroneted an Inspector General Honorary, 33° on October 13, 2001. He was very active in the Scottish Rite serving as Classroom Director, communicator of several of the degrees, and Ritualist in the 21<sup>st</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> degrees. He was appointed by Illustrious Leonard Buffington, 33°, SGIG, as the Personal Representative for the Valley of Atlanta, serving for fourteen years until 2017.

Brother Garner was a longtime member of the Methodist Church. His wife Gay, whom he met while attending Wake Forest University, and married in 1958, preceded him in death in 2011. They had been married fifty three years. He is survived by three daughters, four grandchildren, nine great grandchildren and two great – great grandchildren.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the officers and members of the Scottish Rite, Valley of Atlanta, hereby give formal expression of its grievous loss in the death of Brother Albert Franklin Garner, Jr. and does hereby note in its records the passing from this life of a man who was loved by his friends and respected by all. BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, That a copy of this Resolution be made a part of the permanent records of this Valley and posted as appropriate, as a humble expression of the Scottish Rite's heartfelt sympathy.

Joe E. Turner, 33°

# In Remembrance

## RESOLUTION

### ILLUSTRIOUS SAMUEL ROY WHITFIELD, 33°

Born: November 25, 1929 – Jasper, Georgia

Died: January 27, 2018 – Marietta, Georgia

PASSED TO THE GREAT BEYOND IN HIS EIGHTY EIGHTH YEAR

WHEREAS, The Officers and Members in the Valley of Atlanta, Orient of Georgia, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, desire to record their deepest sorrow at the death of their Masonic Brother, Illustrious Samuel Roy Whitfield, 33° who, since October 27, 1989, has served the Scottish Rite, Valley of Atlanta in several capacities. Brother Whitfield contributed greatly to mankind and our country through his knowledge, leadership and financial contributions in the various organizations to which he belonged. His zest for life, his accomplishments will not soon be forgotten and we are much better for his life here on earth. Brother Sam attended Pickens County High School and the University of Georgia, graduating in 1952. After graduation, he joined the US Army and served in the Korean Conflict as commander of an M-26 Pershing tank and attained the rank of Captain. He settled in Smyrna, Georgia in 1955 and worked for Franklin Life Insurance as a District Manager and retired with thirty years of service in the late 1980s so that he might devote more time to his Civic - Masonic works. He served as President of the Cobb County Underwriters Association and was named a Fellow of the Life Underwriters Training Council.

By the time he retired, he had served three terms on the Cobb County School Board, including two years as Chairman and fifteen years on the Cobb County DFACS board including ten years as its Chairman. In 1966, he and eleven others founded the Security National Bank, which became the Trust Company Bank of Cobb County which became SunTrust Bank. He served for thirty years as one of the Directors, retiring in 2000.

After moving to Cobb County in 1955 he became a Charter Member of the Smyrna Rotary Club in 1963 and served as its President in 1966. He amassed an UNBELIEVABLE perfect attendance record for over 50 years of WEEKLY meetings of the Rotary Club, once having to come from the hospital by ambulance to attend a meeting. He was named the Smyrna Rotarian of the Year in 2009. He was a Paul Harris Fellow and Will Watt Fellow and also a member of the Arch Klumph Society, which recognizes the philanthropic endeavors of Rotary Club



Members. Rotary District 6900 of Georgia established the Sam R. Whitfield Award for Ethics in his honor in 2014. He also received the Distinguished Service Award from the Smyrna Jaycees, and in 2014 the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce awarded him their esteemed Smyrna Citizen of the Year Award. Brother Sam was initiated in Mt. Vernon Lodge #22 in Athens, Georgia on October 18, 1951, passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on December 6, 1951, and raised as a Master Mason on February 21, 1952, demitting to Nelms Lodge #323 in Smyrna in 1956. He served as Worshipful Master in 1966 and served twenty years as Lodge Treasurer. He was a charter member in 1991 of Cobb County Daylight Lodge #742 (Now James E. Sledge Daylight Lodges #742) and served as its Treasurer for twelve years. On May 12, 1988, Grand Master A. Ray Earwood appointed him as Grand Treasurer of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia succeeding Illustrious Brother Thomas S. Perry, and he served in that position with distinction for fourteen years until 2002. In 2003 he was elected Grand Treasurer, Emeritus. He was very active in Grand Lodge serving on the Properties and Investment Committee for several years.

He joined Keystone Chapter #1, RAM in Athens, Georgia on September 12, 1952, demitting to Smyrna Chapter #160, RAM, in Smyrna, Georgia in 1957. He joined Smyrna Council #60, RSM on November 29, 1956 and Coeur de Lion Commandery #4, KT on June 2, 1958, transferring to Constantine Commandery #26, KT in 1984. He was a past presiding officer of all these bodies and was invited to membership in Cherokee Rose Priory #56, Knights of the York Cross of Honour on July 31, 2007.

He became a member of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry on October 27, 1989 in the Benard South, 33° and Edward Woodrow Gregory, 32°, KCCH Class. He was invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour on October 18, 1993, and was Coroneted an Inspector General Honorary, 33° on October 13, 2001.

Continued on pg. 13





# Grand Lodge Calendar\*

\*the Grand Lodge Calendar is correct as of the date of publication but may not reflect changes made after that date. For current information on the Grand Master's travels or Grand Lodge events please see the Grand Lodge Website at [glofga.org](http://glofga.org)

## Board of Custodians Meetings

March 17, 2018

June 16, 2018

August 4, 2018.

The meetings will be held at the Masonic Temple at 2936 Riverside Drive, Macon, GA 31204 and will begin at 9:00 AM.

## Convention Dates

1<sup>st</sup> District Convention– March 24th 2018, Vidalia, Vidalia Lodge No. 330

2<sup>nd</sup> District Convention– April 7th 2018, Tifton, Tifton Lodge No. 47

3<sup>rd</sup> District Convention– March 17th 2018, 10:00 AM, Montezuma, Travelers Rest Lodge No. 65

4<sup>th</sup> District Convention– August 18th 2018, 9:45, Hamilton, Hamilton Lodge No.16

5<sup>th</sup> District Convention– September 8th 2018, 10:00 AM, Atlanta, Fulton Lodge No. 216

6<sup>th</sup> District Convention– May 5th 2018, 9:00 AM, Griffin, Meridian Sun Lodge No. 26

7<sup>th</sup> District Convention- May 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM, Rome, Cherokee Lodge No. 66

8<sup>th</sup> District Convention– May 19th 2018, 10:00 AM, Social Circle, Dawson Lodge No. 68

9<sup>th</sup> District Convention- September 22nd 2018 9:00 AM, Gainesville, Norcross Lodge No. 228

10<sup>th</sup> District Convention- June 9th 2018, 10:00 AM, Grovetown, Grovetown Lodge No. 730

11<sup>th</sup> District Convention– September 15th 2018, 10:00 AM, Lakeland, Lake Lodge No. 434

12<sup>th</sup> District Convention– April 21st 2018, 9:00 AM, Cochran, Cochran Lodge No. 217

## Masonic Home Workdays March 2nd and 3rd at Shellman's Bluff and April 14th at the Home

### Projects for Shellman's Bluff

Remove dead trees and debris from low-lying areas

Replace door on Superintendent's Cottage

Repair roof on outdoor sink

Cut and remove underbrush

Install lattice on girl's cottage

Install electrical outlet on shop

Install water line and power line on dock if dock is ready

Build new dock box

### Tools needed

Carpenter tools

Plumbing tools

Electrical tools

Chainsaws

Pitchforks

Bush hooks

Gloves

# Meet the “New Guys” On the Block!

Masonic Biographies of the Newest Members of the Grand Line and Grand Line Appointees

## Right Worshipful Brother Larry W. Nichols Elected as Grand Master



Born on September 12, 1950 in Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia, Most Worshipful Brother Nichols and his wife, the former Judy Clark of Temple, Texas, were married in 1974 and live in Atlanta. They have one daughter, Meredith.

Most Worshipful Brother Nichols received a

Bachelor of Business Administration degree (1972) and a Master of Accountancy degree (1974) from the University of Georgia. While attending the University of Georgia, Bro. Larry was initiated as a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, Georgia Delta Chapter and served as the chapter controller. After graduation, he served for 15 years as Treasurer of the Alumni Board of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, Georgia Delta Chapter.

Most Worshipful Brother Nichols became a Certified Public Accountant in 1976 and is president of Larry W. Nichols, P. C., Certified Public Accountant in Atlanta. He has served in several positions with the Georgia Society of Certified Public Accountants, including chairman of the taxation committee in 2001-2002, chairman of the taxation section in 2002-2003, and is currently serving on the Leadership Council. He is a practicing fellow with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Most Worshipful Brother Nichols is a third generation Mason and is very proud of his Masonic heritage. Most Worshipful Brother Nichols was initiated and passed in 1980 in Peachtree Lodge No. 732, where he served as Worshipful Master in 1987. His father, Wor. Bro. H. Joe Nichols, and his brother, Wor. Bro. H. Joe “Skip” Nichols, Jr., are both Past Masters of Triangle Lodge No. 708 and Past Potentates of Hasan Temple in Albany, Georgia, along with his brother Scott K. Nichols, who raised Most Worshipful Brother Larry to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, as a courtesy candidate in Triangle Lodge No. 708. Most Worshipful Brother Larry is a perpetual member of

Atlanta-Peachtree Lodge No. 59 and a charter and perpetual member of Charity Daylight Lodge No. 754. He became the first perpetual member in Georgia after drafting the Grand Lodge of Georgia Perpetual Membership Legislation.

He is Secretary Emeritus and Past Treasurer of the Atlanta Masonic Temple Company, Inc. and served as Master of the Fifth Masonic District Convention in 2000-2001. Bro. Nichols has served on several Grand Lodge committees, including serving as a member of the Investment Committee, chairman of the Insurance Committee, CEO of Georgia Masonic Charities Foundation, Inc., Board of Trustees of the Masonic Home, and chairman of the Retirement Committee. Most Worshipful Brother William M. Hutcheson appointed Bro. Nichols in 1990 to the Grand Lodge Finance Committee, which he served as chairman for 19 years. Right Worshipful Brother J. Aubrey Lewis, Jr., Junior Grand Warden, appointed Worshipful Brother Larry W. Nichols Third Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Georgia in 2010.

