

Masonic Messenger



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

Fall 2021



Grand Lodge Of
Georgia Information
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2020 Code Bills
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2021 Code Bills For The 235th Annual Grand Lodge — See Pages 18-28

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

Grand Lodge Officers

Grand Master	Jan M. Giddens (33, 742)
Deputy Grand Master	Donald C. Combs (46)
Senior Grand Warden	Michael A. Kessler (216)
Junior Grand Warden	Benjamin W. Polston, II (6)
Grand Treasurer	Larry W. Nichols (59)
Grand Secretary	Van S. McGee (26, 70)
Grand Chaplain	Hugh F. Watson (33, 742)
Grand Marshal	Robert R. Cordle (171, 523, 742)
Grand Orator	F. Andrew Lane, Jr. PGM (182, 252)
Senior Grand Deacon	Mark A. Bradley (36, 766)
Junior Grand Deacon	Bill Shepard (717, 214)
First Grand Steward	Brian C. Coffey (271, 749, 710)
Second Grand Steward	Tom D. Bruce (42, 216)
Third Grand Steward	Scott W. Johnson (68, 376)
Grand Tyler	James A. Childress (394, 537)

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Published Quarterly at 811 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31201.

The Messenger goes to all Masons holding membership in Georgia
Subscription \$10.00 domestic, \$16.00 foreign per year.

Advertising rates on application.

MASONIC MESSENGER

Vol. 122

Fall 2021

No. 1

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FORM FOR CHANGING ADDRESS FOR MESSENGER

TYPE or PRINT information requested and mail to the
Grand Lodge address on the back cover.

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:

Lodge Name and Number _____

Street or P.O. Box _____

City _____

Zip Code _____

Brethren, it is your responsibility to make certain your address is current.

Be certain your Lodge secretary has your correct address.

Current addresses are kept in the Grand Secretary's Office in Macon.

The **Editor of the Masonic Messenger DOES NOT** keep a list of addresses.



From the Desk of the Grand Secretary

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Cory Andrew Quarles a former member of Hill City Lodge No. 319, who was also a past master of Gordon Springs Lodge No. 463; resigned from Freemasonry effective August 14, 2019, and now requests reinstatement through the Grand Lodge of Georgia, as a regular Master Mason.

Masonic Code 86-114 requires, in part, that notice of the request for reinstatement shall be published in the Masonic Messenger to allow any member to comment or object in writing. However, objections on the floor of Grand Lodge can be made orally by any permanent member of Grand Lodge, currently elected Masters, or any other Master Mason with the consent of Grand Lodge, at the annual communication.

Grand Lodge votes on the request for reinstatement. The 235th Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, will be held in Macon, GA on October 26, 2021. Written objections must be sent to the Grand Secretary in time to be considered by the investigating committee.

Procedures for Grand Lodge Communication October 26th and 27th 2021

For ALL members including committee members.

Please log into Grand View, bring up your account and click on Grand Lodge Pre-registration (which will not be available until September 15th)

You will use your membership card as your name badge.

Please do this between September 15th and October 15th

When you arrive at Grand Lodge you will need to check in and pick up any books, ballots and voting panels, then you may enter the Grand lodge Session.

Lodge per capita must be up to date or Lodge Representatives will be denied Voting credentials.

If you have any questions please contact Lloyd Bowen, Chairman of the Credentials Committee lloyd@bowenmcelrath.com

GRAND LODGE INFORMATION

Grand Lodge 235th. Annual Communication will be held on Tuesday October 26th, as a full session in the Macon Centreplex. No out of state guests or vendors will be present. Complete information will be published in the Fall edition of the Masonic Messenger, as well as in Grand View.

PLEASE NOTE THE EMAIL FOR THE EDITOR OF THE MASONIC MESSENGER HAS CHANGED.

Please email articles of interest, 50, 55, 60, 65, and 70 Year Awards,
Masonic Book Reviews, etc. to:

messenger@glofga.org



From the Desk of the Grand Master

Most Worshipful Brother

Jan M. Giddens

Greetings my Brethren. This Masonic year is rapidly coming to a close and we are making preparations for the 235th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia in October. The plan is to hold a regular session at the Marriot in Macon on Tuesday October 26th, because of the abundance of business we have to cover we will open at 8 am instead of 9. We are not extending an invitation to out of state guests, so introductions will be at a minimum in order to move things along. While business and elections are required, the most popular event will return this year and that is the Farmers Market Picnic.

When I was appointed to the Grand Lodge line in 2012, MWB E. Ray Knittel was the Grand Master and he told me to enjoy the trip because it will fly by in one big flash. My response was "Grand Master it's 8 years before you get to Grand Master" he was right, I can't believe my term is coming to an end. It has been an incredible journey and I have enjoyed every minute of the trip. I was blessed to be able to travel extensively in the eight years prior to being elected in 2020, and have had the opportunity to meet so many of you all over our great state.

I made plans for the things I wanted to do this year, as all Grand Masters do, but COVID has caused me to change some of those plans. No GM Forums, work-day at the home and camp had to be cancelled and other events large and small were cancelled. It was my opinion that the best thing I could this year was to travel to Lodges and be the voice of calm and encouragement while we dealt with the restrictions we were under. But I was always the one that left each lodge encouraged by all of you. You were still meeting, still fellowshiping, checking on each other, taking of as much business as you could, many of you took ad-

vantage of the down time to work on your lodges. I saw many newly painted, lights changed out to LEDs and many other improvements. I was proud of the way the masons of Georgia responded to this situation.

In April when the Governor dropped all COVID related restrictions we were allowed to begin degree work once again. Everywhere I go candidates are being worked by the lodges, degree teams, courtesy work is being done. I've met many of the newly raised Master Masons and they tell me without exception it was worth the wait. New candidates are coming in, Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft are progressing in good order. A word of caution Brethren, with this new variance I do not know if new restrictions are coming from the Governor or not, so keep up the work and let's make masons and give other men the same chance at that life changing experience we all had when we came through that door. Do good work, remember we want Masons not members.

Brethren, I can't thank you all enough for the high honor you have bestowed on me by giving me the opportunity to serve as Grand Master of Masons in Georgia. To be able to serve with all of you this year has been a joy and a privilege and will always be one of the highlights of my life. For more than 235 years Masons have been an integral part of our great state, and you and I will leave our mark in the history of Georgia Masonry as well.

I look forward to many years of service to the craft with all of you.

Fraternally and forever in your debt,

Jan M Giddens

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE MASONS OF GEORGIA

Brethren, a piece of legislation will be presented at this year's Grand Lodge that will determine type of services that can be offered to our Lodges. The Bill that I am asking to you read and prayerfully consider is for a per-capita increase in the amount of \$6.50. I am well aware that the majority of the Lodges in Georgia are dealing with the same issues, expenses going up and dues paying members going down. While most Lodges have raised their dues in recent years, our Grand Lodge has not had a per-capita increase since 2005, currently the per-capita is \$26.50 of that only \$9.50 is earmarked to run your Grand Lodge office. They are running an office in 2021 with 2005 money and less of that.

The membership in 2005 was 41,179 and as of July 15, 2021 the membership stands at 29,045 a difference of more than 12,000 members. That is total membership and not dues paying members only, emeritus members reduce the total income. Expenses are up and income is down and in order to continue to provide the same level of services to our Lodges an increase is necessary. The Grand Lodge Office has cut its expenses in every way possible, reducing the office staff from four full time employees to two fulltime and two part time.

These are some of the expenses incurred to run your Grand Lodge Office;

Salaries, employee health insurance, phones, office equipment, office rental, postage, printing, office supplies, Fifty Year Aprons, pins and certificates (over 700 in 2021) aprons alone are \$32.50 each. An annual audit of the Grand Lodge books costs \$18,000, to hold our Annual Communication and the Farmers Market is a large expense. Aprons and jewels for the Grand Lodge Committee members and Grand Lodge Officers is an ongoing expense, the Code, Georgia Lodge Membership booklets and other printed are provided to the Lodge at no cost.

Your Grand Lodge Office sole purpose is help, aid and assist the lodges with-in this Grand Jurisdiction and it will continue to do so but we need the help of the Masons of Georgia. In each Grand Masters Address book and Proceedings the full audit is printed for all to see and I encourage you to review them and see the efforts of your Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer to manage the money entrusted to them.

Brethren, I am symbolically holding up the Grand Hailing Sign of Distress, the need for this increase is long overdue. I ask you to look at the numbers and to go upon bended knees in earnest prayer to the GAOTU and vote for this increase.

Fraternally and at your service,

Jan M. Giddens

Grand Master

GEORGIA HOSTS THE ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN MASONIC CONFERENCE



On August 5-7 the Grand Lodge of Georgia hosted the Southeastern Masonic Conference at Stone Mountain Park. The SEMC began in 1961 and is held on a rotating basis between the ten states that make it up the conference. Georgia has hosted this event six times before this year and will host it again in 2031. It is an opportunity for elected Grand Lodge officers to get together and share what is working and not working in their jurisdictions. It also builds wonderful and lasting relationships between Grand Lodges.

This year's event was meant to be a family reunion since because of Covid we did not meet last year and many Grand Lodges (like Georgia) did not allow out of state guest, so it has been sometime since we have gathered together. The idea was well received, and the meeting was less formal, no coats or ties, and we had an open discussion of the issues facing our several jurisdictions. The First Lady, Margo Giddens took the ladies out on a tour of old homes on the park along with a luncheon and a trip to the top of Stone Mountain. The whole event seemed to be what everyone needed, some sense of being normal once again. Next year's gathering will be in Hot Springs Arkansas.

The event was a success because of a great team of hard-working Masons and ladies. Right Worshipful Brother Ben Polston was the committee chairman and with the Grand Secretary, Mac McGee worked out all the details with the hotel and convention center. Julie and Carolyn from the Grand Lodge office helped with registration, YAARAB Shrine offered the use of their bus driven by Brother Ray Crews, to take the ladies around the park. The Worshipful Master and several brothers from Kennesaw Lodge No. 33 provided and served ice cream to all the participants Thursday evening. The entertainment committee out did everybody with their effort. Judd and Joy Wolfe along with their committee ran the hospitality room and did the decorations for the Friday night banquet. A team effort made for a memorable event for everyone present and they all left with good memories of a few days in Georgia.

Thanks to all who made this event a huge success.

235 Annual Communication

of the

Grand Lodge of Georgia

Free and Accepted Masons

The 235th Annual Communication of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of Georgia, will be held on October 26th and 27th, 2021 at the Macon Centreplex and the Marriott Macon City Center, located 240 Coliseum Drive Macon, 31217; 478-621-5300

The Host Hotel rates are \$115.00 plus taxes and fees, reservations can be made beginning September 8th through October 1st, 2021. Free Parking

Banquet: The Grand Master's Banquet will be held on Monday evening October 25th at 6:30 pm in Ballroom A, B and C of the Macon Centreplex. Tickets are available in the Grand Lodge Office, please call Carolyn for tickets or email her at cjohnson@glofga.org. Tickets are \$75.00 per person and limited to 150.

Grand Lodge Session/Farmers Market: The session will begin at 8:00 am Tuesday morning October 26th and will be set to refreshment by 5 pm, for the Annual Tommy Irvin Farmers Market Picnic. Cost is still only \$5.00 (five) dollars. Tickets may be purchased in the Grand Lodge Office by calling or emailing Carolyn. The Picnic will start at 6:00 pm and fun, fellowship and food can be had by all attending. 478-742-1475 or gsec@glofga.org.

IMPORTANT GRAND LODGE INFORMATION

Registration For Grand Lodge must be done on Grand View by clicking on the blue Grand Lodge Pre-Registration banner under the Lodge Name (Right Side of Screen).

There will be no admittance to Grand Lodge without a current valid dues card.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR YOUR FRATERNITY ON YOUR VEHICLE AND ON YOUR LAPEL

Having a Georgia Masonic car tag shows the public that you are a proud Mason. But it also shows that you support the charities that your Georgia Masonic Charities Foundation helps fund, as a portion of each tag registration is returned to the Foundation. Now you can also so that support by wearing a Masonic car tag lapel pin.



Most Worshipful Grand Master Giddens has made available this lapel pin for all who either renew or order the Masonic car tag in 2021. Simply contact any Grand Line Officer with a copy of your 2021 tag order or provide a photo of your 2021 tag to receive your **FREE** lapel pin.

Thank you for your support and having pride in our Fraternity.

2020 Code Bills Held Over From The 234th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia

CODE BILL NO. 2020-1

This bill seeks to amend Chapter 2-2, Section 2-201 of the Masonic Code by creation of Grand Lodge Information Technology Committee and adding a new Code Section for said Committee.