Most Worshipful Brother Nichols is a life member of the Valley of Atlanta, Orient of Georgia of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. He received his Scottish Rite degrees in 1980, was decorated a 32° Knight Commander Court of Honor in 1985, and was coroneted a 33° Inspector General Honorary of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in 1991. He is a past Degree Master of the 32°; Past Venerable Master of Kadosh (1992-1993), Atlanta Consistory; and past Lt. Commander of the Scottish Rite Guard (1984). He is a past member of the Executive Committee and a past member of the Finance Committee of the Valley of Atlanta. Most Worshipful Brother Nichols is Past High Priest of Mount Zion Chapter No. 16, Royal Arch Masons, Past Illustrious Master of Jason Burr Council No. 13, Royal & Select Masters, and Commander of Coeur de Leon Commandery, No. 4 Knights Templar. He is a Noble of the Yaarab Shrine, Shriners International, in Atlanta, where he is a member of the Knights of Mecca. He is a member of the Royal Order of Jesters Atlanta Court No. 91, having served as Director in 2009 and Impresario in 2011-2015. He is a member of the Billiken Club of Atlanta, Court No. 91.

## **Worshipful Brother William “Bill” Shepard Appointed as Third Grand Steward**



William F. Shepard was born in Hartford, Alabama on May 12, 1954 to Frank and Margaret Shepard; he has one sister Mary who still lives in Hartford. Growing up in a Christian home in a small town to parents who taught the values, joys and rewards of family and hard work has been a blessing. He attended and graduated from Geneva County High

School in 1972. In school he participated in many school activities, especially football, where as a lineman on both offense and defense he was selected the most valuable player his senior year. He went on to attend George C. Wallace Technical College and received certification in heavy equipment operation.

He worked many years in the heavy construction industry as a crane operator and welder. He is currently employed as a bulk mail tech with the United States Postal Service, where he has worked for the past twenty six years.

His early years in construction work brought him to Brunswick, Georgia in 1975; here he met the love of his life Cheryle Ann Rhymes, who became his wife in 1977. They have one son Brett and three grandsons Dylan, Cole and Chad; also two adopted grandson Ethan and Archer.

He was raised in Brunswick Lodge No. 717 on Nov. 18, 1999. He served as Worshipful Master in 2007. He received the Officer of the Year award for Brunswick Lodge in 2003 and the Hiram's award as the Mason of the Year for Brunswick Lodge in 2008. He affiliated with Ocean Lodge No. 214 in 2008 and served as Worshipful Master in 2011. He has served as Chaplain for the 11<sup>th</sup> District Masonic Convention on two occasions. He served as Counsel for Prosecution for the 11<sup>th</sup> Masonic District in 2008 and 2009. He was appointed to the Board of Custodians for the eleventh Masonic District in 2008 and is currently serving as chairman of that board. He received the Sam Owens award as Mason of the Year for the 11<sup>th</sup> Masonic District in 2014.

He was exalted to the Most Sublime degree of Royal Arch Mason in Brunswick Chapter No. 66 Royal Arch Masons in 2000. He served as High Priest of his Chapter and the Eleventh Royal Arch District Convention. He was honored to be elected and serve the Companions of Georgia as Grand High Priest in 2016. He is a Perpetual Life Member of the General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons, International. He received the Order of High Priesthood and now serves as Excellent Master of Ceremonies in that order. He is a recipient of the General Grand Chapter Bronze Distinguished Service Award and the General Grand Chapter Ritual Jewel.

He was Greeted a Royal and Select Master in Ballard Council No. 16 in 2000 and served as Illustrious Master. He is currently serving the Southeast Council Convention as the Deputy Master. He is a recipient of the Ish Sodi Award. He has received the Order of the Silver Trowel and is currently serving as the Thrice Illustrious Chaplain. He is a Life Member of the General Grand Council Cryptic Masons, International.

He was knighted a Knight Templar in St. Elmo Commandery No. 21 in 2000 and served as Commander and received the Knight Crusader of the Cross. He is a recipient of the Knight Commander of the Temple and the Knight Templar Cross of Honor.

He is a member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Valley of Savannah. He is a past Commander of the Council of Kadosh and is currently serving as Master of Ceremonies in the Lodge of Perfection. He is part of the degree teams for the 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> degrees also the Wise Master and Degree Master for the 18<sup>th</sup> degree. He was invested as a Knight Commander Court of Honor. He is a member and Past President of the Southeast Georgia Scottish Rite Association.

Brother Shepard was inducted as Knight York Cross of Honor in Georgia Priory # 39 and is currently serving as Prior. He is a member of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests of the Upper Room Tabernacle # XLV and is serving as the Sixth Pillar. He is a member of Oglethorpe Conclave Red Cross of Constantine in Savannah and serving as Puissant Sovereign. He is a Past Governor of Herman E. Freeman York Rite College. He is a Past Sovereign Master of Savannah Council # 328 Allied Masonic Degrees; he has received the Red Branch of ERI, Man at Arms, Esquire, Knight, and Knight Commander. He has received and is a Life member of the Masonic Order of the Bath. He is a member of the George Washington Chapter Order of DeMolay and a Life Member of the International DeMolay Alumni Association. He is a member of Crowned Martyrs Council #120 Knight Masons, and serving as Steward. He is also a member of Oglethorpe Chapel # 21 St. Thomas of Acon and Tall Cedars of Lebanon Savannah Forest # 217 serving as Preceptor. He is a member of Alee Shrine Temple in Savannah and the Brunswick Shrine Club.

At the 231<sup>st</sup> Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia the Junior Grand Warden elect Jan M. Giddens made a few remarks on the weighty responsibility of appointing not only a Third Grand Steward but a future Grand Master. After five years traveling around the state, visiting many Lodges and District Conventions and considering many of the great Masons in our jurisdiction RWB Giddens selected William (Bill) Shepard as the new Third Grand Steward to begin the progressive line in our Grand Lodge.

## **Worshipful Brother Raymond C. Gray Appointed as Grand Chaplain**



Brother Larry W. Nichols, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, has appointed Brother Raymond C. Gray as Worshipful and Reverend Grand Chaplain for the 2017-2018 year.

Worshipful Brother Gray was born November 30, 1941, at Fort Benning, GA to Horace E. and Ruby Maddox Gray, the middle of two brothers. He grew

up in Cusseta, AL, graduating President of his senior class at Valley High School, Fairfax, AL, in May of 1960. He moved to Atlanta to attend school.

While attending school in Atlanta, he was employed by Randall Brothers, Inc. as a management trainee, moving into positions as cost clerk and time keeper, millwork estimator, and assistant purchasing agent. He later served as Vice President of Operations for Schaefer Sash & Door for 19 years. With his wife Peggy, they started their own company in the lumber and millwork business. The company grew to three locations employing 180 employees and sales of around 30 million dollars per year. He retired for the first time in 1997. He was involved in consulting work for two years in the millwork industry and took a position as production manager with Masonite Corporation, retiring for the second time in 2006 after completing 50 years in the lumber and millwork industry.

He is a member of Embry Hills United Methodist Church where he has served as head usher for the last 11 years, as well as serving on numerous committees. He is presently serving as a member of the Craftsman, Worship Committee, and Blood Drive Committee.

In the community, Wor. Bro. Gray has served on various PTA committees and two times, served as co-president with wife Peggy. He served many years as a little league baseball coach and manager, equipment manager, and member of the executive board. He served two years as president of Tucker Youth Council Baseball Association, and was a member of Tucker Business Association and Old Town Tucker Merchants Association.

Worshipful Brother Gray married the love of his life, Peggy Ann Brannon Gray on September 22, 1962; this past September celebrating their 55-year anniversary. This union resulted in the birth of one son and one daughter and five grandchildren. Wor. Bro. Raymond was honored to confer, receive, and coach Bro. R. Charles Gray, Jr. in all three Blue Lodge degrees. His son asked the questions of the other four members of the class and received his white and blue card after the proficiency examination. He and his wife are the proud parents of two daughters and live in Walton County, GA. Wor. Bro. Raymond and Peggy's daughter Angie lives in Cherokee County, GA where she is married

and the mother of two boys and one girl. She is in the equestrian industry.

Worshipful Brother Gray was initiated on August 03, 1971, and passed on August 17, 1971, in Meridian Sun Lodge #26, Griffin, GA. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on April 04, 1977, in Tucker Lodge #42, Tucker, GA. He has been questioned often as to why it took him 5 years and 8 months to learn the Fellowcraft Degree. He served as Senior Steward in 1978 and progressed through the line and was elected Master for 1983. He received the Carl Godfrey Service Award in 2012, the Tucker Lodge Mason of the Year in 2016, and the Fifth Masonic District Mason of the Year Award in 2013. He serviced as President of The Tucker Masonic Temple Assoc. for 17 years, Chairman of the Finance Committee, and member of the Budget committee for 10 years. He was Chairman of the Fundraising Committee for 7 years.

The first 10 years of his Masonic life, he coached classes on the three degrees and has held a white and blue card for 37 years. He served several times as Director of Work for Tucker Lodge and is an Instructor on the Fifth District Custodian's staff. Worshipful Brother Gray was appointed District Deputy to the Grand Master of Masons in Georgia for Sub-District 5-F by Brother E. Ray Knittel, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, and has had the honor of serving four additional Grand Masters completing his five-year of service in 5-B. He has also served on the Trial Commission for the Fifth Masonic District and has served on the Finance and Audit Committee for the Fifth Masonic District for the past six years. He is a member of the Fifth District Custodian's Degree Team. In September, he was appointed as Chaplain of the Fifth Masonic District. He is currently Tucker Lodge Temple Director and lodge Treasurer.

Worshipful Brother Gray received his 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree in Scottish Rite, Valley of Atlanta, on October 20, 1978. On October 03, 2015, he was invested with the rank and title of Knight Commander Court of Honour (KCCH). He was appointed to the Finance Committee of the Scottish Rite in 2016 and now serves as Chairman of the Finance Committee, Valley of Atlanta. He is a member of the Scottish Rite 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Team.

Worshipful Brother Gray received his Red Fez in Yaarab Temple in 1979 and became a member of the Tucker Shrine Club, obtaining rank as Clown Commander, Aide, Personal Aide, and Executive Aide. He served on the Tucker Club line for five years and became President in 1994.

At the 231st Annual Grand Lodge Communication on October 24, 2017, in Macon, Brother Larry W. Nichols, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, appointed Wor. Bro. Gray as Worshipful and Reverend Grand Chaplain, for the Masonic year 2017-2018. Wor. Bro. Gray wants to thank the Grand Master for the confidence and trust placed in him and pledges to serve the Masons of Georgia with dignity and humility.

**Worshipful Brother Tom Bruce Appointed as Grand Marshal**



Worshipful Brother Tom Bruce was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Buckhead Lodge No. 712 in Atlanta, Georgia, on September 13, 1977. In 2010, he affiliated with Tucker Lodge No. 42 in Tucker, Georgia, where he served as Worshipful Master in

2011 and again in 2012. He is also a member of Fulton Lodge No. 216, Atlanta, Georgia. He has coached many candidates through the degrees of Masonry since receiving his first blue card in 1979. He is very active in both of his Lodges where he serves on several committees.

Worshipful Brother Bruce was appointed by Brother E. Ray Knittel, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, to serve as District Deputy to the Grand Master in 2012. In 2014, he was appointed to serve as the Fifth District Leader of the District Deputies to the Grand Master until his appointment by Brother Larry W. Nichols, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, to serve as Grand Marshal for the 2017-2018 Grand Lodge year.

Worshipful Brother Bruce is active in the Fifth Masonic District where he serves as District Master and as a member of the custodian's staff and degree team. He published the Fifth Masonic District calendar for several years. He has also served as a Trial Commissioner since 2012.

Brother Bruce was elected a member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Atlanta, in 1978, where he now serves on the Executive Committee and as Almoner. He is a charter member of the Wisdom, Strength, and Brotherhood Club of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction. And, he has been an active member of the Third Degree Team since 2012. In 2015, Brother Bruce was invested with the rank and title of Knight Commander Court of Honour.

Worshipful Brother Bruce is an honorary member of several Lodges. He is a subscribing member of the Southern California Research Lodge. He serves as

Chairman of the IT Committee of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, and is a lifetime member and Fellow in the Grand College of Rites of the United States of America.

Worshipful Brother Bruce was born and raised in Harlan, Kentucky. He was commissioned in 1978 as a Kentucky Colonel in the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels. He is not married and currently resides in Metro Atlanta. In 2011, Worshipful Brother Bruce retired from a 37-year career in the transportation industry. Since then, he has been a full-time Mason in Georgia. Worshipful Brother Bruce says that he is humbled by being selected to serve the Fraternity in this capacity.

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**Worshipful Brother James W. Garner Appointed as Grand Tyler**

Worshipful Brother James Garner graduated from Decatur High School 1968. He went on to attend Dekalb College and graduated in 1972. Wor. Bro. Garner later graduated from Woodrow Wilson College of Law. He retired



from the Rockdale County Sheriff's Office in 2007 after serving in the line of duty for 28 years. He is married and has one son Jim and one daughter Sharian. Wor. Bro. James has two grandchildren Peter James and Blair James.

Worshipful Brother Garner comes from a long family tradition of Masons who served our honorable Fraternity including his Father, Great Grandfather, and Great-Great Grandfather. Wor. Bro. Garner served as Worshipful Master of Atlanta Peachtree Lodge No. 59 in 2017 and is serving again this year as Master. He is also a member of Pythagoras Lodge No. 41 in Decatur. Wor. Bro. Garner also serves as the MELD Director for district 5B and 5D. He attained the rank of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree in the Scottish Rite and is also a member of the Shrine serves in its Motor Corps.

## **Most Worshipful Brother Leonard E. Buffington, PGM Appointed as Grand Orator**



Most Worshipful Brother L.E. Buffington was born on May 3, 1936, in DeKalb County, Georgia, and attended public schools there before enrolling in the University of Georgia and Georgia Institute of Technology as a student of Electrical Engineering.

He received his State of Georgia Real Estate Broker's license in 1965 and has been prominent in the Real Estate field: Owner, President, and Qualifying Broker of Triangle Realty, Inc.; President, East Metro Surveyors and Engineers; Past President, DeKalb Society of Commercial Realtors; Past Chairman, Political Action Committee; Past Chairman, State of Georgia Board of Realtors, Public Relations and Communications Committee; Chairman, Membership Committee, and Immediate Past President DeKalb Board of Realtors.

Most Worshipful Brother Buffington's church affiliations include: Charter Member of Rehoboth Presbyterian Church, where he was Youth Fellowship Leader, and Briarlake Baptist Church, where he has served as Baptist Youth Training Union Leader and coached Youth Baseball and Basketball teams.

A member since 1962 and Past Master (1994-95) of Clarkston Lodge No. 492, Clarkston, Georgia, Most Worshipful Brother Buffington is also a Charter Member of Metro Daylight Lodge No. 743 in Chamblee, Georgia, and a Past Master (2004) of that Lodge. He is Past President of the DeKalb County Masonic Association and a member of the DeKalb Memorial Club. Most Worshipful Brother Buffington has served the Grand Lodge of Georgia as a D.D.G.M., D.D.G.M. District Chairman, and State Chairman. He was appointed to the Grand Line in 2002 and is now served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia in 2010.

Among other Masonic organizations, he is Past Illustrious Master of Jason Burr No. 13, R.&S.M.; Past High Priest of Mt. Zion Chapter No. 16, R.A.M.; Senior Warden of Coeur de Lion Commandery No. 4, K.T.; Junior Deacon of Zarthan Council No. 329,

Allied Masonic Degrees; Carl F. Lester Council No. 65, Knight Masons of the United States; St. Ambrose Conclave Red Cross of Constantine; Luther B. Palmer York Rite College No. 123; Royal Order of Scotland and Personal Aide (1998-2000), Yaarab Shrine Temple, Atlanta, Georgia.

A very active Scottish Rite Mason, Valley of Atlanta, Most Worshipful Brother Buffington is a recipient of the Double Eagle Award in recognition of his many services; He was knighted as a Master of the Royal Secret in 1963 and invested with the rank and decoration of a Knight Commander Court of Honor in 1995. Most Worshipful Brother Buffington served as Past Commander K.C.C.H.; 13° and 30° Cast Member; Child Care Committee; and Past Wise Master, Atlanta Chapter Rose Croix. He was coroneted a 33° I.G.H. in 2001 and was appointed Deputy to the Supreme Council, A.A.S.R. in 2002. He was crowned Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the Orient of Georgia Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in 2003, and served in that position for fourteen years before retiring in 2016. Most Worshipful Brother Buffington worked tirelessly in the Orient of Georgia during his tenure as S.G.I.G. to assist the Valleys of the Orient of Georgia in developing RiteCare Clinics to help children with speech, language, and hearing disorders. He has also been instrumental in working to make the Scottish Rite Foundation of Georgia a success to the point where it has provided over two thousand scholarships to Georgia students

Most Worshipful Brother Leonard E. Buffington resides in Tucker, Georgia. He and his wife of sixty years, Jean, have five adult children, three grandchildren, and four great grandchildren and he enjoys spending as much time hanging out with them as possible.

# Grand Lodge Dedicates the Thelma Louise Matthews Cottage

On a beautiful December Sunday afternoon in Macon, Georgia (December 3) the Cottage Campaign Development Committee, Officers of the Grand Lodge of Georgia including Most Worshipful Grand Master Larry W. Nichols, children from the Masonic Home of Georgia, honored guests, dignitaries, and Masons from across the state of Georgia attended the dedication of the first completed college at our Masonic Children's Home. Present at the dedication was the Man and Mason who helped make this occasion a reality—Brother Walter Wesson Matthews. The Thelma Louise Matthews Cottage—named in honor of the sister of Brother Matthews— was a Army nurse during World War Two. Now in honor of her service and of the dedication of Bro. Matthews and his wife Mrs. Stella, this cottage will now be the home of the Junior Girls at the Masonic Children’s Home of Georgia. Of course, all of this would be impossible without the “I can do that” attitude of Brother Matthews and his dedication to the children at our Masonic Home (see page 4 of the June 2016 edition of the *Masonic Messenger* for this story.) See the back cover of this issue of the *Masonic Messenger* to view pictures of our Junior Girls moving in with the help of Mrs. Jane Wilson, wife of RWB Mike Wilson.



Grand Lodge Ladies, Officers, and Bro. Matthews pictured with furnishings of the Cottage.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Larry W. Nichols thanks Bro. Matthews for his dedication in making the fist cottage a reality.

Brother Matthews speaking on the occasion of the dedication of the Thelma Louise Matthews Cottage named in honor of his beloved sister. This is the first of four proposed cottages to be constructed on the grounds of the Masonic Children’s Home in Macon.



# Officer Installations for 2018



Union City Lodge No. 600



Gordon Lodge No. 240



Tyrone Lodge No. 644



Webb Lodge No. 166



Thomasville Lodge No. 369



Lavonia Lodge No. 241



Rising Sun Lodge #32



Harmony Lodge No. 405



Rising Star Lodge No. 4



Cornelia Lodge No. 92



McCay Lodge No. 423



Villa Rica Lodge No. 72

**RESOLUTION**  
**ILLUSTRIOUS SAMUEL ROY WHITFIELD, 33°**

He was active in the Scottish Rite, working in the classroom for twenty one years. He also was a recipient of the Knight of the Double Eagle Award.