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

A bill to provide for the creation of a Grand Lodge Information Technology (IT) Committee by amending Chapter 2-2 Section 2-201.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 2-2, Section 2-201 only be amended as follows:

2-201. Permanent Committees.- There shall be the following permanent Committees of the Grand Lodge:

1. Committee on the Grand Master's Address (Sec. 2-202)
2. Committee on Appeals and Grievances (Secs. 2-203 & Chs. 78-1, 79-1, 83-1, 83-2, 85-1 & 86-1)
3. Finance Committee (Secs. 2-204 & 4-903)
4. Committee on Foreign Correspondence (Sec. 2-205)
5. Credentials Committee (Sec. 2-206)
6. Board of Relief (Sec. 2-207)
7. Georgia Masonic Home Endowment Committee (Sec. 2-208)
8. Educational and Historical Commission (Secs. 2-209, 2-210, 3-115(b), 9-101(b), 9-104, 9-105 & 9-106, and Ch. 66-1)
9. Code Supplement Committee (Secs. 2-211 & 3-115(c))
10. Publications Committee (Sec. 2-212)
11. Board of Custodians [of the Uniform Work] (Secs. 2-213 & 2-214)
12. Properties and Investment Committee (Sec. 2-215)

13. Committee on Tax (Secs. 2-216A & 23-134)
14. Committee on Laws (Secs. 2-216B & 23-134)
15. Entertainment Committee (Sec. 2-217)
16. Higher Education Fund Committee (Sec. 2-218)
17. Youth Council Committee (Sec. 2-219)
18. General Welfare Committee (Sec. 2-219.1)
19. Masonic Education and Leadership Development Directors [a commission] (Sec. 2-223 & 2-227)
20. Committee on Jurisprudence (Secs. 3-113, 3-114, 3-115(a))
21. Retirement Committee (Sec. 4-906)
22. District Deputies to the Grand Master [a commission] (Ch. 5-1)
23. Board of Trustees of the Masonic Home (Sec. 6-101)
24. Board of Trustees of the Georgia Masonic Home Endowment Fund (Sec. 6-102)
25. Dewey Harold Wollstein Award Committee (Sec. 9-101)
26. Charters and By-Laws Committee (Sec. 22-10)
27. GACHIP Committee (Sec. 2-225)
28. Development Committee (Sec. 2-226)
29. Information Technology (IT) Committee

Furthermore, be it enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia, Free and Accepted Masons, that the Masonic Code Chapter 2-2 be amended by adding a new Section of the Masonic Code as follows:

Information Technology Committee.-The IT Committee shall consist of five members who shall be selected according to their capabilities as being qualified to perform the duties of this committee. The terms of the said members shall be three years expiring in staggered terms at the close of the annual Grand Lodge session. After the close of the 2020 annual Grand Lodge session the Grand Master shall appoint one member whose term will expire in 2021, two members whose term will expire in 2022, and two members whose terms will expire in 2023. The Grand Master shall appoint new members as those terms expire. The Grand Master shall appoint mem-

bers to fill the remainder of unexpired terms as vacancies occur. In the Grand Master's discretion, members can be reappointed upon the expiration of their term. Committee members do not have to be permanent members of Grand Lodge.

The purpose of the committee shall be to review the performance of GLAD; to make recommendations related to the purchase, lease, or acquisition of information technology-related equipment, software, and services for GLAD; to perform other such information technology-related duties as required by the Grand Master; and by the appointment by the Grand Master, to periodically audit user access as provided in Chapter 13.

William R. Moore, PM
Dacula Lodge No. 433
Buford Lodge No. 292
Lawrenceville Lodge No. 131

Tom D. Bruce, PM
Tucker Lodge No. 42
Fulton Lodge No. 216

CODE BILL NO. 2020-2

This bill seeks to repeal Section 6-103.

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

A Bill repealing Section 6-103 of the Masonic Code since it refers to a Masonic Code Section that was rejected in 2003 and is consequently meaningless.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Section 6-103 of the Masonic Code that reads ~~“6-103. MASONIC HOME AMBASSADORS PROGRAM. The Board of Trustees with the assistance of the home staff shall develop and implement a program to educate Masonic Home Ambassadors so that they may effectively perform the duties assigned to them by the Worshipful Master and as described in Section 6-104.”~~ be and the same is hereby repealed.

Tom D. Bruce, PM
Tucker Lodge No. 42
Fulton Lodge No. 216

CODE BILL NO. 2020-3

This bill seeks to amend Section 78-121 relating to withdrawal of charges to provide that an appeal of a refusal of a Trial Commission Chairman to accept a withdrawal of charges shall not act to suspend the ruling or prevent the trial from moving forward; however, the appeal shall be heard by the Committee on Appeals and Grievances and shall ultimately be decided by the Grand Lodge.

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

A bill to amend Chapter 78-1, Section 78-121 of the Masonic Code relating to the withdrawal of charges to provide that an appeal of a refusal of a trial commission chairman to accept a withdrawal of charges shall not act to suspend the ruling or prevent the trial moving forward; however, the appeal shall be heard by the committee on appeals and grievances and shall be ultimately decided by the Grand Lodge. Said code currently reads as follows:

78-121. Withdrawal of Charges.-Charges preferred by the Lodge or accepted by it may be withdrawn by majority vote and upon secret ballot at any regular communication prior to evidence in the case being heard by the Trial Commissioner or by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Trial Commission. Withdrawal of charges may be approved or disapproved by the Trial Commission Chairman, (or in event of his being unavailable, the Vice Chairman) and his decision shall be subject to appeal within 30 days, subject to review by the Appeals and Grievances Committee, and subject to final approval by Grand Lodge, in the same manner as any trial procedure. (See Section 84-101, 84-102, 85-104).

Be it enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 78-1, Code Section 78-121, only be amended as follows:

By removing the section in its entirety and replacing it with the following wording:

"78-121. Withdrawal of Charges.-Charges accepted by a Lodge may be withdrawn by majority vote made by secret ballot at any regular communication prior to

evidence in the case being heard by the Trial Commission or by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Trial Commission. A withdrawal of charges may be approved or disapproved by the Trial Commission Chairman (or in event of his being unavailable the Vice Chairman). The decision of the Trial Commission Chairman (or Vice-Chairman) shall be subject to appeal within 30 days; however, an appeal of a denial to withdraw the charges shall not act to suspend the ruling or prevent the trial moving forward. A withdrawal of charges, and any appeal on actions thereon, shall be subject to review by the Appeals and Grievances Committee. and subject to final approval by Grand Lodge. (See Sections 84-101. 84-102. 85-104)."

So that the section as amended shall read as follows:

78-121. Withdrawal of Charges.- Charges accepted by a Lodge may be withdrawn by majority vote made by secret ballot at any regular communication prior to evidence in the case being heard by the Trial Commission or by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Trial Commission. A withdrawal of charges may be approved or disapproved by the Trial Commission Chairman (or in event of his being unavailable. the Vice Chairman). The decision of the Trial Commission Chairman (or Vice-Chairman) shall be subject to appeal within 30 days: however, an appeal of a denial to withdraw the charges shall not suspend the ruling or prevent the trial moving forward. A withdrawal of charges, and any appeal on actions thereon, shall be subject to review by the Appeals and Grievances Committee. and subject to final approval by Grand Lodge. (See Sections 84-101. 84-102. 85-104).

Jeffery L. Smith, PM
Lawrenceville Lodge #131

CODE BILL NO. 2020-4

This bill seeks to amend Chapter 78-1, Section 78-128 related to accepting charges to provide that charges based on a conviction or plea of guilty to a felony charge may not be withdrawn by a lodge.

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

A bill to amend Chapter 78-1, Section 78-128 of the Masonic Code relating to accepting charges to provide that charges based on a conviction or plea of guilty to a felony charge may not be withdrawn by a lodge. Said code currently reads 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.

Be it enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 78-1, Code Section 78-121, only be amended as fol-

lows:

By adding the words "Charges and specifications based 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, may not be withdrawn by a lodge," so that the 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.

Charges and specifications based 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, may not be withdrawn by a lodge.

Jeffery L. Smith, PM
Lawrenceville Lodge #131

CODE BILL NO. 2020-5

This bill seeks to amend Chapter 85-1, Section 85-105 relating to the date of meeting of the Appeals and Grievances Committee by changing the requirement for meeting on the fourth Monday of September, to allow for other meetings of said committee, and to establish cases to be heard at the required meeting.

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

A bill to amend Chapter 85-1, Section 85-105 of the Masonic Code relating to the date of meeting of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances to change the requirement for meeting on the fourth Monday of September, to allow for other meetings of the committee, and to establish cases to be heard at the required meeting. Said code currently reads as follows:

85-105. Committee to Meet on Fourth Monday in September.-The Appeals and Grievances Committee shall meet on the fourth Monday in September of each year preceding each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge and hear all appeals that have been filed with the Grand Lodge and formulate their recommendation to the Grand Lodge after affording each party an opportunity to be heard. A brief summary of the factual background as well as the Trial Commission 's verdict and sentence or recommended sentence shall be prepared in writing and made a part of the Appeals and Grievances Committee 's report. In the absence of compliance with the above procedure said Committee on Appeals and Grievances shall not recommend to the Grand Lodge any change in the verdict or penalty found or imposed in any case where there is an appeal.

Be it enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chap-

ter 85-1, Code Section 85-105 only be amended as follows:

By deleting the title "Committee to Meet on Fourth Monday in September," adding the title "Required Meeting of Committee," by adding the words "or before," by adding the words "not already heard by said committee," and by adding the words "Nothing in this section shall preclude the committee from having other meetings or hearings as may be deemed necessary appropriate by the Chairman of said committee," so that the section as amended shall read as follows:

85-105. ~~Committee to Meet on Fourth Monday in September Required Meeting of Committee.~~ The Appeals and Grievances Committee shall meet on or before the fourth Monday in September of each year preceding each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge and hear all appeals that have been filed with the Grand Lodge not already heard by said committee and formulate their recommendation to the Grand Lodge after affording each party an opportunity to be heard. A brief summary of the factual background as well as the Trial Commission's verdict and sentence or recommended sentence shall be prepared in writing and made a part of the Appeals and Grievances Committee's report. In the absence of compliance with the above procedure said Committee on Appeals and Grievances shall not recommend to the Grand Lodge any change in the verdict or penalty found or imposed in any case where there is an appeal. Nothing in this section shall preclude the committee from having other meetings or hearings as may be deemed necessary or appropriate by the Chairman of said committee.

Jeffery L. Smith, PM
Lawrenceville Lodge #131

CODE BILL NO. 2020-6

This bill seeks to amend Sections 23-129, 31-114 and 31-115 by providing for a change to the fees payable per annum by Masons obtaining Emeritus Status after December 31, 2020.

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

A Bill to provide for a change to the fees payable per annum by Masons obtaining Emeritus Status after December 31, 2020 by amending Sections 23-129, 31-114 and 31-115 of the Masonic Code.

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

Section 23-129 of the Masonic Code, relating to Dues to Grand Lodge, be amended so that said Section, as amended, shall read as follows:

23-129. Dues to Grand Lodge.- Every Lodge shall pay the Grand Lodge on or before August 1st of each year Nine Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$9.50) for each member in good standing on June 30th of that year and who is not a perpetual member, and Three Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$3.50) for each member reinstated, and also Three Dollars and Fifty Cents for each candidate initiated since June 30th of the preceding year and prior to July 1st of the current year. Every Lodge which fails to make such payment, in full, on or before September 1st of each year, shall in addition thereto pay ten percent on the unpaid balance of such sum as shall have been due on August 1st of each year; and the Grand Secretary is authorized to charge and collect the additional ten percent in the same manner as other dues to the Grand Lodge are collected. The Grand Master upon cause shown, may remit this penalty. No such Subordinate Lodge, shall be chargeable with dues to the Grand Lodge on members in good standing who have been awarded, the Fifty-year award on or before December 31, 2020, (see Sec. 9-104) by this Grand Lodge or who have reached the age of seventy-five years, on or before December 31, 2020, provided they have been contributing members for a period of thirty years as a member of a lodge or lodges working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Georgia or any other Grand Jurisdiction with which the Grand Lodge of Georgia is in Fraternal Relationship. See Secs. 7- 110, 31-115.

And that Section 31-114 of the Masonic Code, relating to Life Membership Authorized, When, be amended so that said section, when amended, shall read as follows:

31-114. Life Membership Authorized, When. - The Subordinate Lodge may grant life membership to a member exempting him for life from the payment of dues to the Subordinate Lodge, provided that only one life member shall be permitted for each fifty members of such Lodge in good standing at the time of such election, and that any life membership which may be granted thereafter shall be granted only upon a special dispensation by the Grand Master upon a showing that such exemption from dues will not jeopardize the financial status of such Lodge.

However, the Subordinate Lodge shall be liable to the Grand Lodge for the per capita tax on all life members who have not attained the status of Emeritus Masons on or before December 31, 2020.

And that Section 31-115 of the Masonic Code, relating to Emeritus Members, be amended so that said section, when amended, shall read as follows:

31-115. Emeritus Members. ~~An exemption from dues to Masons who have been awarded the fifty year Award (see Sec. 9-104) by this Grand Lodge or who have attained seventy-five years of age is allowed by the Grand Lodge to the subordinate Lodge, provide they have been a contributing member for a period of at least thirty years, not necessarily continuous, nor in the same jurisdiction, nor any other Grand Jurisdiction with which the Grand Lodge of Georgia is in Fraternal Relationship; and such Masons shall be known as Emeritus Masons, but they~~ A Subordinate Lodge may request Emeritus Status be granted to any member of such Subordinate Lodge who has been awarded the Fifty-Year Award (see section 9-104) by this Grand Lodge or has attained seventy-five years of age, provided that they have been a contributing member for a period of at least thirty years, not necessarily continuous, nor in the same jurisdiction, nor any other Grand Jurisdiction with which the Grand Lodge of Georgia is in Fraternal Relationship; and an exemption from dues to such Masons who have been awarded Emeritus Status

on or before December 31, 2020, is allowed by the Grand Lodge to the Subordinate Lodge. All Emeritus Masons are still liable to the Subordinate Lodge for dues to it unless such Subordinate Lodge shall exempt them by By-law.

An Emeritus Dues Card shall be issued annually to each Emeritus Mason which shall bear the current year printed thereon and stating that this card is valid only through the current year. See Sec. 23-129.