Brother Sam was invited to become a member of almost all of the Appendant-Honorary Bodies in Georgia and served in a position of leadership in many of them. He was also very active in the Order of Eastern Star, being initiated in Morganton Chapter #394 in Morganton, Georgia where his first wife Grace belonged, on January 2, 1953. He demitted to Smyrna Chapter #387 in Smyrna in 1957, serving as Worth Grand Patron of Georgia in 1971. He served as Chairman of the Payroll Committee for General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star from 1985 to 1988. In 2005 he received the Legion of Honor from the International Order of DeMolay.

Brother Whitfield was a member of First Baptist Church of Smyrna since 1955 where he served on the Finance Committee for a time, Treasurer for ten years, Deacon, Member of the Board of Trustees, Sunday School Teacher and Parliamentarian.

He is survived by one daughter, one son, and two grandchildren.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the officers and members of the Scottish Rite, Valley of Atlanta, hereby give formal expression of its grievous loss in the death of Brother Samuel Roy Whitfield and does hereby note in its records the passing from this life of a man who was loved by his friends and respected by all.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, That a copy of this Resolution be made a part of the permanent records of this Valley and posted as appropriate, as a humble expression of the Scottish Rite's heartfelt sympathy.

Joe E. Turner, 33°

*Grand Master's Forums Off To a Great Start!*



The Grand Master's Forums at Savannah, Augusta, Gainesville, and Macon have been great as our Grand Master and his Grand Line Officers (see below, left) travel the state to meet and greet the Masons of Georgia. There have been some great breakout sessions led by the Grand Line Officers (see Master's Breakout from Savannah above) and classes on Masonic Etiquette led by Wor. Bro. Wiley Forrester, MELD Director (below, right)



# Freemasonry Around Georgia



Josh Blakely, MELD DD8C , presented Donald Crowe of Lavonia Lodge No. 241, with MELD Course Certificates for Masonic Etiquette, Masonic History, and the Masonic Mentor Program.



Three eagle scout awards presented to (L-R) Jonah Alexander, Adam Whiteis, and Dawson Turner of Boy Scout Troop #11 in Hiram, Gaergia. The Awards were presented by Rusty Cordle



Rossville Lodge #397 along with the Representatives of the Tin Lizzies presented donations to the Stocking Full of Love Campaign which provides Christmas gifts for those in need during the Christmas Season.



On Monday November 27<sup>th</sup> Davitte Lodge No. 513 honored all public safety in memory of Polk County Police Detective Kristen Hearne who was recently killed in the line of duty. Polk County Police have started a trust fund for Det. Hearne's Son and Davitte Lodge made a substantial contribution to that fund.

## Benevolent Lodge No. 3 Bicentennial Banquet Held at Georgia College and State University

Winter Storm Benji failed to prevent a room full of guests attending a banquet celebrating the 200th anniversary of one of Georgia's greatest Masonic lodges. Approximately 100 Masons, wives and guests from across the State of Georgia were present Saturday evening, December 9, for a delicious meal and a great program in the Magnolia Ballroom, formerly the Sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church of Milledgeville.

Grand Lodge officers attending were Most Wor. Bro. and Dr. Gary Leazer, PGM and his Lady Ruth; Most Wor. Bro. Bobby B. Simmons, PGM and Grand Treasurer, and his Lady Nancy; Wor. Bro. Nathaniel R. Bacon, DDGM 10A, and his Lady Emma; Wor. Bro. Tom Bell, PM, 10th District; and Wor. Bro. Thomas Scott, Custodian, 10th District.



One quickly notices how young and enthusiastic the officers of Benevolent Lodge are. Lodge officers and their Ladies from Left to Right are Ruth & Ian McMullen (Sr. Steward), Benjamin Waller (Sr. Deacon) & Heather Wood, Kelly S. Montgomery (Worshipful Master) & Brandi Jones, Joseph S. Rainey (Sr. Warden) & Mallory, Philip H. Spence, III (Jr. Warden) & Carli Medley

Benevolent Lodge was chartered on December 9, 1817 as Benevolent Lodge No. 9. It later was given the number 6 and then number 3 by the Grand Lodge.

On March 27, 1825, the Marquis de Lafayette visited Milledgeville on his final visit to the United States. He was the last surviving Major General of the Revolutionary War. At that time, the lodge was meeting in the Darien Bank Building in Milledgeville. The Darien Bank Building has long since been destroyed.

On December 9, 1828, the Georgia General Assembly, which at that time was meeting in Milledgeville, approved a cash lottery for a new building for the lodge. The lottery raised \$25,000. The present lodge hall was dedicated in 1834 and the lodge has been meeting in that hall since then.

Worshipful Master Kelly Montgomery presented the first Past Master of the Year Award to Chaplain George



Griffin for his wonderful help during the year to Wor. Master Montgomery. Wor. Master Montgomery also presented the Mason of the Year Award to Bro. Joseph S. Rainey, who served as Senior Warden this year.

Dr. Bob Wilson, Campus Historian, was the keynote speaker for the evening. He told the most interesting stories of old Masonic-related building on the campus and in Milledgeville and showed photos of old graves of famous Freemasons in Memory Cemetery in Milledgeville.

Sheriff Bill Masee, a member of Benevolent Lodge, presented a Service Award to Major Lynette LaRocque. Chief of Police Dray



Swicord, also a member of Benevolent Lodge, presented a Service Award to Officer Mike Thompson. The lodge also presented Officer Thompson, head of the Ocmulgee Drug Task Force, a check for \$3,000 to purchase equipment for the Drug Task Force.

Wor. Master Montgomery then asked all Past Masters in attendance to stand. They were given a rousing applause to show appreciation to the fine leaders present for the evening.

Dr. Gary Leazer, PGM, was asked to bring closing remarks for the evening.

# Curious About Freemasonry



On March 17, 2018 the Atlanta Masonic Center will open its doors to those who are not Freemasons but are curious about our Fraternity and have questions. The Dan Brown Books, National Treasure Movies, and various specials on the History Channel have aroused the curiosity of many. There will be a free breakfast provided to those who attend followed by a tour that will end in the Scottish Rite Auditorium. In the auditorium guests will be treated to musical arrangements composed by Masons Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Jean Sibelius performed by Brother Greg Sudmeier 32°. Afterward a panel composed of knowledgeable and illustrious Masons from our state who will be ready to answer questions from the attendees. In the auditorium visitors will be able to view the scenery drops painted by Brother Juan Carlos Duboise 32°.

Those who are not Freemasons should make reservations at <http://eventbrite.com/e/curious-about-freemasonry-tickets-41599639642>. This event is sponsored by the Blue Lodges of Georgia and the Valley of Atlanta Scottish Rite.



GRAND  
CHAPTER  
Mark A. Bradley  
M. E. G. H. P.



GRAND  
COUNCIL  
John I. Haggas  
M. I. G. M.



GRAND  
COMMANDERY  
Drewey W. "Bill" Hendry  
R. E. G. C.

## *THE YORK RITE IN GEORGIA*

Editor: Michael H. Sampsell Email: [mike@thesampsell.com](mailto:mike@thesampsell.com)  
<http://www.yorkriteofga.org>



# TENTH ANNUAL YORK RITE FESTIVAL MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER'S CLASS APRIL 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Location-Grand Chapter Building  
811 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31201

### Class In Honor Of 4 Presiding Officers

Most Worshipful Grand Master Larry W. Nichols  
Most Excellent Grand High Priest Mark A. Bradley  
Most Illustrious Grand Master John I. Haggas  
Right Eminent Grand Commander Drewey W. "Bill" Hendry

All Degrees and Orders of York Rite Will Be Conferred

Registration Fee: \$10.00 for All

Registration 6:30am To 7:30am

Work Begins Promptly At 7:30am

Candidates Must Have Proper Paper Work

Contact: Tommy Marshall

E-MAIL: [tmarshall@btconline.net](mailto:tmarshall@btconline.net)

Cell: 912-282-4493

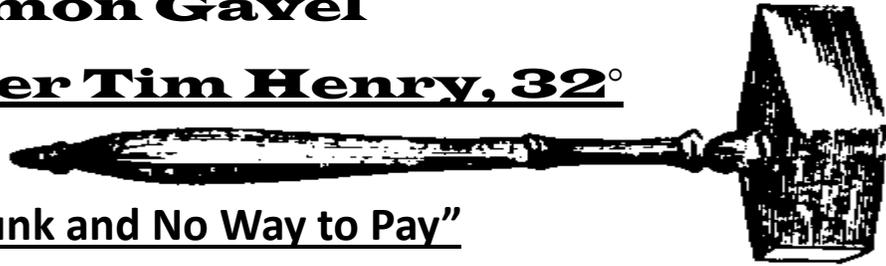
PETITION FOR YORK RITE BODIES  
<http://www.yorkriteofga.org/bpfiles/combpet.pdf>

GEORGIA YORK RITE WEBSITE  
[www.yorkriteofga.org](http://www.yorkriteofga.org)

FIND YOUR CLOSEST YORK RITE  
<http://www.yorkriteofga.org/york-rite-by-city.html>

# **The Common Gavel**

**By Brother Tim Henry, 32°**



## **“The Smell of Skunk and No Way to Pay”**

Some years back a friend and I were asked to come out to Colorado and help a friend who had undergone surgery and was struggling to move his herd of cattle to the high country. He and I began the task of preparing for the trip. In all trips, there are things that must be done- asking off from work, mowing the grass, making sure your home is in order before endeavoring to help someone else. The day of our departure arrived, early in the morning my wife dropped me off at my pal’s house and we made a few last-minute adjustments and were ready to set off on an adventure.

Before going further there are a few things that must be established. My pal owned a beautiful “cattle dog” named “Fred”. Now the term “cattle dog” is going to be used very loosely in this story. The fact was he was born a “cattle dog” he looked like a “cattle dog” however his skills as a “cattle dog” were far from polished. “Fred” could scatter a herd in a moment’s notice he finessed his way through a herd like a Flamingo on roller skates. To say he was a “cattle dog” was truly a disservice to the breed itself.

Now, the morning we left, there had been a predetermination that we would be leaving “Fred” at home, we did not want to arrive at our friend’s ranch with a “half trained, herd scattering, no listening, fur bag of trouble”. The issue was settled “Fred” would stay home and be looked after by friends. “Fred” had not been privy to this conversation and he had determined that we would in fact need him on this trip so he had planned his own stowaway adventure.

We departed under the cover of darkness,

horse’s loaded truck fueled and a biscuit and coffee in hand, there would be no need to stop until we made Kentucky. Now somewhere around Nashville I noticed an object in the rearview mirror, that’s right you guessed it “Fred” had gotten in the truck and hidden under the toolbox until I suppose he figured we had driven far enough we wouldn’t turn around. Well, at the next fuel stop we got “Fred” down off of the toolbox and put him in the back seat. It was getting fairly hot and he had come this far he might as well enjoy himself.

When you travel with horses it can become quite the troublesome journey, they require water often and need to be unloaded and walked. A usual stop can be anywhere from thirty minutes to an hour if you don’t incur any problems. We had made good time that day and were rolling into New Mexico. We had planned one more fuel stop and a break for the horses when the issue arose. During this last stop “Fred” had ventured off to create a little havoc at the edge of a large clearing where we had unloaded the horses. My buddy and I were going about the business of tending horses so we had not paid any attention to “Fred”. We loaded the horses and prepared to leave. A whistle was sent forth to let “Fred” know his services to the community had ended and we would be leaving upon his arrival at the truck.

This is the point in the story where the wheels begin to come off the wagon. Without our knowledge “Fred” had apparently been playing cattle dog with a SKUNK, that’s right the Peppy-LePew of the great outdoors. Now, I need to establish this

right here and right now, I ain't riding in the truck with no skunk spray soaked dog no matter the breeding. After running from "Fred" for what seemed like a long time a plan was devised through loud audible constant communication to drop the tailgate and let him jump in back. Now our hope was that he would air dry and the smell would dissipate. We had driven a hundred miles or so and realized that the smell was now being pulled inside the truck by the air conditioning. Something has got to be done! Our Infinite Creator shined down on us as we pulled into the very tiny town of Raton, New Mexico. Glory be there it was a two-hole car wash with a bay open. We whipped into the parking lot and deployed the plan that any man would have envied. My buddy and I jumped in the back of that horse trailer shucked off our clothes got down to a pair of shorts and cowboy boots. My pal emptied the ashtray of all the spare change we had and I grabbed a calf rope and built the prettiest loop you ever saw and tossed it right over "Fred's" head. We strolled confidently towards the open bay of the car wash- dog in tow. Now, during all of this there was a fella sitting on the tailgate of an old pick-up truck watching the goings on very intently. Mind you he never offered a single solitary word of encouragement or scorn, just a simple nod of the head as two ole boy's in shorts and cowboy boots strolled by with a dog they had just lassoed.

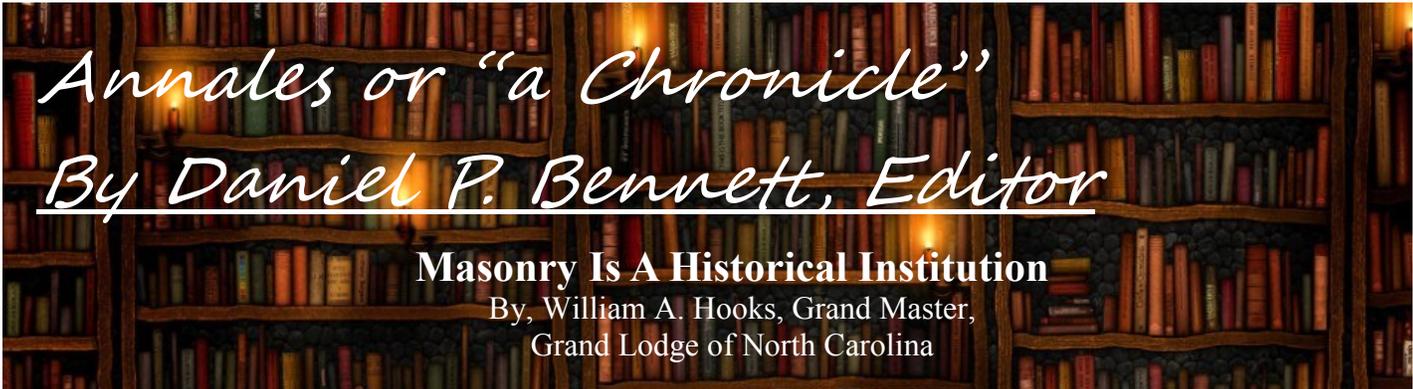
Let the washing begin, my job was to keep "Fred" off us, my buddy's job was to scrub him with the car brush, and so it went. We were feeding quarters in that car wash like a kid at a gum ball machine, then we fell on a rough spot. We had run out of change, I tied "Fred" to the spray nozzle holder and made a dash for the truck. Retrieving a five-dollar bill, I headed for the change machine and out of nowhere I heard "Hey Bud, that thangs' broken"... well, now what. I stood there with my farmer's tan exposed, a man with

no means to pay, no way to proceed, exposed. What I needed was some help, a little charity, anything to further me on with my journey. The gentleman sitting on the truck relayed to me that he was the proprietor of the car wash and he would be happy to extend to me any amount necessary to proceed upon my journey. What he said is "I have never in all my life seen a funnier site than you two boys washing that dog in your shorts and boots, I will keep giving you quarters for as long as this goes on". So, with someone now to pay my fare we continued to wash "Fred" and even rinsed him with some of that scented spray.

We put "Fred" in the back of the truck for some drying time, got ourselves dressed shook the man's hand and pulled out of Raton.

I have relived this story many times in my memories and it always brings a smile to my face. This week I had the good fortune to have a little time with a brother who had just finished his EA degree and we were reliving the events of that evening. On my drive home I began to ponder about my own EA degree and how the lesson in the East of charity flooded over me. Many times, in life God has put someone in my life to extend that gift of charity, someone who was willing to step up and offer some relief. We often think of charity as monetary items, however in my case it has been good men, who were willing to sacrifice their time, knowledge and patience to see me step forward and stabilize me should I stumble.

Brothers I encourage you to meditate on that day, no one was paying your way, it was an investment. You and I have an opportunity to invest in something that will return to us all that we put in and more times than not, it will earn interest. Who was it that invested in you? Are they getting a good return?



# *Annales or "a Chronicle"*

*By Daniel P. Bennett, Editor*

## **Masonry Is A Historical Institution**

By, William A. Hooks, Grand Master,  
Grand Lodge of North Carolina

*Editor's Note: This presentation was delivered to the delegates attending the Southeastern Masonic Conference, held in Mobile, Alabama, August 8, 1969. The Editor reprints it here in part, because of its inherent importance to the historical study of our craft and in light of recent statements made by the UGLE in the British Press. Many thanks to Worshipful Brother Bill Carver for assisting me in obtaining this valuable piece of work.*

My conscience dictates that I should confess to you that this has been possibly the most difficult assignment I have as yet accepted. Masonry is a historical institution; there can be no question about that. But to study this subject and be able to separate fact from fiction is something else again.

I want to express my appreciation to Brother Conrad Hahn for referring me to the M. S. A. booklet titled, *What is Freemasonry?* and the Short Talk Bulletin, *The Origin of the Ritual* and also for referring me to the book by Henry Wilson Coil, *A Comprehensive View of Freemasonry*.

If we were to ask ourselves the question, "When did Freemasonry begin?" we would have to conclude that it did not begin. Rather, it evolved. It emerged over an extended period of time from the rudimentary philosophy of early man to the structured organization which exists today.

Historians have told many imaginative stories about the origin of the craft. Some claim we were established by King Solomon with the help of Hiram, King of Tyre. Others say that Masonry began with Noah and his sons. While one brother, more ardent than the others, claimed Adam as our first Grand Master because he was the first man to wear an apron. This kind of Masonic history prevailed until 1850, when a reaction set in. Later historians, particularly those of the first quarter of this century, debunked the tall tales and accepted only those facts of Masonry which had unquestionable written proof.

History must have facts behind it, but all historical interpretations assume certain precedents which go back beyond the known facts. Ancient and medieval history consists of such reasonable assumptions. It seems reasonable to assume that operative Mason-

ry did exist in ancient times, but that our modern fraternity began with King Solomon, or with anyone prior to the cathedral builders of the medieval period, is pure legend. Out of the old craft guilds came operative Masonry with organized Lodges and ceremonies. By process of gradual change it became speculative Masonry, first organized into a Grand Lodge of Masons in London on June 24, 1717.

The fact that differences of opinion do exist is the result of the scarcity of written records and documentary evidence concerning many phases of Masonic history. Even so, many seemingly opposite points of view could be reconciled if differentiation were made between Freemasonry as a philosophy, and Freemasonry as an organization.

Accepting the fact that the basic tenets of Masonic philosophy are belief in a Supreme Being and immortality, we may conclude that the roots of Freemasonry can be traced to the beginning of human thought, since these two concepts are recognized as characteristics of the earliest spiritual experiences of man. They existed in some form or other even in primitive times. As an organization, Freemasonry is of much more recent origin.

All that we know about Freemasonry prior to the organization of the first Grand Lodge in 1717 is contained in the Gothic Constitutions, the minutes of several Lodges in Scotland and England, a few private writings, and several exposes. The Gothic Constitutions furnish the basis, not only for many modern regulations, but for some of the Masonic obligations. Although they were resigned solely for operative Lodges, they began to be amended in the latter part of the 17th Century as Lodges received more non-operative Masons. About 1670, drafts of these

constitutions appeared containing "new articles" applicable to Accepted Masons.

The chief characteristics of Freemasonry just prior to 1717 were as follows:

1. It was the remnant of a once more eminent and influential brotherhood of operative stone masons which had been kept alive in its later years very largely by the support of theoretic members who were attracted by its long career and honorable reputation, and also by the opportunity afforded for social recreation.

2. It inculcated morality, brotherhood, mutual aid and assistance and loyalty to government.

3. It met in Lodges which assembled occasionally at the summons of the Master or by the concurrence of any five or six Masons, each Lodge being governed by a Master, assisted by one or more Wardens.