No Mason may hold Emeritus status in more than one Lodge concurrently.

A Mason who is a plural member of Subordinate Lodges in Georgia, upon becoming eligible to hold Emeritus status, may be made an Emeritus Mason in any one of such Subordinate Lodges of which such Mason is a member.

A Mason's Emeritus status, once established with a Subordinate Lodge, shall remain with such Subordinate Lodge until such Emeritus Mason is no longer a member of such Subordinate Lodge

E. Ray Knittel, PM
Cohutta Lodge No. 64

CODE BILL NO. 2020-7

This bill seeks to amend Section 77-122 by providing a copy of the Cipher Code to Lodges which practice Uniform Work.

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

A Bill to provide for increased access to knowledge and better proficiency in all aspects of Freemasonry by providing a copy of the Cipher Code of the Uniform Work to any Lodge practicing Uniform Work, at the request of such Lodge.; by amending Section 77-122. Cipher Code of the Masonic Code.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Section 77-122. Cipher Code of the Masonic Code be amended so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Section 77-122. Cipher Code.- It is a violation of Masonic law in Georgia to use any description of key, cipher, or written work of a secret character. It is

also unlawful for any member to give, sell, furnish, or to keep in stock in any book-store or place of business, the management of which he may control in anymanner, any printed, engraved, typewritten, or written book, pamphlet or leaflet containing anything whatsoever pertaining to a key, cipher, or written or printed work of a secret character. Any member so offending, shall be charged with gross un-Masonic conduct by his Lodge and tried. Upon conviction, he shall be subject to expulsion, or to suspension for a definite period, dependent upon the gravity of the circumstances.

Provided, that for the purpose of establishing uniformity in the work, one copy of the Cipher Code of the Uniform Work as approved by the Grand Lodge shall be kept by the Grand Secretary in the safe of the Grand Lodge, and shall be removed only for the use by the Board of Custodians by and with the consent of the Grand Master. It shall not be removed from the building in which the Grand Lodge is located, and shall be immediately returned to the Grand Secretary upon conclusion of the session of the Board of Custodians. One copy of the Cipher Code of the Uniform Work shall be provided to each Lodgein the State of Georgia that practices Uniform Work, at the request of such Lodge, to be under the care of the Director of Work or in his absence the Secretary. to be kept under lock and key by said Officer except when in actual use. and to be kept upon his person or in his hands at all times not under lock and key by said Officer except when in actual use, and to be kept upon his person or in his hands at all times not under lock and key. Twelve copies shall be made of the Cipher Code of the Uniform Work, one copy to be given to eachDistrict Custodian, to be kept under lock and key by said Custodian except when in actual use, and to be kept upon his person or in his hands at all times not under lock and key. One

copy of the Cipher code will be made and given to each Assistant Custodian except when in actual use and to be kept upon his person or in his hands at all times not under lock and key. (See edict No. 3, 1989. Sec. 213 (a) Cipher Code Custodian Emeritus)

Provided, further, that the "Official Master Copy of the Cipher Code of the Uniform Work" (theone kept by the Grand Secretary as directed above) may contain such written words as shall be necessary to preserve, unimpaired, the meaning of the rituals. The twelve copies authorized by Code Section 77-122 to be used by the twelve District Custodians will remain in letter cipher as they are written on April 2, 2001, and may not contain the written words herein authorized in the "Official Master Copy of the Cipher Code of the Uniform Work." (See Edict No. 2, 2001.)

David A. Thompson, PM
Ogeechee Lodge No.213

CODE BILL NO. 2020-8

*This bill was **WITHDRAWN**. Its intent was to amend Chapter 7-1, Section 7-101 to provide for an increase in fees.*

A bill to amend Chapter 7-1, Section 7-101 of the Masonic Code of Georgia so as to provide for an increase in fees for every Master Mason who is a non-exempt member of a lodge and to delete fees for the defined benefit pension plan which have expired as follows:

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 7-1, Code Section 7-101 only be amended to read as follows:

7-101. Fees.-There shall be paid to the Grand Lodge as follows:
For a Warrant.....\$70.00
For a Dispensation to hold Lodges.....\$15.00

For a Dispensation to hold Elections.....\$3.00

For a Dispensation to Initiate, Pass or Raise more than five Brethren at one Communication, for each additional Brother.....\$1.00

For a Dispensation to Examine, Ballot for Advancement, and Confer Degree not on a regular meeting night or within two weeks of the preceding degree, for each candidate for each degree.

See Sec. 42 - 110 ; 46 - 101.....\$2.50

For a Dispensation for any other purpose.....\$1.00

For every Initiation by a Lodge whether chartered or under dispensation.....\$3.50

For every Initiation by a Lodge whether chartered or under dispensation for the benevolent fund. See Sec.

102.....\$10.00

For every Candidate Raised, for remittance to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. See Sec. 7 - 10.....\$5.00

For every Member reinstated.....\$3.50

For every Master Mason who is a member of a Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and who is not a perpetual member, per annum\$9.50
\$16.00

For every Master Mason who is a member of a Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and who is not a perpetual member, per annum for publication of the Masonic Messenger.....\$4.00

For every Master Mason who is a member of a Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and who is not a perpetual member and charged with dues, per annum, for pensions and retirement pay for employees of the Grand Lodge and the Masonic Home (* as changed 1999).....\$1.00

~~For every Master Mason who is a member of a Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and who is not a perpetual member and charged with dues, per annum, for funding the actuarial determined shortfall of the defined benefit pension plan for employees of the Grand Lodge and the Masonic Home until such date as benefits under the plan are fully funded, not to exceed five (5)~~

~~years.....\$3.50~~

For every Master Mason who is a member of a Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and who is not a perpetual member, for the operation and maintenance of the Masonic Home per annum.....\$10.00

For every Master Mason who is a member of a Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and who is not a perpetual member, for Masonic Relief administered by the Board of Relief, per annum..\$2.00

Raymond Gray, PM

Tucker Lodge No.42

William T. White, PM

Allegheny Lodge No. 114

Robert K. Simpson, PM

Palmetto Lodge No. 74

CODE BILL NO 2020-9

This bill seeks to add Sections 39-122 and 30-111 relating to Hate Groups.

The Jurisprudence Committee finds several issues with this bill. It conflicts with Sections 39-114, 28-105 and 80-103. Section 30-111 already exists since 2019 Annual Communication and relates to resignation from Masonry. (2020 Code)

A Bill provide for by adding Section 39-122 and adding Section 30-111 of the Masonic Code

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

That Code section 39-122, relating to Candidates, be added so that said section as added shall read as follows:

39-122. Hate Groups No candidate shall have been or is currently a member of a recognized hate group, including but not limited to the Ku Klux Klan, Nation of Islam, National Socialist Liberation Front, League of the South, et al.

That Code section 30-111, relating to Membership, be added so that said section as added shall read as follows:

30-111. Hate Groups No member shall have been or is currently a member of a recognized hate group, including but not limited to the Ku Klux Klan, Nation of Islam, National Socialist Liberation Front, League of the South, et al. If it shall be discovered that a member had been or currently is a member of any recognized hate group they shall be immediately suspended pending a trial for expulsion.

Michael W. Johnson, PM
Roger Lacey Lodge No. 722

CODE BILL NO. 2020-10

This bill seeks to repeal Section 77-108 relating to homosexual activity.

The Jurisprudence Committee notes that this bill is a duplicate from 2019 and was postponed at the 2019 Grand Lodge Annual Communication, not to be considered again until the year 2022.

A Bill to repeal Section 77-108.1 of the Masonic Code relating to homosexual activity.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONSON that Code Chapter 77-1, Code Section 77-108.1 of the Masonic Code that reads as follows:

"77-108.1. **Homosexual Activity.** - Homosexual activity with anyone subjects the offender to discipline.
Edict 2015-4."

be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety so that said code section would read:

77-108.1. ~~Homosexual Activity. — Homosexual activity with anyone subjects the offender to discipline. Edict 2015-4.~~ Repealed.

David M. Herman, PM
Chamblee Lodge No. 444

Alan R. Colussy II, PM
Gate City Lodge No. 2

Brian Gregory, PM
Gate City Lodge No. 2

Victor Marshall, PM
Gate City Lodge No. 2

Lew Puckett, PM
Unity Lodge No. 36
Statham Lodge No. 634

Lance Bryant, PM
Pythagoras Lodge No. 41

Scott Zoeller, PM
Sandy Springs Lodge No. 124

John M. Butler, PM
Hampton Lodge No. 70

Bart Youmans, PM
Alpharetta Lodge No. 235

David J. Llewellyn, PM
East Point Lodge No. 288

Bryan Newport, PM
Acacia Lodge No. 452

Dan Kushner, PM
Metro Daylight Lodge No. 74

2021 Code Bills

235th Annual Communication of the

Grand Lodge of Georgia

CODE BILL NO. 2021-1

Bill seeks to remove requirement that one recommender must be a member of petitioned Lodge. The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code as the Code now reads, however, should Code Bill 11 pass, it would be in conflict. Therefore, Code Bill 11 should be called before this bill. This bill could then be amended appropriately.

A Bill to amend Section 40-101 of the Masonic Code of Georgia to change the requirement that one petition signer must be a member of the lodge being petitioned

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

Masonic Code Chapter 40, Code Section 40-101 only be amended as follows:

By removing the words "and one of whom must be a member of the petitioned Lodge." so that said sections 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 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 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.

David E. Shockley, PM

Statham Lodge No. 634

Ernie Stovall, PM

Rockwell Lodge No. 191

Russell Gee, PM

Gainsville Lodge No. 219

CODE BILL NO. 2021-2

Bill seeks to disallow member suspension while on active duty. The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

A bill to amend Chapter 31-1, Section 31-105 of the Masonic Code of Georgia to clarify that Masons on active duty in the military may not be suspended.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 31-1, Section 31-105 only be amended as follows:

By deleting the words "a state of war exists between the United States and any foreign power," inserting the words "while on active duty," and inserting the words "Once a Lodge receives information that a member of the United States military is on, or may be on, active duty it cannot suspend that member for nonpayment of dues until such time as the Lodge can show, by reliable information, that the member is no longer on active duty and until the Lodge has given the member reasonable notice and an opportunity to pay the dues after the date of his discharge from active duty."

so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

31-105. Suspension

A Mason may not be suspended until 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 nonpayment of dues ~~while a state of war exists between the United States and any foreign power~~ while on active duty. 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 a part of his dues, and the results are reported to the Lodge.

Once a Lodge receives information that a member of the United States military is on, or may be on, active duty it cannot suspend that member for nonpayment of dues until such time as the Lodge can show, by reliable information, that the member is no longer on active duty and until the Lodge has given the member reasonable notice and an opportunity to pay the dues after the date of his discharge from active duty.

Johnie M. Garmon, P.G.M.
Allegheny Lodge No. 114
Live Oak Lodge No. 137
Wm. A. Davis DL No. 753

CODE BILL NO. 2021-3

Bill seeks to allow Code Supplement Committee more latitude to make corrections in our Code. The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

A bill to amend Chapter 3-1, Section 3-1 15(c) of the Masonic Code of Georgia to allow the Code Supplement Committee to annually correct errors, without changing the meaning, in the Masonic Manual and Code without the necessity of a resolution such that these documents may be maintained and accurate.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia

Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 3-1, Section 3-115(c) only be amended as follows:

By deleting the words "Resolutions to correct errors, typographical or otherwise, in the Manual and Code, if passed by the Grand Lodge, shall be referred to the Code Supplement Committee." and inserting the words "Errors, typographical or otherwise, as identified by the Code Supplement Committee in the Masonic Manual and Masonic Code may be corrected annually without requiring a resolution for the same." so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

3-115. Amendments, Errors, Historical Inaccuracy

An amendment to a law or regulation shall be proposed by a written resolution which shall be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence. The adoption of the report on recommendation of no other committee shall have the effect of changing the law.

Resolutions relating to any matter of historical inaccuracy in this Code shall be referred to the Educational and Historical Commission for report to the Grand Lodge at the following annual meeting.

~~Resolutions to correct errors, typographical or otherwise, in the Manual and Code, if passed by the Grand Lodge, shall be referred to the Code Supplement Committee.~~ Errors, typographical or otherwise, as identified by the Code Supplement Committee in the Masonic Manual and Masonic Code may be corrected annually without requiring a resolution for the same.

Clyde E. Griffin, P.G.M.
Thunderbolt Lodge No. 693
Bryan Lodge No. 303
Coastal DL Lodge No. 750
Newington Lodge No. 503
Solomon's Lodge No. 1

Tom D. Bruce, PM
Tucker Lodge No. 42
Fulton Lodge No. 216

Wiley Q. Forrester, III, PM
Buford Lodge No. 292

CODE BILL NO. 2021-4

Bill seeks to remove "short form" option. The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

A bill to remove obsolete and unnecessary language from the Masonic Code Chapter 42-1, Section 42-106, encompassing calling from one degree to another.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 42-1, Section 42-106 only be amended as follows:

By deleting the words "The Worshipful Master may declare labor suspended in one degree and resume it in another, in short form, as formulated by the Grand Master; otherwise" so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

42-106. May Call From One Degree to Another.-
~~The Worshipful Master may declare labor suspended in one degree and resume it in another, in short form, as formulated by the Grand Master; otherwise~~ The Lodge must be regularly called off in one degree and opened in another.