4. Members were not identified with any particular Lodge, but were members of a single fraternity, enjoying the same privileges and bearing the same obligations everywhere.

5. The members were probably bound by a sworn obligation.

6. Certain mental, moral, and physical qualifications were necessary for admittance.

7. The proceedings were secret, as were certain signs and means of recognition.

8. The Lodges adhered to, and based their ceremonies upon, the old legends and charges which were inculcated by lectures of catechistical and somewhat symbolical character.

9. The society was nominally Trinitarian Christian, but there is no indication that such was more than formal or that any religious belief was a prerequisite to admittance.

10. Feasting and drinking played a prominent part in the meetings, continuing even during the ceremonies of admitting candidates.

Many changes were effected in the years following the organization of the Grand Lodge in 1717. The Grand Lodge, headed by a Grand Master, was formed as a central governing body. Though its jurisdiction was at first limited to London and Westminster, it was gradually accepted by other lodges. Annual and quarterly communications were provided for. Authority to allow the formation of new

Lodges was vested in the Grand Master, and Freemasons were forbidden to form new Lodges without his warrant.

The old charges were codified into six charges of a speculative character, following the operative charges as close as practicable. Extensive general regulations were adopted making detailed provisions for the conduct of the Grand Lodge, Lodges, and Masons. Lodges abandoned all pretense of regulating the building trade, but employed the working tools, tenets, and customs of the operative craft to a purely speculative or moral science. Degrees, rituals, lectures, and a legend were formulated, which were destined to vary and develop over a period of many years. The Grand Lodge abandoned nominal adherence to Christianity and obligated the Mason only to obey the moral law, to be good men and true, or men of honor and honesty.

Some of the most epochal events in the history of Freemasonry occurred during the period from 1730 to 1740. Lodges and provincial grand lodges were established in Europe and America. The Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland were formed in 1730 and 1736, respectively. Pope Clement XII, in 1738, issued the first Papal Bull against the Freemasons. The grand lodge changed or reversed the words in some of the degrees.

By the year 1750, the society had grown vertically and horizontally.

Vertically, it had grown by the addition of degrees in both Britain and Europe; and horizontally by migration into many other lands. Within the period of 33-years from the organization of the first grand lodge, the society had changed completely to a speculative, moral, and social order; had altered its nominal religious affiliation; had dropped most of the Gothic legends and developed a new one, had come under the jurisdiction of national grand lodges in several countries; had created the rank of Master Mason to be attained by a ceremony; had sustained the addition to itself of numerous higher degrees; and had experienced tremendous growth in numbers and popularity.

By 1750 Freemasonry was completely speculative, the old laws and customs having been considerably amended and, in some respects, abandoned. It was a symbolic deviation from the operative fraternity of Freemasons, basing its constitutions and symbolism on their charges, customs, working tools, and

terminology. It still inculcated morality, brotherly love, mutual aid and assistance, and loyalty to civil government. Members were now more identified with a particular Lodge, though visitation was permitted and the rights and obligation of general membership in a common fraternity were recognized. Initiates were bound by sworn obligations. Certain mental, moral, and physical qualifications were still required of candidates. Secrecy was maintained as before. Religious neutrality had displaced Trinitarian Christianity, although indications of Christian doctrine began to appear, and belief in God was probably somewhat generally, but unofficially, accepted. Lodges were under the government of grand lodges in England, Ireland, and Scotland. Provincial grand masters had been deputed in Germany and America.

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This rapid growth of Freemasonry presented many questions respecting Masonic regularity and Masonic customs and procedure. Decisions were required for which there were no Masonic precedents. Committees on jurisprudence, grand masters, and grand lodges turned to the only other source they knew – their civil laws and constitutions. They therefore wrote into Masonic law much that came from the political field.

There soon developed a body of Masonic "common law", much of which was later incorporated into grand lodge constitutions and codes. These became the subject matter of no less than nine works on Masonic law and jurisprudence, published between the years 1856 and 1875. Prominent among these rules was the "American Doctrine" of exclusive jurisdiction, to the effect that there can be but one grand lodge in a state, and that no grand lodge may invade the territorial sovereignty of another.

I will be the first to admit that there is much about Masonry as a historical institution which has not even been mentioned in this talk, because of the limitation of time. I only hope that I have touched upon some phases of the history of Freemasonry in which you were interested...In closing, I want to make an observation with which some of you probably will disagree, and I'll begin with a question. Could it be that the predominance of fiction over fact in so much of the past writings about Freemasonry, is due in large measure to the stress we put on secrecy in Masonry?

For one, I believe the answer is yes. In saying

this, I don't mean that I think the secrets of Masonry have no value or significance. On the contrary, I think they are most important, to the Masons themselves.

In the early days of Freemasonry those rare individuals who saw the great potentialities in the search for truth and wisdom, for brotherhood and peace, were looked upon by the ignorant as different, and therefore dangerous. In order to preserve the truths they could not reveal, and to recognize each other, they had to develop secrets among themselves. These secrets became the marks of a fellow believer, and were necessary to the preservation of the fraternity. Today, when men are free to proclaim truth, we repeat this process to give new members certain marks of distinction, not for recognition from the outside world, but from the brothers within the fraternity.

Likewise, in those days the preservation of certain secrets was a discipline imposed upon initiates to test their fidelity to the order. In the building trade, at that time, it was an economic necessity. It is still such a test today, and for that reason has value for the development of moral courage and endurance.

I have no argument with the secrets in Masonry, and I want to make this abundantly clear to you, but I am very much concerned with our failure to get across to the newly-made Mason the difference between those things that are secret and those that are not. If we will review our initiation, our passing to the Degree of Fellowcraft, and finally being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, we won't find the first instance where we are told to keep to ourselves the teachings and principles of Freemasonry. What I am saying, brethren, is that the really important things about Masonry are not secret. Not only are they not secret, but we should talk about them. We should tell the world what Freemasonry is, what it teaches, and what it stands for.

There is nothing secret in our fraternity that would be of any interest to any outsider. But there is a lot about Freemasonry, none of which is secret, that would interest any person who cares about the improvement of the individual, and through the individual, the improvement of mankind. When this is fully understood by Masons and non-Masons alike, future Masonic historians will be more inclined to publish facts rather than fiction.



# COMMENTARY

## What does Masonry mean to you?

James “Rocky” Rothrock PM, DDGM Flint Hill Lodge No. 371

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For many of us Masonry is attending lodge, the company of friends, the familiar ritual of the lodge meeting, the comfortable association with those who share our ideals. Perhaps Masonry is a longstanding family tradition, or an outlet for our charitable nature. Of course, Masonry is all these things, but it can and should be so much more. Remember where you were first made a Mason? In your heart. This means that Masonry is contained within each of us, deep in our being where our motives, desires and inner thoughts dwell. The phrase “Making good me better” should be a truth, not just a slogan. The journey upward must be filled with contemplation, reflection, and self-discovery.

There is a saying “What you do not understand you do not possess.” This can be said to be true of any endeavor but is especially true in the science of Freemasonry. There is so much knowledge illustrated by the symbols, allegories, and degrees of our work, that even after much study, we may feel that we have but scratched the surface. This is as it should be; Masonry is after all a journey. A journey toward the light of understanding. As we start our journey, we begin as babes, and light illuminates the path before us. The way seems to stretch to infinity. We learn to walk, advancing at an unsteady pace toward that light beckoning us onward. We learn that as babes we need help. As a child learns to walk leaning on and helped by parents, we progress with the assistance of our Coach, and the encouragement of the brothers.

As we move into young adulthood, the focus becomes our pursuit of knowledge. This is made very clear as the whole of human understanding is laid out before us. As if we are climbing a winding stair, we ascend through the many levels and kinds of learning that make up the totality of knowledge available to us. The sheer amount of subject matter revealed should whet our appetite to pursue the studies now open to us.

Maturity brings with it a realization that we have obligations that we are now in a place to honor. Whether it is to our God, country, or neighbor, we have come to an understanding that we are not only responsible to ourselves, but

to others as well. *We now know, that the knowledge we have gained, must be shared with others.* Whether it in the conduct of our business, our service to the community, our relations with those with whom we interact daily, in our worship, or the demonstration of our priorities, we become as guides pointing to a light, the light of Freemasonry. We hope that our example leads others to seek what we have found.

We have also come to the sobering point of understanding our mortality. Masonry guides us in this mystery as well. As we contemplate the finality of this last earthly chapter, we can ponder the account of Hiram Abiff for comfort and hope. So then, is Masonry the external? The lodge, the fellowship and association, the ritual, the tradition? Or is it all that and much more? I hope you have come to see that Masonry is very much about us as people. Who we are, what we believe, and how we act toward our fellow man. As such I believe there is so much to know, so much knowledge to help strengthen our character and resolve, that education in the art of Freemasonry should form a large part of our lives.

How can we educate ourselves in the arts and science of Freemasonry? A good start would be to find the lodge of Research in your state. Communicate with them and find out if there is a program that might catch your interest. Attend that lodge, talk to the Brothers who are members, many of them will have a wide range of Masonic knowledge. Ask about your district’s MELD program. Attend seminars and talks they are sponsoring. Find out if your lodge is willing to sponsor an education night with a guest speaker. Travel to lodges having education programs. Many Grand Lodges have reading lists and material that is written on many Masonic subjects. As you read, particularly on the Net, use your discernment, as much of the information out there is misleading or not true. Just remember, the story of Masonic history, its beginnings, ritual, and usages can vary from country to country, state to state and jurisdiction to jurisdiction. It is important to be able to discuss what you are learning with a mature brother. If you avail yourself of the opportunities to educate yourself in Masonry, you will be a better Mason. But just as importantly you will be a better husband, father, citizen, and man.