Tom D. Bruce, PM
Tucker Lodge No. 42
Fulton Lodge No. 216

CODE BILL NO. 2021-5

Bill seeks to increase per capita by \$6.50. The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

A bill to amend Chapter 7-1, Section 7-101 of the Masonic Code of Georgia so as to provide for an increase in fees for every Master Mason who is a non-exempt member of a lodge and to delete fees for the defined benefit pension plan which have expired as follows:

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 7-1, **Code Section 7-101** only be amended to read as follows:

By deleting the figures "9.50" and inserting "16.00." By deleting the words "For every Master Mason who is a member of a Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and who is not a perpetual member and charged with dues, per annum, for funding the actuarial determined shortfall of the defined benefit pension plan for employees of the Grand Lodge and the Masonic Home until such date as benefits under the plan are fully funded, not to exceed five (5) years" and deleting the figure "\$3.50" so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

7-101.- Fees

There shall be paid to the Grand Lodge as follows:

For a Warrant.....	\$70.00
For a Dispensation to hold Lodges.....	\$15.00
For a Dispensation to hold Elections.....	\$3.00
For a Dispensation to Initiate, Pass or Raise more than five Brethren at one Communication, for each additional Brother.....	\$1.00
For a Dispensation to Examine, Ballot for Advancement, and Confer Degree not on a regular meeting night or within two weeks of the preceding degree, for each candidate for each degree.	
See Sec. 42-110; 46-101.....	\$2.50
For a Dispensation for any other purpose.....	\$1.00
For every Initiation by a Lodge whether chartered or under dispensation.....	\$3.50
For every Initiation by a Lodge whether chartered or under dispensation for the benevolent fund. See Sec. 102.....	\$10.00
For every Candidate Raised, for remittance to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. See Sec. 7 - 10.....	\$5.00
For every Member reinstated.....	\$3.50
For every Master Mason who is a member of a Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and who is not a perpetual member, per annum	\$9.50 \$16.00
For every Master Mason who is a member of a Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and who is not a perpetual member, per annum for pub-	

lication of the Masonic Messenger.....\$4.00
For every Master Mason who is a member of a
Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and
who is not a perpetual member and charged with
dues, per annum, for pensions and retirement pay
for employees of the Grand Lodge and the Masonic
Home (* a s c h a n g e d
1999).....\$1.00

~~For every Master Mason who is a member of a
Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and who
is not a perpetual member and charged with dues,
per annum, for funding the actuarial determined
shortfall of the defined benefit pension plan for
employees of the Grand Lodge and the Masonic
Home until such date as benefits under the plan are
fully funded, not to exceed five (5)
years.....\$3.5
0~~

For every Master Mason who is a member of a
Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and
who is not a perpetual member, for the operation
and maintenance of the Masonic Home per an-
num.....\$10.00

For every Master Mason who is a member of a
Lodge on the 30th day of June in each year and
who is not a perpetual member, for Masonic Relief
administered by the Board of Relief, per an-
num..\$2.00

Raymond Gray, PM
Tucker Lodge No. 42

William T. White, PM
Allegheny Lodge No. 114

Dennis Hewatt, WM
Metro Daylight Lodge No. 743

CODE BILL NO. 2021-6

*Bill seeks to allow voluntary contributions of charity
boxes to Operating Fund. The Jurisprudence Commit-
tee finds this bill is in proper legal form and not in
conflict with any other section of the Code.*

A bill to amend Chapter 25-1, Section 25-122 of the
Masonic Code of Georgia to allow the voluntary
contributions from the charity boxes in Lodges to
be directed among the Education, Operating, and
Endowment Fund.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free
and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chap-
ter 25-1, Section 25-122 only be amended as fol-
lows:

By inserting the word "Operating" in the Section
title, and in the body inserting the word
"Operating," inserting the words "Operating
Fund," deleting the words "between the two," and
inserting the words "among the three," so that said
section as amended shall read as follows:

25-122. Master's Duties Relative to Education, Op- erating, and Endowment Fund

The Master or acting Master of each Lodge, at each
communication, excepting funerals, shall cause to be
placed in or about the Lodge Room of such Lodge,
during labor, a box or other receptacle for the re-
ception of voluntary contributions by the Brethren
to the Education, Operating, or Endowment Funds
of the Masonic Home. Such presiding officer, upon
displaying said box or receptacle, shall make a brief
explanation as to the purpose for which the dona-
tions are to be used. The constituent Lodge shall
designate whether these funds are to be placed in the
Education Fund, Operating Fund, or the Endow-
ment Fund or to be divided ~~between the two~~
among the three funds and the manner of division.
If no designation is made by the constituent Lodge,
the donations shall be placed in the Endowment
Fund. Funds for the Endowment Fund shall be
remitted to the Masonic Home of Georgia. Funds
to be divided may be remitted to either. Remittances
are to be made not later than July 31 of each year.

M. Gary Monk, PM
Roswell Lodge No. 165
Metro DL Lodge No. 743
Tucker Lodge No. 42

Charles E. Long, PM
Morningstar Lodge No. 349
Resaca Lodge No. 724
Sonora Lodge No. 221

CODE BILL NO. 2021-7

Bill seeks to allow Independence Day procession with-

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

A Bill to amend Section 50-101 of the Masonic Code that in doing may we so honor ourMasonic brethren who founded this nation and declared its Independence.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONSONS

This is the exact un-amended language of the existing code section 50-1.

CHAPTER 50-1. PROCESSIONS

50-101. Dispensation Must Be Had for, When Public processions may not be had without a dispensation from the Grand Master except for funerals or on June 24th or December 27th.

50-102. Lodge in Rear

The Lodge must be in the rear of every procession in which it takes part. The GrandMaster may grant permission to be located in another position as a participant in a parade.

50-103. Must Be for Masonic Purposes

Public Masonic processions may be had only for some Masonic purpose.

This is the exact amended language of the existing code section 50-101

CHAPTER 50-1. PROCESSIONS

50-101. Dispensation Must Be Had for, When Public processions may not be had without a dispensation from the Grand Master except for funerals, Independence Day or on June 24th or December 27th.

50-102. Lodge in Rear

The Lodge must be in the rear of every procession in which it takes part. The GrandMaster may grant permission to be located in another position as a participant in a parade

50-103. Must Be for Masonic Purposes

Public Masonic processions may be had only for some Masonic purpose.

Thomas Chapman PM
St. Marys Lodge No. 109

CODE BILL NO. 2021-8

Bill seeks to appoint State Director of Trial Commissions. The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

A bill to create a State Director of the Trial Commissions and to establish hisduties; by adding Chapter 80-1, Section 80-105 of the Masonic Code.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masonsthat said Chapter 80-1, Section 80-105 shall read as follow.

80-105. Appointment of State Director of the Trial Commissions

The Grand Master shall appoint a statewide director of the Trial Commissions. TheState Chairman so appointed will not be able to serve as a Trial Commission Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Counsel for the Prosecution, or Counsel for the Defense during his term as State Director of the Trial Commissions. He will, (a) work with the District Trial Commission Chairmen to see to it that all trials are disposed of without undue delay, (b) assist the Grand Master by identifying brethren who can fill permanent or temporary vacancies among the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Counsel for the Prosecution and Counsel for the Defense, and (c) perform such other duties as the Grand Master may request.

Jan M. Giddens, PM
Kennesaw Lodge No. 33

CODE BILL NO. 2021-9

Bill seeks to establish new chapter to regulate clothing worn by affiliated Masons. The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

A bill to add a new Chapter 12, Section 12-101.2, of the Masonic Code of Georgia to regulate the

clothing worn by affiliated members in the Grand Lodge of Georgia when attending Lodge or Grand Lodge functions in the Grand Lodge of Georgia at times when they are not on official business from another Grand Jurisdiction.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS that Code Chapter 12, Section 12-101.2, relating to clothing worn by affiliated members, be added so that said section as added shall read as follows:

12-101.2 Clothing Worn by Affiliated Masons

When attending funerals, ceremonies, Grand Lodge Communications, or subordinate Lodge communications or functions within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, affiliated Masons shall wear the regalia designated by this Grand Lodge for its members unless they are on the official business of another Grand Lodge with which they are currently affiliated and where the Grand Master of Masons in Georgia approves each such instance.

M. Gary Monk, PM
Roswell Lodge No. 165
Metro DL Lodge No. 743 Tucker Lodge No. 42

Jack J. Bell, PM
Alpharetta Lodge No. 235

James T. House, PM
Stone Mountain Lodge No. 449 Charity Daylight Lodge No. 754

Walter D. Wilson, PM
Alpharetta, Lodge No. 235
Tucker Lodge No. 42

CODE BILL NO. 2021-10

Bill seeks to clarify purpose & responsibilities of General Welfare Committee. The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

A Bill to provide for the clarification of the purpose

and responsibilities of the General Welfare Committee; by amending Section 2-219.1 of the Masonic Code.

Later in this document, we have added references to documents that are requested be added to the addendum at the end of the Georgia Masonic Code. These documents ("Grand Lodge of Georgia Social Media Guidelines", "Association Clubs Riders Guidelines-Grand Lodge of Georgia", and "New Organization Application-Grand Lodge of Georgia") are attached as separate documents and accompany this bill.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS so that Chapter 2-2, Section 2-219.1 as amended shall read as follows:

2-219.1 General Welfare Committee

The purpose of the General Welfare Committee shall be to offer its advice, suggestions, and recommendations to the Grand Master concerning the general welfare and overall well-being of the Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction and any matter presented to it by the Grand Master or by the Grand Lodge.

The General Welfare Committee shall consist of nine members appointed by the Grand Master to serve staggered three-year terms. All terms shall begin at the close of the Grand Lodge Annual Communication at which the appointment is made. In the Grand Lodge year beginning on October 25, 1995, the incoming Grand Master shall appoint three members whose term shall expire in 1996, three members whose term shall expire in 1997, and three members whose term shall expire in 1998; and designate one to serve as Chairman for that year. As of the Grand Lodge year beginning at the close of the Grand Lodge Annual Communication in 1996, each incoming Grand Master shall appoint three members to a three-year term on the committee and shall designate the Chairman of the Committee.

~~The General Welfare Committee shall offer its advice, suggestions and recommendations to the Grand Master concerning the general welfare of~~

~~the Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction and any matter presented to it by the Grand Master or by the Grand Lodge. Pursuant to Code Section 3- 114, the General Welfare Committee shall convene at the Grand Lodge Office in Macon on the second Friday in August following the meeting of the Jurisprudence Committee to review any and all Bills and Resolutions that were referred to the Jurisprudence Committee, or by virtual secure means if an in-person meeting is not permissible. The General Welfare Committee shall review said Bills and Resolutions and report to the forthcoming Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.~~

The General Welfare Committee shall have oversight of all Masonic internet and web page activity for subordinate Lodges and bodies under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Georgia in Georgia ~~(see the specific web page criteria at glofga.org or other internet and web page activity criteria published on the Grand Lodge of Georgia website at this or some future Universal Resource Locator).~~ No Masonic internet or web page activity may exist without a prior written recommendation for approval from the General Welfare Committee, except as otherwise provided for in this Code. Requirements necessary for approval shall be provided in this Code.

The General Welfare Committee shall have oversight of all Masonic clubs, Masonic groups, and Masonic associations affiliated with subordinate Lodges or otherwise formed by members of subordinate Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Georgia and their activity in Georgia ~~(see the specific association and club criteria at glofga.org or other association criteria located on the Grand Lodge of Georgia website at this or any future Universal Resource Locator);~~ except as may be otherwise provided for in this Code. No Masonic Club, Masonic Group, or Masonic Association may exist without a prior written recommendation for approval from General Welfare, except as otherwise provided for in this Code. Guidelines and form are provided for in this Code (refer to addendum "Association Clubs Riders Guidelines-Grand

Lodge of Georgia" and "New Organization Application-Grand Lodge of Georgia").

The General Welfare Committee shall meet as often as necessary and make periodic reports to the Grand Master ~~and~~ as well as an annual written report with the review of Bills and Resolutions, internet and web page requests, and clubs, groups, and association requests with recommendations for each to the forthcoming Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication each year of the Grand Lodge.

The General Welfare Committee shall develop and maintain a written set of social media guidelines for this grand jurisdiction and shall be included in this Code. The purpose of these guidelines is to be used as a guide and parameters for which a Mason should conduct himself on the many different social media platforms (refer to addendum "Grand Lodge of Georgia Social Media Guidelines").

Mark A. Bradley, PM
Unity Lodge No. 36
Ralph Freeman Jr DL No. 766

Wiley Q. Forrester, PM
Buford Lodge No. 292

S. Joe Colvard, PM
Philomatheia Lodge No. 25
Nancy Hart No. 690

William R. Moore, PM
Dacula Lodge No. 433

CODE BILL NO. 2021-11

Bill seeks to change period of time petitioner must be known by recommender from 12 months to 6 months. The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

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. Said code currently reads 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 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 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 the Masonic Code Chapter 40-1, Code Section 40-101 only be amended as follows:

By replacing the words "twelve months" with the words "six months." so that after the amendment code section 40-101 shall read as follows in its entirety:

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 ~~twelve months~~ 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.