## **“Veterans Corner” by Worshipful Brother Rick Conn, MSA**

Great news for Brothers that live in the Greensboro area. Georgia Commissioner of Veterans Service Mike Roby reminds Greensboro area veterans that the Greensboro Field Office is open and ready to assist veterans and their families as a full-time office. More than 3,000 veterans call Greene and its surrounding counties home. Open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on state holidays, the office is located inside the Greene County Courthouse in downtown Greensboro. Office manager Jan Callaway is responsible for the Greensboro office. Callaway joined the GDVS in 1988 as the office manager of the Washington field office. A Washington native who grew up in Taliaferro County, Callaway is a graduate of Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville and has served the state of Georgia as an employee for 35 years, with 30 of those years with the GDVS.

“Jan has been a valuable member of the GDVS team for many years,” said GDVS Commissioner Mike Roby. “She has a thorough knowledge of state and federal veterans benefits and brings a great deal of experience to the Greensboro area.”

Veterans and their families can call (706) 453-7455 or email [jcallaway@vs.state.ga.us](mailto:jcallaway@vs.state.ga.us) for assistance with filing claims for state and federal benefits. Also, for those Brother Veterans that live in the Milledgeville area and want to be buried in a Military cemetery upon passing, there is good news for you. The Georgia Department of Veterans Service has been awarded a grant of \$2,436,388 by the Department of Veterans Affairs for the expansion of the Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Milledgeville, Georgia. The project will develop approximately 15 acres and serve 105,326 veterans and their families. “This grant will ensure the

GDVS can continue to provide Georgia’s veterans with access to our excellent state veterans cemeteries,” said GDVS Commissioner Mike Roby.

“The expansion will include the construction of 1,520 pre-placed crypts, 320 columbarium niches, roadways, landscaping, irrigation and supporting infrastructure,” said Dan Holtz, Assistant Commissioner for Administration, Health and Memorials.

“We are proud to honor the dignity and memory of each person at our cemeteries,” said Commissioner Roby. “Offering an honorable resting place to Georgia’s veterans and their families remains important to the GDVS.”

Dedicated in 2001, the Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Milledgeville sits on 142 acres with an administration/visitor center, a committal chapel, and a carillon. It was last expanded in 2011. As of June 30, 2017, there are 3,081 veterans, spouses, and eligible dependents buried at the GVMC. The burials are composed of 2,132 casketed burials, 553 cremations in the columbarium, 368 inground cremations, and 28 memorial markers.

Thank you for your service & may God Bless America. Rick Conn, Masonic Service Association, Ga State Coordinator, VA Hospital Program.



## Georgia ChIP Communication Corner By Worshipful Brother Cabot Rohrer

February, in our customs, symbolizes the month of “LOVE”. We each hold a special place in our heart for the love of family members and friends. Such love and appreciation is often expressed to our loved ones through the giving of flowers, cards, gifts, etc. for Valentine’s Day. As an example, Hallmark has estimated that some 148 million cards will be purchased this February! Another example is what we hear many Brothers say in Lodge, ‘I love you as a Brother and there is nothing that you can do about it’. How true this really is of that unconditional Brotherly Love that cascades throughout our Fraternity. It is that Love that serves as the cement that bonds and unites us together in one common mass as we have learned in the Master’s Degree.

Our fraternal actions demonstrate Brotherly Love through our support of each other and our dedication to our lodges and our other Masonic bodies that we support. The work we accomplish through GACHIP is an example of such love for the greater world beyond our Lodge Buildings and meetings. Through GACHIP our Masonic work exemplifies such an entity that we should all be supporting through scheduling and working events. We express our compassion for the world beyond our walls by being that beacon of light of charity and we display that love through the gift of a child ID packet. GACHIP is a symbol of love and affection for the families of our communities represented by our commitment by our neighbor lodges.

As you know, we have appointed District Directors across the state as your point of contact. The ‘Go-To’ Teams! Without these efficient, visible, and dedicated District Directors leading the way, many of our children’s families would be without pertinent information pertaining to their beloved children. The GACHIP information packet contains the most crucial information ensuring immediate compliance with law enforcement if, God forbid, a disappearance of a child occurs. Supplying a GACHIP information packet to a parent or guardian is a lasting and valuable form of love that Masons can show to our neighbors and community.



Included in this article are pictures of our pristine, brand new, and updated GACHIP brochures. The brochure guides the reader through the entire identification process. It is simple! As Masons across our great state we have the formula of success. Our entire dedicated District Directors have or will soon have updated brochures in their possession to deliver to your Lodge.

I urge each Worshipful Master and Brethren of our Lodges to obtain and read our new brochure and commit to distrib-

uting brochures to family, friends, colleagues, churches, schools, scout groups, etc. Don’t delay!!! Reach out to your GACHIP District Director and schedule an informational demonstration at your Lodge. Follow up by scheduling a GACHIP Event! Let us commission and name this month of love to our beloved children through the sponsorship of the Georgia Child Identification Program!

## **Cottage Campaign Development Committee Presents Two Flame Awards**



Stone Mountain Lodge No. 449 received the Flame Award from the Cottage Campaign for their support and contribution. The award was presented to the Worshipful Master Bruce Bentley by Development Committee Chairman Gary Monk.



Jim Mapes, DDGM, was presented the Flame Award by Grand Master Larry Nichols at the Grand Masters Forum January 13 at the Atlanta Masonic Center. The Flame is presented to those who have made significant donations to the Cottage Campaign.

The Thelma Louise Matthews Cottage is now open at the Georgia Masonic Home and the junior girls are the first occupants. The second cottage is funded and under construction. Naming rights for individual donors and Lodges are available:

Cottage \$500,000  
Street \$100,000  
Kitchen or Living Room \$100,000  
Furnishings \$ 70,000  
Bedroom/Library \$ 25,000  
Landscaping \$ 10,000

Thus far the Cottage Campaign has issued naming rights for two cottages, one street, four bedrooms and one library. Recognition awards start with any contribution of \$1,000. Any Mason or Lodge that would like more information or a presentation contact: Gary Monk ([gmonk@bellsouth.net](mailto:gmonk@bellsouth.net)). See our website at [www.cottagecampaign.org](http://www.cottagecampaign.org).



# Fifty – Year Masons



Ronald Weldon Wheeler  
Cherokee Lodge No. 66



Charles A. Wallace  
Live Oak Lodge No. 137



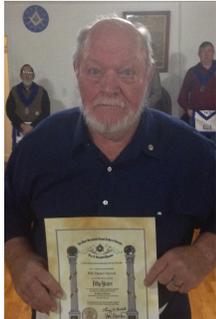
Jackie Thomas  
Cairo Lodge No. 299



Dan Maddox Dixon  
Gordon Lodge No. 240



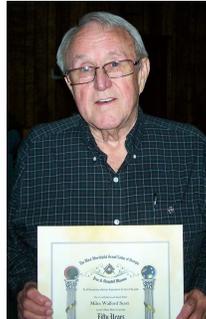
G.W. Darsey  
Dexter Lodge No. 340



Billy Daniel Aycock  
Floyd Springs Lodge  
No. 167



Gene Edward Williams  
Floyd Springs Lodge  
No. 167



Miles Walford Scott  
Plainville Lodge No. 364



Lester C. Litesey, Jr.  
Caledonia Lodge No. 121



Preston Camp  
Caledonia Lodge No. 121



Raymond Luther Patty  
Tyrone Lodge No. 644



James Marion Ivey  
Tyrone Lodge No. 644



Harold Thomason  
Dallas Lodge No. 182



Jerry Lyod Ertzberger  
Toccoa Lodge No. 309



William Harold Atkinson  
Toccoa Lodge No. 309



Hubert Gwyn Scott  
Toccoa Lodge No. 309



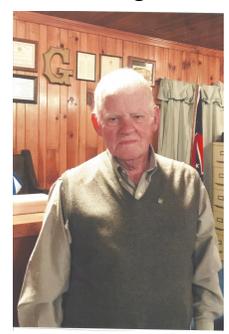
Fred Bush  
Hazlehurst Lodge  
No. 283



Robert William Tidwell  
Chestatee Lodge  
No. 102



Robert Fulton Brannen  
Ancient Landmark  
No. 231



James William German  
Mineral Bluff Lodge  
No. 483

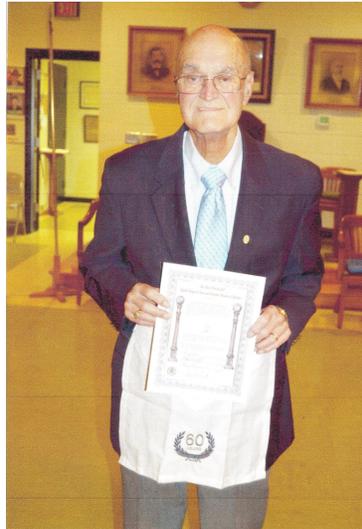


# Sixty – Year Masons

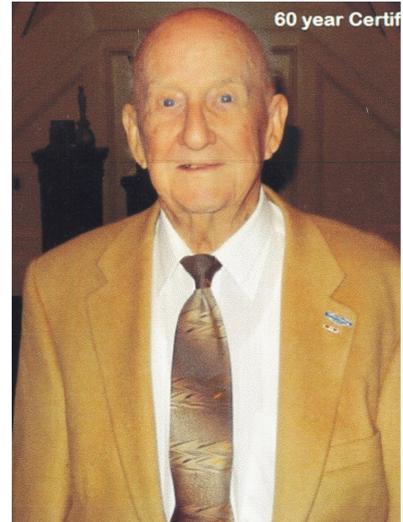
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Gerald Shores  
Laurens Lodge No. 75



Enoch Henry Johnson, II  
Coweta Lodge No. 60



Euel Akins  
Landrum Lodge No. 48

# Seventy-Five Year Masons

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Bro. Harry H. Davis a member of Union City Lodge No. 600, was recently presented his 75-year award in November. He was a combat photographer in the South Pacific during WWII. MWB Gary Leazer, Past Editor of the *Masonic Messenger* did a full-page story on him in the June 2016 *Masonic Messenger* about his Masonic and Christian activities on Saipan. I would encourage all the Brethren to take another look at that article and reflect upon some of the work that our Brother did while in the service of our country. Sadly, Bro. Davis passed just this January, 2018 and we publish this Seventy-Five year award in honor of a great man, Mason, and a member of the “Greatest Generation.”

# *In Memoriam*

Members Reported Deceased from November 23,  
2017 to January 19, 2018

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Lodge No.</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Lodge No.</b>
DTSON, HOMER MARION	1SOL	TAYLOR, WILLIAM GRADY	058
FERRON, RICHARD EDWARD	1SOL	BRANDON, WILLIAM BENJAMIN	059
DANIELS, EB (NMN) III	002	BARBER, HASKELL EVERETT	060
ADAMS, JAMES HIRAM	003	PRICE, CARL ESPY	063
LITTLE, JOHN BARRY JR	005	STAMEY, MICHAEL TERRY	063
CARROLL, JOHN MOSES JR	012	HIGGINS, KENNETH WAYNE	064
HUNTER, DEWEY LARRY	012	SHELTON, ZEAK FRANKLIN	064
JORDAN, JIMMY LEROY	013	DODD, RALPH LELTON	066
MONCRIEF, WILLIAM TIMMON	013	ELLISON, FRANKLIN LAMAR	069
DURDEN, WILLIAM ORIS JR	020	MILAM, BRADLEY OTHA	069
PAYNE, FRANKLIN DELEON	023	ATKINSON, MARCELLUS ATHERATEES	070
LILLARD, LARRY WAYNE	026	HANSON, CHARLES RANDY SR	072
HARRIS, GEORGE FRANKLIN	027	FLANAGIN, JAMES BYRON SR	081
REEVES, JAMES ROSS	027	JONES, BUCK WELDON	083
GODWIN, WESLEY ANDREW	033	HOUSTON, LEONARD OSWALD	086
GOLDSTEIN, HERBERT SAM	033	GLAZE, WILLIAM THOMAS JR	087
MOSS, DANNY LEM	034	LOUDERMILK, MICHAEL CRAWFORD	092
SATTERFIELD, ROBERT LEE SR	035	WHITMORE, EZRA ELBERT	093
SHAW, HUGH ALLAN	035	JOHNSON, EMMETT VERNELL	097
EBERHARDT, ANDREW LAKE SR	037	PINKARD, JOHNNY ELLIS	097
EDGE, J. D. [IO]	038	TRAMELL, JAMES WILEY	097
RUARK, STERLING EDWARD	041	WHITE, JAMES THURMAN	114
WILKINSON, ALBERT MIMS JR	041	NADEL, NATHAN DANIEL	116
ADAMS, WAYMON EVERETT JR	042	CORDLE, BENNY RAY	120
ROBERTSON, VAN GARY	042	GREENE, ROSS WILLIAMS	126
SHEPHERD, WILLIAM ERNEST	042	MANN, GERALD AUSTIN	126
SMITH, HERBERT HOOVER	043	SMITH, DAVID CLAUDE	126
SUDDERTH, GLADSTONE ARTHUR	044	LONG, ANDREW JACKSON	127
RICHARDS, JAMES VAUGHN	045	RICHARDS, JAMES VAUGHN	127
COPELAND, LENNON JOHN SR	047	KEEN, OFREY COLUMBUS JR	129
GRIFFIN, DANIEL JACKSON SR	047	SHUMAN, GORDON STRICKLAND	137
HOLLAND, NOLLIE CARLIES	048	WALLACE, CHARLES ALFRED	137
DANNER, CHARLES LEONARD	051		

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Lodge No.</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Lodge No.</b>
HOLLAND, WEYMAN WALTER	139	HIERONYMUS, JOHN MANSFIELD	288
HOLBROOK, WALTER IVESTER	141	ARTHUR, RICKY OLIN	289
HALL, CHARLES WILLIAM	144	TAYLOR, RICHARD LAWRENCE	289
ROBINSON, BOBBY TERRELL	144	LEWIS, MARVIN [NMN]	296
BOWEN, WILLIAM TERRELL	153	SMITH, RONALD GEORGE	296
COCHRAN, BILLY GORDON	171	SELLERS, ELVIS LEONIDUS	299
PINYAN, CHARLES THOMAS	171	CAMPBELL, JOHNNY WALTER	303
LYNCH, GEORGE CHANDLER JR.	173	GRIFFIN, CHARLES DOUGLAS	303
DENSON, BOBBY JONES	176	SMITH, JAMES LEONARD	303
NORRIS, JAMES DAVID	180	DAVIS, JAMES EDWARD	304
GRIST, HERSHELL JUDSON JR	182	ROYSTER, WOODROW GLENTON JR	304
BELL, ROWELL COMER	184	FARR, GEORGE WASHINGTON SR	305
CURTIS, FREDDIE CLARK	185	SKIPPER, TOMMIE GENE	307
SMITH, SYLVESTER BUDDY	192	STRIBLING, WILLIE ROBERT	321
SELLARS, WILLIAM EDWARD	194	GILLESPIE, WILLIAM TOLBERT	323
OWENS, OFFORD HAROLD	198	TAYLOR, GAINES MARION	325
LONG, ANDREW JACKSON	200	ALFORD, JOHN WILLIAM	334
COBB, WILSON CLAYBORN	201	BOWEN, J. W. [IO]	340
FAIN, CHARLES EDWARD	201	SMITH, ROBERT LAMAR	340
BUCHANAN, JAMES JACKIE	207	TYSON, FELTON HOWARD	346
BURDETT, COLLIE ANDERSON	210	BRANTLEY, JULIAN [NMN]	353
ELLIOTT, JULIAN CLIVE JR	210	REED, WILLIAM HERBERT	354
LEMONS, CLYDE RAY	211	EVANS, DENNIS LEE SR	364
MILSTEIN, MARTIN LOU	216	DONALSON, HERBERT DEWEY	369
WENDER, ROBERT CRISTOL	216	WINKELMAN, HERMAN AUGUST	381
WOODS, WALLACE HAMILTON	227	WILEY, JAMES ED	382
ELLIS, JAMES CLARENCE JR	235	ROWELL, RUFUS TILLMAN	391
BORUM, MICHAEL CHEEK	241	HOLBERT, ROBERT MONROE	394
STEWART, THOMAS GWYNN	251	DERRYBERRY, BILLY FRANK	397
BRYANT, JACK WILMON	255	GUHNE, HOWARD CHARLES	397
GRIGGERS, WILLIS ALVA	255	WRINKLE, WILLIAM FREDRICK JR	397
BOYD, JOHNNY EDWIN	262	BOYETT, JOE KENNY	435
WALKER, JOHN HENRY SR.	271	MURRAY, CARL THOMAS JR.	443
WILKES, COLLIE (NMN) JR	272	BUTLER, JOHN LEONARD	449
CATES, JOHN DOUGLAS III	274	FERGUSON, DAVID (NMN)	449
REDDICK, HENRY CLECKLEY	274	JOHNSON, KEITH ORVILLE	449
WILEY, GREGORY LEE	276	DIEHL, RUSSELL JUNIOR	452

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Lodge No.</b>		
MCCOWN, CHARLES ATKINSON	452	RUSICH, DAVID BRUCE	708
DUTTON, JIMMY ROGERS	454	CRAIN, JOHN MELTON	709
PITTS, CHARLES NEWTON	454	STROHL, MARK ALAN	709
ABRAMS, GEORGE RUSSELL	455	WASHINGTON, WALTER MARTIN	710
ALLMON, JERRY DEWEY	455	LIGHTSEY, DOYLE ESTON	716
ALBRECHT, JOSEPH NELSON	484	BECK, JAMES ALFRED	717
COTTON, CECIL DON	484	SCOTT, MILFORD ANDERSON	718
GREEN, LEWIS LAMAR SR	484	VOELS, ALBERT LOUIS	718
STRATON, FRANK DOUGLAS	486	POPE, VIRGIL GEORGE	720
HOWELL, ARTHUR SAMUEL	489	MCCRICKARD, RODGER DALE	728
WILSON, GEORGE RONALD	491	BAKER, BENNY BLAIR	729
HARDIN, LONNIE LEE	523	MALONE, JOHN THOMAS	734
ROBERTSON, ROBERT EARL	533	BOWEN, WILLIAM TERRELL	742
REYNOLDS, WILLIAM EUGENE	534	BAKER, BENNY BLAIR	744
LIPHAM, HOWARD BRADLEY JR	544	SATTERFIELD, ROBERT LEE SR	756
MOONEY, JEWELL DEAN	572	SHAW, HUGH ALLAN	756
UNDERWOOD, IRVIN EUGENE	575	BOTTOMS, BILLY MARCUS	758
BRAZO, ROBERT FREDERICK	579	HARRIS, GEORGE FRANLIN	761
MAGONI, JOHN CHARLES	579		

**ENDOWMENT FUND CONTRIBUTIONS**  
**November 23, 2017 to January 19-2018**

**\$500 OR MORE**

DORMINY, MANDELL DELVIN	591	Ocilla Lodge No. 134	
MUSGROVE, ARTHUR HARRY	591	Aubery Lunsford Construction	
OSBURN, ORVILLE ROBERT	591	Beth Driver	
WATKINS, CHARLES FRANKLIN	597		
HOWARD, JAMES WILLIAM	622	<b>\$1,000.00 OR MORE</b>	
KEITH, KENNETH WAYNE	622	Riverdale Lodge No. 709	Helen S. McPheeters Estate
CHASTAIN, TOMMY JOE	644	Rex Lodge No. 251	Charles Pitts, III
PEACOCK, BILLY JOE	644	Myrtie Black Trust	Carl J. Robison Trust
CODY, KENNETH JOHN SR	674	John/Emma Derst Foundation	Ruskin Family Trust
FREEMAN, GALEN PORTER	677	Harry N. Flowers Estate	Ernie R. Stovall
COBB, JERRY DONNIE	690	Timothy Horn	Stovall Construction Co.
BOTTOMS, BILLY MARCUS	694	William B. Grimes Estate	Thomas C. Strickland, Jr.
HOWARD, J. W. [IO] JR	694	Teresa Key	
HULSEY, CECIL BERT	698		
ELLIOTT, RICHARD MORROW	708		

# MOVING DAY FOR THE JUNIOR GIRLS!!!