Ross Laver, PM
Fulton Lodge No. 216
Flint Hill Lodge No. 371

A. Jack Fishman, WM
Fulton Lodge, No. 216

Daniel P. Bennett, PM
Plainville Masonic Lodge No. 364

CODE BILL NO. 2021-12

Bill seeks to remove references to forms contained in Code in order to move said forms to online resources. The Jurisprudence Committee finds this bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code

A bill to amend Chapter 3-1, Section 3-113; Chapter 3-1, Section 3-114; Chapter 33-1, Section 33-101, Chapter 39-1, Section 39-104; Chapter 44-1, Section 44-101; Chapter 47-1, Section 47-101; Chapter 84-1, Section 84-101; Chapter 86-1, Section 86-102 of the Masonic Code of Georgia to remove the references to forms contained in the Masonic Code thereby facilitating their removal to online resources.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 3-1, Section 3-113; Chapter 3-1, Section 3-114; and Chapter 33-1, Section 33-101; Chapter 39-1, Section 39-104; Chapter 44-1, Section 44-101; Chapter 47-1, Section 47-101; Chapter 84-1, Section 84-101; and Chapter 86-1, Section 86-102, only be amended as follows:

By deleting the words "contained herein. (See FORMS)" in Chapter 3-1, Section 3-113, paragraph (4), and inserting the words "accessed using the Grand Secretary's database system" in Chapter 3-1, Section 3-113, paragraph (4); deleting the words "contained herein at or near page 233" in Chapter 3-1, Section 3-114 and inserting the words "accessed using the Grand Secretary's database system" in Chapter 3-1, Section 3-114; and deleting the words "(see FORMS and Sections 47-102, 47-103)" in Chapter 33-1, Section 33-101; deleting the words "Appendix herein" and inserting the word "petition" in Chapter 39-1, Section 39- 104; deleting the words "Form of Petition is in the Appendix." in Chapter 44-1, Section 44-101; deleting the words "The form to be used is found in the Appendix." in Chapter 47-1, Section 47-101; deleting the words "in the Appendix" in Chapter 84-1, Section 84-101; and deleting the words "(See Appendix)" in two places in Chapter 86-1, Section 86-102 so that said sections as amended shall read as follows:

3-113. Enactment of Laws

The enacting clause of all proposed laws and

amendments shall be as follows: "Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons."

The printing and distribution to members in attendance at Grand Lodge of all Bills and Resolutions that have previously been referred to the Jurisprudence Committee for their consideration shall constitute the first reading of such Bill or Resolution. Upon the presentation of such Bill or Resolution by the Jurisprudence Committee to Grand Lodge, discussion shall be permitted thereon, the author of the Bill or Resolution speaking first; and its enactment shall be by a majority vote of the members of Grand Lodge present and voting.

A bill may add, amend, or revise more than one Code Section; however, such bill shall not contain more than one subject matter which shall be expressed in the caption thereof.

No law shall be amended or revised by reference to its title or section only; but such law, section or sections, sought to be amended or revised, shall be set forth and enacted at length, indicating, by the use of underlines, any language to be added to the section or section, and indicating, by the use of strikethroughs, any language to be deleted from the section or sections. A skeleton form of a bill for enactment of laws which can be used to propose legislation is ~~contained herein~~. (See FORMS) accessed using the Grand Secretary's database system.

These provisions shall not be construed to alter the provisions of Section 1-701 of the Constitution with reference to amendments to the Constitution.

All laws and amendments to laws enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia shall become effective immediately unless otherwise provided in the bill.

3-114. Introducing Bills to Amend the Masonic Manual and Code and Resolutions for the Expenditure of Money

Any member of the Grand Lodge of Georgia desiring a Bill to be considered for passage by the Grand Lodge so as to change or add to the Masonic Manual

and Code, or a Resolution for the expenditure of money, shall file such Bill or Resolution with the Grand Secretary not later than August 1st in order for said Bill or Resolution to be acted upon at the next following Annual Grand Lodge Meeting; provided any such Bill or Resolution filed with the Grand Secretary after August 1st shall not be considered or acted upon at the next following meeting of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, but shall be acted upon at the Annual Grand Lodge Meeting the following year. Electronic filings of proposed bills, including email, are acceptable and shall be deemed filed on the date actually received by the Grand Secretary. A skeleton form of a bill for enactment of laws which can be used to propose legislation is ~~contained herein~~ at or near page 233 accessed using the Grand Secretary's database system.

Upon the receipt of a Bill or Resolution, the Grand Secretary shall return an acknowledgment of receipt to the author of said Bill or Resolution, if a return address is available.

The Committee on Jurisprudence shall convene at the Grand Lodge Office in Macon at ten o'clock A.M. on the second Friday in August. The Grand Master shall then cause to be referred to this Committee for their consideration all such Bills and Resolutions that have been timely filed with the Grand Secretary. It shall be the duty of the Jurisprudence Committee to review such Bills and Resolutions and determine that they are in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code. The Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee shall cause each Bill and Resolution to be summarized as briefly as possible and together with a copy of the original Bill or Resolution be forthwith filed with the Grand Secretary. The Grand Secretary shall make copies of such summary and Bill or Resolution and not later than September 1st shall mail a copy of the same to the Secretary of each subordinate Lodge whereby he will make available to any member of the subordinate Lodge to read for himself or give the member permission to make a photostatic copy of same for himself, at the members expense, the summary and Bill or Resolution prior to the forthcoming Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.

At the same time that the Grand Master refers the

said Bills and Resolutions to the Jurisprudence Committee, he shall refer a copy of said Bill or Resolution to such other Committee of the Grand Lodge as he may deem appropriate. Such Committee shall consider and act upon said Bill or Resolution, which shall be reported with their usual report to the forthcoming Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

No such Bill or Resolution for the expenditure of money shall be considered exempt from the provisions of this section.

33-101. Must Petition

A demitted Mason sustains the same relation to all Lodges and may not affiliate with any without petition and ballot. This rule is applicable even to the Lodge granting the demit. (~~see FOR 118 and Sections 47-102, 47-103~~)

39-104. Failure to Take Degrees

If within twelve months from the time a candidate is elected to receive the degrees he does not present himself for initiation or if within a like time from the conferring of the preceding degree, an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Mason does not apply for advancement, he must again answer in writing all questions set forth in the ~~Appendix here-in-petition~~, which are required to be answered by an applicant for the degrees or for advancement; a new committee on character must be appointed and must report and the report balloted upon and the applicant elected by unanimous secret ballot.

44-101. Petition Necessary

An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Mason must petition in writing for advancement to the succeeding degree before he may be elected thereto. ~~Form of Petition is in the Appendix.~~

47-101. Petition Necessary

Except as provided in Section 37-101 of this Code, all applications for affiliation shall be by written petition accompanied by proper demit, certificate of good standing, or transfer certificate, which in case of rejection, shall be returned to the applicant.

~~The form to be used is found in the Appendix.~~
The applicant must be legally vouched for by two Master Masons, one of whom must be a member of the petitioned Lodge. The application shall be read in open Lodge at a regular meeting and shall lie over until the next regular meeting, when it may be considered and adopted by ballot which must be secret and unanimous. (Section 40-101)

84-101. How and by Whom

The Lodge or any member thereof or the accused may appeal a finding of guilty or not guilty or any sentence issued by the Trial Commission; but such appeal shall be in writing, signed by the appellant, in the form prescribed ~~in the Appendix~~, and shall be filed with the Secretary of the Lodge by certified mail, with return receipt requested or by written acknowledgement of the same by the Secretary, within thirty days after the trial and judgment.

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. (Sections 44-102, 86-107, 86-108) Masonic Code 2021 125

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.

Clyde E. Griffin, PM
Thunderbolt Lodge No. 693
Bryon Lodge No. 303
Coastal DL Lodge No. 750
Newington Lodge No. 503
Solomon's Lodge No. 1

Wiley Q. Forrester, PM
Buford Lodge No. 292

Tom D. Bruce, PM
Tucker Lodge No. 42
Fulton Lodge No. 216



From Worshipful Brother Lloyd Bowen

Dear Brother Secretaries,

Each lodge individually is required to file at least one annual return with the Internal Revenue Service each and every year since 2007. If your lodge had less than \$50,000 in Gross receipts for 2019 it is required to file a 990-N on-line.

If your lodge has more than \$50,000 in Gross receipts you are required to file either a 990-EZ or a 990, you should consult a Certified Public Accountant for this. The 990 series is due by the 15th day of the fifth month after your year end, May 15th for calendar year ends.

A copy of Forms 990 should be mailed to Georgia Department of Revenue, P.O. Box 740395, Atlanta GA 30374-0395, if you file the 990-N then File a copy of the receipt received from the IRS for the e-Postcard along with a brief statement as to why there is no paper return should be mailed to Georgia. If your lodge pays you or any individual more than \$600 per year for services then you are required to file a form 1099 for each such individual and a 1096 transmittal to summaries all the 1099s.

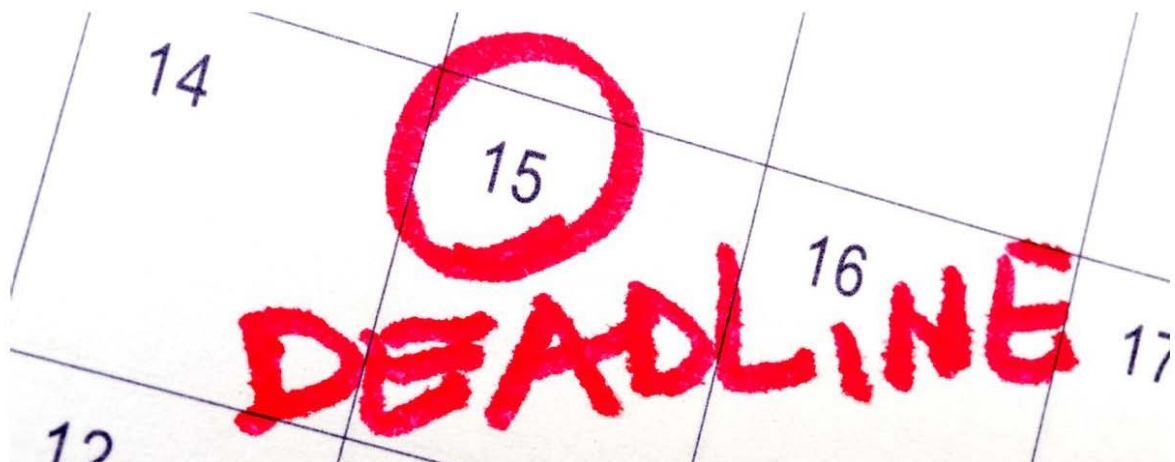
If your lodge has set up payroll then W-2s, W3 and 940 annual and quarterly 941 are required. The costs for late filing can be quite sever, please take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly. The appropriate code section in the Masonic code is 7-113

7-113. Form 990 to Grand Lodge by June 30.—Each Subordinate Lodge, by and through its Worshipful Master, shall send a copy of any and all required Federal Tax Returns (including, without limitation, Forms 990, 990-N, 1099s, W-3s, etc.) to the Office of the Grand Secretary within ten (10) days of the time that the same is required to be filed for each year hereafter.

Also required is Sales Tax for the state of Georgia for special events, such as Dunk Tank fundraisers at Fairs of Circuses, BBQ fundraisers, etc. are reported on the State of Georgia's "MISCELLANEOUS SALES EVENT" FORM Rev. (04.14.16) you can get this form on line at this address <https://dor.georgia.gov/documents/fs-32-miscellaneous-events> These sales taxes are due to be mailed within 3 days of the event. Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully and Fraternally,

Lloyd R Bowen, Chairman
Grand Lodge of Georgia F&AM
Tax Committee



Grand Lodge of Georgia

Publication Committee Notice



Within our Fraternity there are brothers of many races, creeds and religions. Freemasonry provides an opportunity for all brothers to learn from each other and share ideas. The Editor of the Masonic Messenger and the Publications Committee strive to provide articles that meet the needs and interests of all Masons in Georgia. This includes Grand Lodge Announcements, Lodge news, Masonic Symbolism and Esoteric topics.

Occasionally, you may find an article that is not to your taste or to which you do not agree. You are free to pass them by or read them to gain a different perspective. No article is published with the purpose of offending any Brother, but to offer topics for consideration and dignified discussion.

Discussion and complaints about articles published in the Masonic Messenger should be directed to me as the Chairman of the Publications Committee or the Editor. When having these conversations, be mindful of the lesson in the Entered Apprentice Degree; to keep your passions within due bounds by use of the Compasses. I challenge you to maintain the dignity of your office as a Master Mason in these situations. When we meet, we meet on the level as Brothers.

Fraternally yours,
Brian C. Coffey
First Grand Steward
Chairman, Publications Committee

The Georgia Masonic Messenger publishes from a variety of sources and points of view. The opinions expressed in the following articles do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policy of the Grand Lodge of Georgia F&AM, The Georgia Masonic Messenger, the Managing Editor, or the Grand Lodge of Georgia Publication Committee but are provided for the interest, education, and consideration of the myriad of Brethren in the state of Georgia whose Masonic interests are as diverse and varied as its membership. The articles provided here are published with an interest toward providing every Mason in Georgia with something which he can enjoy when he receives this publication. Questions, comments, or concerns should be addressed to Messenger@glofga.org.

Lavonia DeMolay Chapter No. 11095, LT
5744 Vickery Street
Lavonia, Georgia 30553
Lavonia.DeMolay@gmail.com



LAVONIA CHAPTER WINS NUMEROUS AWARDS AT STATE CONCLAVE

Carrolton, Georgia. July 22-25, 2021 – Georgia DeMolay held its annual Conclave (state Conference) in Carrolton on July 22-25, 2021, and Lavonia DeMolay Chapter 11095 (LT) and its members won numerous awards at the event.

Lavonia DeMolay Chapter No. 11095 (LT) won Chapter of the Year for the State of Georgia, and the Traveling Gavel for attendance and participation in Conclave. Ben Gettys, PMC (Past Master Councilor) was awarded the Representative DeMolay, the Past Master Councilor's Meritorious Service Award (PMC-MSA), and the Lamp of Knowledge. Mr. Gettys also won first place in the Ritual Competition for the Chaplain's position. Ethan Venable, MC (Master Councilor) was awarded the Representative DeMolay award and Lamp of Knowledge. Loki Hicks and Parker Bennett were also awarded the Lamp of Knowledge. JT Turner won first place in the Ritual Competition for the position of Third Preceptor.

The Representative DeMolay award is the highest self-achievement award Active and Senior DeMolays can earn and is a self-assessment program where members progress toward goals that they set for themselves. Members must complete a detailed survey of interests, achievements, general knowledge, and habits. Representative DeMolay helps it's applicants by focusing them on self-expression; hobbies; physical, religious, and DeMolay activities; citizenship, and civics.

The PMC-MSA award is one of the most prestigious awards in all of DeMolay, and was designed by its founder, Frank S. Land. This award recognizes good program planning and execution by the top officer in the Chapter during his tenure, and has an extensive qualification process. The Lamp of Knowledge award is presented to members who complete all of the training for the LCCs, or Learning Correspondence Courses, which cover the history and purposes of DeMolay.

Chapter Advisor Chip Pettys, member of Nancy Hart Lodge No. 690 and Lavonia Lodge No. 241, was also awarded the White and Red Honor Keys (for advancing the Chapter Advisory Program and Chapter Management) and the Advisor of the Year Award.

DeMolay was founded by nine young men, with the assistance of Frank S. Land, in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1919. The young men, many of whom had lost their fathers in World War I, were looking for an organization to provide friendship, brotherhood, and mentorship on how to become better men and citizens in their communities. What began as a conversation and regular meetings with local boys became an international organization and Fraternity for young men. 102 years later, DeMolay is an international youth leadership organization making positive impacts on young men around the world.

Lavonia DeMolay is an inclusive Chapter that serves the Northeast Georgia area, and is sponsored by Lavonia Lodge No. 241, F&AM. If you are interested in learning more about DeMolay, or know of a young man who could benefit from belonging to such a group, please contact us at Lavonia.DeMolay@gmail.com, or visit our website at www.BeADeMolay.org.

Photo (L to R): Christopher Arnold, JT Turner, Jeremiah Williams, Loki Hicks, DAD Chip Pettys (Chapter Advisor), Earnest Willis, Parker Bennett, Ethan Venable, Ben Gettys, Hunter Self, and Darren Jarrard.



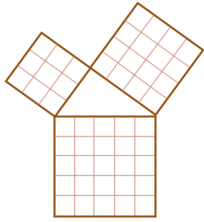
EsÖterikos

The Forty-Seventh Problem of Euclid

Jerry Wood, P.M.

Clarence H. Cohen Daylight Lodge No. 749

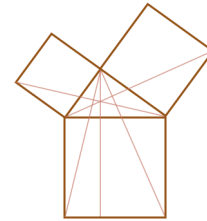
I believe that it is the responsibility of every Mason to interpret our symbols for their self; a symbol only has value if you can ascribe a meaning to it. Moreover, for a symbol to be useful to *me*, I need to be able to find a moral lesson in it. That's the trouble that I've always had with the 47th Problem of Euclid. It's easy to see why it would be useful to an *operative* Mason. But where is the moral lesson?



When I give presentations on this symbol, I show the symbol above, and I ask, “what is this?” As responses, I usually get, “the 47th Problem of Euclid” or “the Pythagorean Theorem.” Of course, none of those are incorrect responses.

What are some of the accepted meanings of this symbol? When asked, some Masons will recite the formula $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$. Others will take you through extensive mental gymnastics until you reach so-called “sacred numbers.” Still other Masons may focus on more operative means: that the 47th Problem can be used for building — that “rope stretchers” would have used it during the construction of temples and other structures to help “prove” squares. Or perhaps they would echo that “Masons should be general lovers of the arts and sciences.”

But the above diagram, of which we are all familiar, isn't how Euclid presented his 47th Proposition in *Elements*. This is his representation:



There is evidence of cultures — predating Pythagoras and Euclid — having understood the Pythagorean theorem:

Ancient Greece (1,000 BCE - AD 600) [note: AD 600 is the end of “antiquity”]

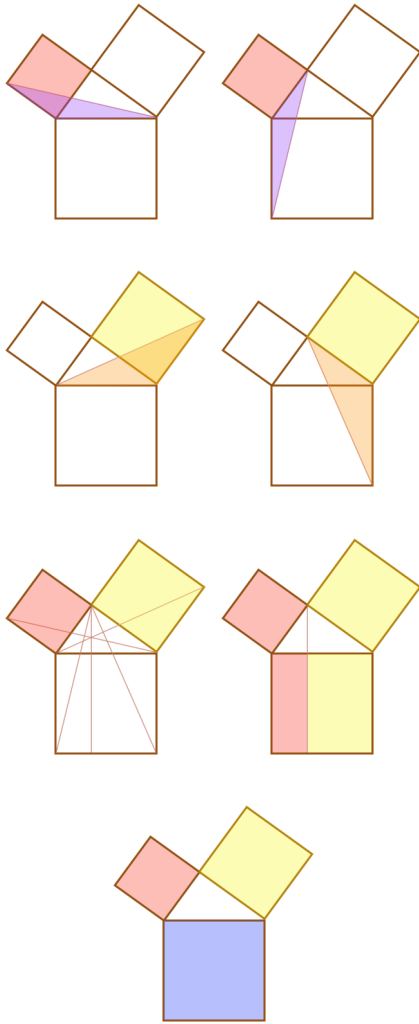
Mesopotamia and Babylon (2,000 - 600 BCE)

Ancient Egypt (3,100 - 30 BCE)

But as Masons, we don't cite the Babylonian or Egyptian examples of the Pythagorean theorem. Why? What makes the Greeks so interesting?

The Ancient Greek philosophers didn't separate science and religion. They equated their studies into the various sciences as “unraveling the mysteries of the Divine.” This is why they led such extensive studies into mathematics. Unlike the elder civilizations, the Ancient Greeks weren't necessarily working for functionality. With their proofs, they were working for *revelation*. Geometric proofs were a way to “lift the veil,” so to speak. The Greeks were unlocking universal constants — proof that the universe was built according to a set of rules and, in their eyes, with intention.

Here is visual representation of how the 47th Problem worked itself out according to Euclid. Each colored triangle has half the area of its associated colored box:



In essence, it is using two “knowns” to solve for an “unknown.” Now, let’s look at what our Masonic Manual teaches our new Master Masons in regard to the 47th Problem:

This was an invention of the ancient philosopher, the Great Pythagoras, who, in his travels through Asia, Africa, and Europe, was initiated in several orders of Priesthood, and is said to have been Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. This wise philosopher enriched his mind abundantly in a general knowledge of things, and more especially in Geometry, or Masonry.

On this subject, he drew out many problems and theorems, and among the most distinguished, he erected this, when, in the joy of his heart, he exclaimed, “*Eureka!*” in the Grecian language, signifying, “*I have found it!*” and upon the discovery of which, he is said to have sacrificed a hecatomb. It teaches Masons to be general lovers of the arts and sciences.

Interesting notes:

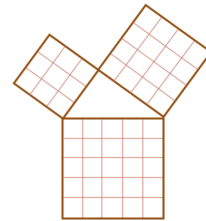
The first section of this passage is a little bit of history and a little bit of fantasy. Pythagoras predates the Master Mason Degree by over 2,000 years. In early operative texts, however, “Masonry” and “geometry” are synonymous.

A “hecatomb” is 12-100 cattle or oxen; a significant sacrifice.

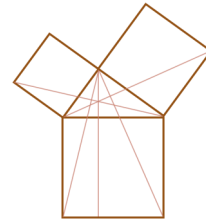
Pythagoras makes his discovery, and he exclaims, “Eureka!”

“It teaches Masons to be general lovers of the arts and sciences.”

If you were determined to come away from this symbol with a lesson other than one in mathematics, you probably latched on to the last line of the passage in our Masonic Manual. Even still, this has always been a dissatisfying meaning for me. The Craft already has a (far better) symbol for this concept; it’s the backbone of the entire Fellowcraft Degree. Regardless, few Masons take much more from the 47th Problem than the above. It’s possible that this is because our most common representation is, perhaps, a *mis*representation. Maybe the 47th Problem, as one of our symbols, should be drawn in its original manner — as a proof. Instead of this:



Perhaps we should adopt this:



Drawn in this fashion, you have two “knowns” solving for an “unknown.” The symbol suddenly becomes the projection of thought. More than that, I believe that the 47th Problem is more like a symbol *within* a symbol. Let’s revisit the passage from earlier:

This was an invention of the ancient philosopher, the Great Pythagoras, who, in his travels through Asia, Africa, and Europe, was initiated in several orders of Priesthood, and is said to have been Raised to the Sublime Degree of

Master Mason. This wise philosopher enriched his mind abundantly in a general knowledge of things, and more especially in Geometry, or Masonry.

On this subject, he drew out many problems and theorems, and among the most distinguished, he erected this, when, in the joy of his heart, he exclaimed, “*Eureka!*” in the Grecian language, signifying, “*I have found it!*” and upon the discovery of which, he is said to have sacrificed a hecatomb. It teaches Masons to be general lovers of the arts and sciences.

The top portion is fantasy and largely unnecessary. This leaves us with the statement regarding Pythagoras’s discovery. This is the “symbol within a symbol.”

In the Scottish Rite, we often say, “do not confuse the thing for the thing symbolized.” In my view, we do confuse the 47th Problem. Just as was discussed at the beginning of this article, we immediately tie the symbol to the Pythagorean theorem. We recite that $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$, and we move on. In my opinion, the real symbol resides in the statement “*Eureka!*” or “*I have found it!*”

The 47th Problem of Euclid is, perhaps, the most pure symbol of *Light* that we have. Through and through, it is discovery and enlightenment. It represents exerted effort. We often miss this point, though, for three reasons:

- We draw the symbol incorrectly;
- We then focus on the *drawing* and its *operative* applications;
- We ignore the description.

As we do with many (or most) of our symbols, we jump to conclusions and write our own lessons off as being trivial and with little meaning: “Yeah, yeah. Pythagorean theorem. I know what that is. I’ve got it. *Next!*” “Yeah, yeah. Brotherly Love. That’s the Golden Rule. Treat people the right way. I already knew that. *Next!*”

Rarely do we take a moment and consider the implications. If we drew this symbol correctly, it might lead more of us to this realization. It’s easy to visualize “thought” or “active effort” emanating out from the central triangle’s 90 degree angle, leading toward the unrealized. Using knowns to reach out and discover the unknown.

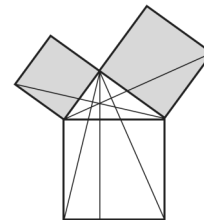
In truth, any geometrical figure could have been used here, but I do think that the 47th Problem is an elegant representation of this concept. And in fact, maybe we should have. The “eureka” exclamation isn’t actually attributed to Pythagoras; it belonged to Archimedes. That aside, and our symbolism being what it is, how is the 47th Problem a useful symbol? How can you apply it to your life? If it symbolizes discovery, so what? If this were one of our Working Tools, how would it be described?

Have any of you ever had a revelation in Masonry — one where, all of a sudden, one of the symbols “clicked” or resonated with you — one of those moments of thought that is accompanied by an astounding amount of clarity? How do we foster an environment within ourselves where we’re able to have those types of moments — where we can regularly make those kinds of discoveries?

You have to be willing to grow — to grow beyond the walls of your own moral and Masonic edifice. Don’t let yourself become artificially constrained by the barriers that you’ve already erected. Don’t allow yourself to become entombed by your own smallness of thought. Be willing to learn. Be willing to have your thoughts and preconceptions challenged. Enter into the “true Masonic pilgrimage” and “press forward into the unknown, mysterious future.”

Consider this: in the Fellowcraft Degree, we’re introduced to the liberal arts and sciences. In that Degree, we’re taught to broaden our horizons. What is the answer to the first question that a Fellowcraft is asked during his proficiency? Are you a Fellowcraft Mason?

Allow yourselves to be tried. Make discoveries. Grow.



“Communication”

By Ronny Lanham, PM
Harlem Lodge No. 276



COMMENTARY

On 26-June-2021, in Savannah, a real celebration was held and it was unlike any that has taken place in Georgia, in recent years. The occasion was the laying of the Cornerstone and dedication of the new Scottish Rite Masonic Center. Following the sale of their century old downtown building, a new, state of the arts structure was designed and erected under the care and leadership of several dedicated Scottish Rite Brothers. The facility was designed to be user friendly and to reflect the beautiful nature and character of our Fraternity. The hospitality at the event was unsurpassed. After a well-orchestrated welcome and ceremony, we were treated to, perhaps the best meal that most have ever enjoyed, at a Masonic event. To the Brethren of Savannah, thanks for your efforts and energies.

In attendance were many distinguished Brethren. Among those present were; Most Worshipful Brother Jan Giddens, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Georgia. Also, in attendance were our Grand Lodge officers. Along with other Masonic dignitaries, we were blessed to have The Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Scottish Rite in Georgia, Illustrious Brother Ted C. Collins and all of his Personal Representatives. The Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Most Illustrious Brother Jim Cole, 33°, who gave a most beautiful and stirring oration, after which, he presented the Valley of Savannah, his Grand Commander's cap, as his gift, to be placed in the archives or time capsule.

Among the several presentations that were made was the announcement of a \$58,452.00 gift to the Georgia Scottish Rite Foundation from the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, State of Georgia. Each year, the Grand Worthy Advisor is given her choice of charities to support, as a year-long feature fund raising event. Ms. Autumn Asbill, the 2020-21 Grand Worthy Advi-

sor chose, as her charity project, The Scottish Rite Foundation of Georgia. The Foundation grants educational scholarships to deserving students and provides funds to several Rite Care Clinics in Georgia.

The RiteCare program has, since 1951, funded treatments in speech therapy. Our Rite Care Clinics teach children to communicate. Under the RiteCare banner, dedicated therapists teach children with speech impairments, communication skills. Aphasic children are shown ways to alert others of their concerns, wants and needs. They are shown ways in the art of asking or answering questions. They learn to engage in meaningful “communication”.

According to Webster's dictionary, communicate is an intransitive verb and is meant to convey information through words or expressions.

In considering and quietly celebrating our involvement in this “teaching kids to communicate”, the thought came to mind that Masons ought to develop a plan and program to teach Masons to communicate. The word communicate is very prominent in the Masonic language. Our meetings are referred to as; regular, called, annual or emergent “communications”. We communicate degrees and modes of recognition, etc. We communicate with the membership and friends by means of e-mails, letters, emissary or by phone.

Our very purpose and existence rely upon communication, yet if you ask any Lodge leader to describe the greatest impediment to harmony and progress, he will probably tell you that the greatest problems within our Lodges can be attributed to breakdowns in “communication”.

We spend much time and energy in teaching officers how to perform their duties and how to confer degrees. Most Lodges are proficient in the uniform work. The verbiage and choreography, in most cases, are

beautiful.

We should consider that real communication of mechanical and verbal actions is the conveyance of understanding. To know where to insert given degree components is admirable and impressive but all ritual is designed to teach lessons. For instance, to demonstrate to a Brother the proper way to cope the Holy Altar is one thing but to understand why the Altar is coped, enhances the communication of that particular instruction and makes it meaningful.

If all Brothers knew the reasons behind the things that we do, to see them take place causes him to recall that symbolism and enriches his life and that is why we attend our ceremonies, in the first place. Failure to fully receive and to understand the reasons behind our words and customs might be the reasons for their absence at our gatherings because one cannot appreciate the meaning without knowing it. It is the Lodge's responsibility to teach it and to accomplish that is through communication.

Communication requires reception without static and signal corruption. We should strive to communicate with clear instructions and motive.

To "teach", a successful transfer of knowledge needs to happen between the teacher and student or it is simply, information. All information in this universe is omnipresent and is largely unknown to us. Without communication, without successful reception, it is dead.

Turn your radio on and fine-adjust your dial. Prepare your heart and mind to receive and accept truth, learn to recognize and reject static and falsehood.

You can lead a horse to water but you cannot make him drink but you can salt his oats. Make him thirsty for and needful of truth, regardless of contradiction of established beliefs.

Communication heals. The fretful mind can be calmed by understanding. Understanding can be achieved through communication of wise counsel, music, moral support or words from the holy scriptures.

There are many ways to communicate. Manner of Dress communicates one's sense of importance that is assigned the occasion. Facial expressions communicate joy, pleasure or sadness. Music, sounds, touch or feel and sometimes, just being there communicates empathy, sympathy, love, support. That is why attendances at meetings and other events is important. This shows support and adds another perspective, which might be important, needed or even critical. Every good man's perspective is important. We each in our own unique way, have insights of value that might be that very key to the success of the Lodge or programs or events.

Only through meaningful communication the exchange of ideas can clear and productive agreements develop.

Success or failure of a program depends on the small details. It is my belief that every man in the world knows something that is of great value, even that man whose home is a park bench.

He may not know a trade but he well knows what it is like to fight mosquitos all night and to sleep in the cold and to scavenge for food and drink and to be ostracized. These very insights might be of value in a discussion about a camping trip or similar activity.

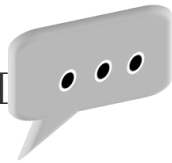
Acquiescence, understanding and support require communication of concept, purpose, relevance and need.

To have a plan or a program is a beginning toward progress but without communication, it dies.

Communication is the backbone of our endeavors and the primary key to our success as an Order.

“Ask Why!”

By Greg “Suds” Sudmeier, PM
Fulton Lodge No. 216



COMMENTARY

A Worshipful Master's comments to an Entered Apprentice Initiate after the Declaration, just before dismissing the Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts after the second section of the Entered Apprentice Degree.

"Ask the question,...Why?"

Ask Why? again.

Ask one more time.

Remember to ask this question throughout your advancement in the coming degrees. This one question will guide you into understanding great Wisdom.

Why...is the floor black and white? Why...is there a Moon symbol on the Junior Deacon's station, and a Sun on the Senior Deacons's? Why...are these two symbols at opposite positions in the lodge? Why...is a standard lodge designed and built with two large cubes that create the one lodge space? Why...is the Altar placed in the very center of those two cubes where we all ask for more Light? Why...are there two large Pillars in the lodge and why do you walk between them? Why...do those pillars have different globes on them and what do they mean? Why...does our Light come from the East?

When you repeatedly ask Why?, and diligently seek answers, something incredibly amazing begins to happen. You begin to unveil the profound truths of the Universal Macrocosm and how that relates to the miracle of the Microcosm (pointing to the center of the initiate's chest)...you!

Everything you need to know about who you really are is contained in all the degrees, and you will eventually uncover these profound truths...if you keep asking...Why?!

This is the way to finally decipher the meaning of the ancient phrase, "Know Thyself!" Pursue this deep Hermetic-Masonic wisdom as you take your further degrees and you will discover what makes us all connect "On the level" no matter who we are, what we may believe or where we come from. The answers guide you to knowing what makes our fraternity so unique and what connects all of humanity. Keep asking... Why?,...and your life will never be the same!

Congratulations on taking this first major step in your new Masonic journey and in life. This new journey will grow the core of who you really are in positive ways you have never before imagined."



VETERANS CORNER

BY WORSHIPFUL BROTHER RICK CONN

For all you Veterans that do not know the regulations for Burial Benefits. They changed in 2014. Please note the updates. You need to take care of these things before you need them. Do not make your family, in time of sorrow, look for all the paperwork, and file necessary forms.

Effective July 7, 2014: VA changed its monetary burial benefits regulations to simplify the program and pay eligible survivors more quickly and efficiently. These regulations authorized VA to pay, without a written application, most eligible surviving spouses basic monetary burial benefits at the maximum amount authorized in law through automated systems rather than reimbursing them for actual costs incurred.

Under the current regulations, VA paid for burial and funeral expenses on a reimbursement basis, which requires survivors to submit receipts for relatively small one-time payments that VA generally pays at the maximum amount permitted by law.

The new burial regulations permits VA to pay, at a flat rate, burial and plot or interment allowances thereby enabling VA to automate payment of burial benefits to most eligible surviving spouses and more efficiently process other burial benefit claims.

The burial allowance for a non-service-connected death is \$300, and \$2,000 for a death connected to military service.

Benefits:

Service-related Death

VA will pay up to \$2,000 toward burial expenses for deaths on or after September 11, 2001, or up to \$1,500 for deaths prior to September 11, 2001. If the Veteran is buried in a VA national cemetery, some or all of the cost of transporting the deceased may be reimbursed.

Non-service-related Death

VA will pay up to \$796 toward burial and funeral expenses for deaths on or after October 1, 2019 (if hospitalized by VA at time of death), or \$300 toward burial and funeral expenses (if not hospitalized by VA at time of death), and a \$796 plot-interment allowance (if not buried in a national cemetery). For deaths on or

after December 1, 2001, but before October 1, 2011, VA will pay up to \$300 toward burial and funeral expenses and a \$300 plot-interment allowance. For deaths on or after April 1, 1988 but before October 1, 2011, VA will pay \$300 toward burial and funeral expenses (for Veterans hospitalized by VA at the time of death).

An annual increase in burial and plot allowances for deaths occurring after October 1, 2011 began in fiscal year 2013 based on the Consumer Price Index for the preceding 12-month period.

Eligibility Requirements

You paid for a Veteran's burial or funeral, AND

You have not been reimbursed by another government agency or some other source, such as the deceased Veteran's employer, AND

The Veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, AND

The Veteran died because of a service-related disability, OR

The Veteran was receiving VA pension or compensation at the time of death, OR

The Veteran was entitled to receive VA pension or compensation, but decided not to reduce his/her military retirement or disability pay, OR

The Veteran died while hospitalized by VA, or while receiving care under VA contract at a non-VA facility, OR

The Veteran died while traveling under proper authorization and at VA expense to or from a specified place for the purpose of examination, treatment, or care, OR

The Veteran had an original or reopened claim pending at the time of death and has been found entitled to compensation or pension from a date prior to the date of death, OR

The Veteran died on or after October 9, 1996, while a patient at a VA-approved state nursing home.

NOTE: VA does not pay burial benefits if the deceased:

Died during active military service, OR was a member of Congress who died while holding office, OR was a Federal prisoner

Evidence Requirements:

Acceptable proof of death as specified in 38 CFR 3.211, AND receipted bills that show that you made payment in whole or part, OR a statement of account, preferably on the printed billhead of the funeral director or cemetery owner. The statement of account must show:

The name of the deceased Veteran for whom the services and merchandise were furnished, AND

The nature and cost of the services and merchandise, AND all credits, AND the amount of the unpaid balance, if any

How to Apply

You can apply online at Vets.gov, OR to submit a paper application, download and complete VA Form 21P-530, Application for Burial Allowance and mail it to the Pension Management Center that serves your state, OR work with an accredited representative, OR you may also go to your local regional benefit office and turn in your application for processing.

Additional Information:

Other information regarding VA burial benefits such as flags, headstones and markers is provided by the National Cemetery Administration.

Does everyone know about My HealtheVet? The online feature helps veterans see, and manage their VA Records, appointments, and Rx refills online. Here is some news that will affect any who has the advanced account.

My HealtheVet advanced Accounts Will Be Discontinued, VA's online patient portal, gives you access to your VA health information so you can understand and manage your VA care. Beginning in September 2021, My HealtheVet Advanced accounts will be discontinued. If you have an Advanced account today and do not upgrade to a Premium account, your account will revert to a Basic account. If that occurs, you will lose access to the pharmacy features, including the ability to request and track your VA prescription refills. That means... it's time to upgrade to a Premium account. With a free Premium account, you can securely access your VA health information, 24/7.

Using your My HealtheVet Premium account, you will be able to:

1. Request VA prescription refills, track your VA medications, and access your current VA prescriptions and prescription history.
2. View, download and print your VA health information, reports and images from your VA medical record.

3. Send online secure messages to your VA care team to ask them non-urgent health questions; ask to renew your medications; and send updates on your condition.
4. View, schedule, reschedule and cancel VA appointments.

How do you get started?

If you are new to My HealtheVet, create an account by visiting the My HealtheVet website, selecting Register, and filling out the required fields. Make sure to check the boxes verifying that you are a VA patient and Veteran.

If you are already a user, you may have a Premium account. If you do, there will be a "P" icon next to your name. Also, if you currently use secure messaging on My HealtheVet, you're all set. Patients who use secure messaging already have a Premium account.

There are three ways to upgrade to Premium level. If you have an Advanced account, there are three ways to upgrade to Premium level: 1] in person, 2] online or 3] through a video appointment.

Upgrading your account is free. If you want to upgrade in person or through a video appointment, contact the My HealtheVet coordinator in your local VA facility. Ask about upgrading to a Premium account. You can locate your VA facility's contact information through VA's facility locator tool. To upgrade online, you'll need to use your DS Logon Premium or ID.me secure sign-in credentials. You can learn more about the online upgrading process on the My HealtheVet blog post.

Now is the time to upgrade your My HealtheVet account. With a Premium account, you'll still be able to request refills of your VA prescriptions. You'll also gain access to all the tools, including secure messaging, access to your VA medical record online and more. To learn more, visit the My HealtheVet website, watch the My HealtheVet Premium video or contact your VA facility's My HealtheVet coordinator at the VA facility near you.

75 Year Masons of the Greatest Generation

In the farming country of Nashville Georgia, a 96-year-old farmer still driving his tractor tends to his 900 acres of cotton and peanuts. That amazing man is

Brother Herbert Watson of Duncan Lodge No. 234 who, not only still farming but Brother Herbert has been a member of Duncan Lodge for 75 years. On August 18, 2021, the Grand Master and Grand Secretary made the early morning trip to Nashville

to join Brother Herbert, his family, DDGM Tony Morris and several members of Duncan Lodge for breakfast and to present Brother Herbert with his 75 year membership award.

Brother James Herbert Watson was born February 18, 1925, in Nashville Georgia, where he has spent his entire life except for his service in World War II. Brother Herbert served in the US Army and was a member of the 36th Infantry Division where in 1943 they participated in the Italian campaign seeing some of the toughest fighting of the war. They were later sent to France and were attacking the Siegfried line when the war ended. Our Brother was slightly wounded twice and once spent 132 days continuously on the line in combat, no showers, no clean uniforms, few hot meals and only an occasional change of shocks. Brother Herbert spent his entire time in the same unit never being transferred or reassigned, and it was his division that accepted the surrender of Field Marshall Hermann Goering.

Brother returned to Nashville after his discharge from the Army got married and began a life as a farmer acquiring land over the years to a total of approximately 900 acres. His Masonic journey began in 1946 when he was Initiated, Passed and Raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on April 23, 1946. In a small town
40 / Fall 2021

like Nashville everyone knows everyone, and Brother Herbert is well known, even a reporter from the Berrien County newspaper came to write about our Brother recognizing him as one of the few WW II veterans left in the county.

All gathered in the beautiful Lodge Hall of Duncan Lodge to make the presentation, Brother Herbert seated west of the Holy Alter. The Grand Master and Grand Secretary presented the honoree with a 75-year apron, a 75-year pin, a special coin, the Grand Masters pin and the Veterans pin and dog tag for his service to our country. The guest of honor spoke of his appreciation of the brothers of the lodge and how much his family meant to him. Family and masonic brothers spoke of the love and fondness for Brother Herbert. Closing with a prayer Brother Herbert said he had to get back to work and off he went. We were there to honor our Brother but we all left feeling blessed.

Brother Herbert Watson, truly part of the “greatest generation.”



75 Year Masons **of the Greatest Generation**

On July 28th the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary made the journey to Gordon Georgia to present WB Dupress Blankenship a 75 year membership award. When we arrived WB Rondy Redd of Gordon Lodge 240 was waiting for us, it was WB Rondy who made the arrangements with the family for our visit.

WB Blankenship was born in 1925 and is 96 years old when we met him. Our Brother served in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific theater during some of the most brutal fighting of that war. After his service, he returned to his hometown of Gordon Georgia, where he still lives today.

Dupress, as he is known, was initiated an Entered Apprentice in June of 1946 and received his Fellowcraft Degree fourteen days later before being raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in August of 1946. WB Blankenship served as Worshipful Master of Gordon Lodge No. 240 in 1964 and received his 50 Year service award in 1996.

We found our Brother alert, but his advance years meant his was relaxing in his bed.

We presented Brother Dupress with his 75 year apron, a coin and lapel pin, a beautiful plaque and the Veteran pin and dog tag for his service. While our visit was short, the family was very appreciative of our coming. In all honesty it was the Grand Secretary and myself that leave touched and blessed from our visit with our good Brother. It is not often that a Grand Master gets to make a 75 year presentation and it is always humbling touching experience.

WB Blankenship is truly of “the greatest generation.”



50 Year Awards



William D. Chambers
Rossville #397



Don E. Henson
Dalton #105



Lemuel H. Kemp
Dalton #105



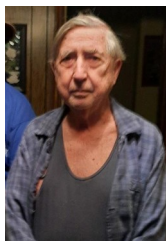
Jimmie W. Wheeler
Rabun Gap #265



Sanders G. Mercer
Tennille #256



Herman Marks
Bowdon #206



Clarence A. Barnett, Jr.
Murrayville #30



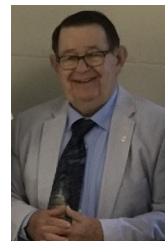
William C. McCall
Jonesboro #87



James L. Holcomb
Lawrenceville #131



James Freeman
Lawrenceville #131



Steve Poling
Madison #376



James Briscoe
Madison #376



Charles Conner
Madison #376



James Huddleston
Young Cane #597



George A. Moxley
Live Oak #137



Jerry Vaughn
Sonora #221



James H. Jones
Ball Ground #261



Bruce G. Thomas
Oothcaloga #154



Doyle Martin
Samuel S.L. #721



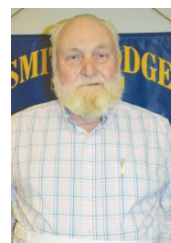
William F. Higgins
Davidson #334



David Harp
Davidson #334



Oscar West
Davidson #334



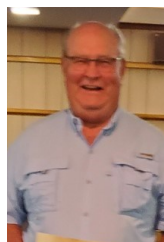
Linward Stephens
Smith #85



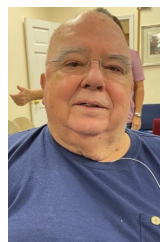
Terry L. Winkel
Mabel #255



James W. Saxon Sr
Mabel #255



Jimmy C. Deen
Bacon #56



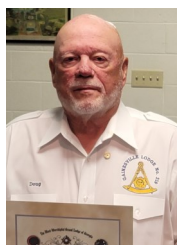
Jerry Bevil
Emerson #738



Gerald Earwood
Emerson #738



Eddie Hamilton
Emerson #738



James D. Williams
Gainesville #219



Edward E. Strayhorn
Gainesville #219



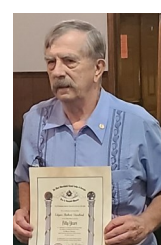
Daniel Q. Jones
Gainesville #219



Willie H. Sanders
Gainesville #219



Blake Bagwell
Buford #292



Ed Starbird
Buford #292



Thomas F. Francis
Stockbridge #691



Willie Morgan
Stockbridge #691



Jessie E. Westbrook
East Point #288



Trois A. Wyrosdick
Midland #144



Elmer C. Painter Jr.
Moultrie #381



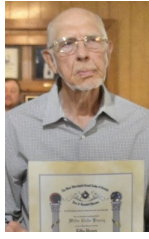
Steve Dean
Goshen #71



Robert Roland
Goshen #71



James E. Deaton
Rockwell #191



Wille C. Kinney
Johnnie's Hill #748



Ernie R. Stovall
Rockwell #191



Jerry H. Wallace
Crawfish Springs #300



Joe D. Wallace
Crawfish Springs #300

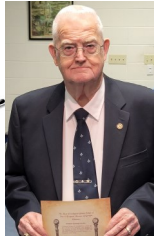


Samuel E. Austin, Jr.
Crawfish Springs #300

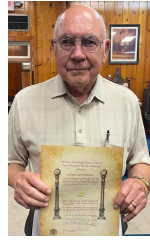


Clark W. Glass
Eastpoint #288

60 Year Awards



Robert E. Allen
Gainesville #219



Charlie L. Ruddell
Dalton #105



Clark A. Taylor
Rabun Gap #265



Benny W. Hatcher
Murrayville #30



Rufus C. Allen
Murrayville #30



Morris McClure
Gainesville #219



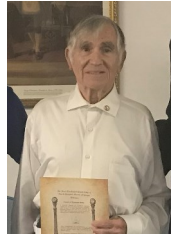
Marcus Stanton
Stockbridge #691



William Strom
Stockbridge #691



Sanford Sisson
Coosawattee #306



Harold E. Reed
Flowery Branch #212

65 Year Awards



Huber L. Duncan
Rossville #397



Edward Helton
Murrayville #30



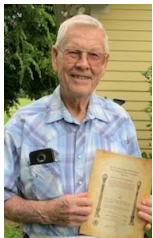
William J. Holder
Mabel #255



Fred Frady
Gainesville #219



Fred Banks
Buford #292



Benjamin Kennedy
Marshall #188



Russell W. Parrish
Blue Mountain #38



Howard Locklear
Buchanan #78

70 Year Awards



Reginald D. Jaudon
Guyton #428



Robert L. Hamrick
Gainesville #219



Orsa Hill
Riverdale #709



Raymond C. Merrow
St. Marys #109



Henry M. Westmoreland
Buchanan #78

In Memoriam

**Members Reported Deceased June 1, 2021
—August 31, 2021**

Name:	Lodge No.	Name:	Lodge No.
ROVOLIS, GEORGE RONALD SR.	1	FOUNTAIN, LANCE VIRLYN	76
WOLFE, JERRY PRESSLEY	3	LOCKLEAR, HOWARD	78
BEASLEY, DALE ALAN	4	QUARLES, ELDRIDGE BRUCE	81
DANIEL, JOEL LYNN	4	PARKS, MORRIS MILLER	81
JARRETT, JAMES WALTER	4	MCCOOL, JAMES HOWARD	82
FREEMAN, JOHNNY AUSTIN	6	GARLAND, JAMES ALEXANDER	90
WARD, SAMUEL JAMES	6	TURPIN, BILLY EDWARD	92
COLLINS, JAMES MERCER SR.	6	TURPIN, BILLY EDWARD	92
CRANE, BOBBY RAY	6	FRY, BENTON JACOB	92
DRIVER, LARRY WALTON	6	MASON, SAMUEL PAUL	97
JONES, CARL JACKSON III	8	NOLAND, ROBERT DUANE	97
SIMMONS, MICHAEL BRITTINGHAM	15	PELFREY, JAMES LAMAR	100
MORRIS, CHARLES WILLIAM	15	DIXON, JAMES WESLEY	101
FORMBY, RONALD REESE	15	SMITH, GERALD LAMAR	102
O'NEAL, DIXIE MONROE	16	BAILEY, HULAN DONALD	103
HATFIELD, ROGER LEE	18	ELMORE, CHARLES HOWARD	104
UNDERHILL, BEECHER IZEAR	20	HOOKS, WESLEY ALLEN	104
HUDGINS, ROBERT EUGENE	25	COLEMAN, CHARLES DOUGLAS	110
KING, JOE CARLTON	27	TALLET, JOSE ENRIQUE	111
FRENCH, ARTHUR NEAL	27	JONES, GENE RODNEY	112
MCDANIEL, RICHARD STEPHEN	27	MANNING, JOSEPH WAYNE	112
ROGERS, WATSON PAUL	27	WALRAVEN, GRADY JR.	113
HELTON, EDWARD	30	HOGUE, CHARLES DENNISON JR	113
THOMAS, EARL	30	MCBURNETTE, WILLIE FRED JR.	113
CRAIG, CLAUDE EDWARD	33	WAITS, SHERMAN RONALD	113
CASON, ROBERT WATSON	33	BROCK, DONALD GLENN	113
COLLINS, JAMES NELSON	35	DREW, DANIEL INMAN	116
COLLINS, JAMES NELSON	35	DREW, DANIEL INMAN SR.	116
STREETMAN, PERRY THOMAS JR	35	TAYLOR, LARRY DOYL	120
ASHWORTH, ANTHONY EDWARD	42	DAVIS, BILLIE GORDON	120
WEAVER, LUKE PENN	45	INGRAM, RONNIE EUGENE	120
CARTER, JOSEPH TALMADGE	46	CUMMINGS, F. MARION	121
COLEMAN, DANNY RAY	49	HILBURN, EDWARD HARLAND	121
MARCHANT, DALLAS GLEN	54	JOHNSON, LOYCE JEWEL	124
SUMMERLIN, WILLIAM SOLOMON	58	APARIS, SOSIMO JR	125
SEXTON, WILLIAM HAROLD SR	60	BAGWELL, MICAHAH BENJAMIN	126
ALFORD, EUGENE WORTHAM	60	ROACH, TOY DAVID	127
TATE, JAMES THOMAS	66	WHATLEY, JULIAN MONK	129
MOSELY, SIDNEY WAYNE	69	LOVINS, WILLIAM O'NEAL SR.	135
COLE, HOUSTON MILFORD	69	WOODCOCK, LAWTON ALLEN	137
EBERLEIN, ERNEST EDMOND JR	70	STRICKLAND, KENNETH MELL	139
SMITH, FRANKLIN JOHNNY	74	PAYNE, GEORGE HOLLON	144
BOYER, OTIS EARL	75	GOSS, BILLY ROAN	144

In Memoriam

**Members Reported Deceased June 1, 2021
—August 31, 2021**

Name:	Lodge No.	Name:	Lodge No.
DUKE, JAMES DAVID	167	WAYCASTER, QUINTON RAY	292
SAXON, JAMES BOBBY	171	SIMPSON, WAYNE THOMAS	302
WATTS, ROBERT LEE JR	176	MCNATT, HUGH BROWN	302
GREENE, CHARLES ALEXANDER	176	FUTCH, CHARLES ELBERT	303
MORRISON, EDMOND	176	STRICKLAND, EDWARD LARRY	304
LEE, JACKIE LAMAR	182	MOSS, LAWRENCE CHASTINE	306
GIBBS, JAMES DELMAR	190	SATURDAY, DANNY THOMAS	310
GEOGHAGAN, MICHAEL WAYNE	196	JENKINS, JERRY WENDALL	314
GRIFFIN, ALFRED MARION	202	JONES, ROBERT MALCOLM	316
MABRY, WILLIAM CECIL	204	GLEASON, BRANDON PATRICK	316
SIMMONS, ANDREW KEVIN	209	LEWALLEN, GERALD GLEN	319
SIMMONS, ANDREW KEVIN	209	ROBERTS, LESTER WAYNE	323
HOLLAND, JONATHAN HARSHMAN II	214	GUEST, THOMAS A.	323
WEST, JAMES RALPH	216	TURNER, DANNY MADISON	323
HATTAWAY, GEORGE MICHAEL	217	TENCH, PAUL THEODORE	325
PARSONS, MATTHEW STEVE	217	DONNELLY, ALAN BARR	325
DAVIS, JAMES HAROLD	219	WALLS, WILLIAM SAMUEL	326
SANDERS, WILLIE HUBERT	219	MORRIS, MARION LEON	334
GEE, CALVIN PHILLIP	221	CAUDELL, GEORGE BRADLEY	334
BEARDEN, JERE ANDREW	222	HALL, CHARLES LARRY	334
DAUGHARTY, GEORGE RAY JR.	224	IVEY, JAMES LLOYD	337
TOLLIVER, EARL	228	WHITE, NOLAND DEWAYNE	338
GRIZZARD, ROBERT THELMADGE JR.	231	BOND, HARVEY PAUL	348
KING, PAUL CURTIS	234	UPCHURCH, JOHN BENNETT	354
ALBERTSON, BILLY VERNON	235	WILLIAMS, JAMES THOMAS JR	354
DAY, HOWARD LEE	235	PATTON, WAYNE ANTHONY	354
BURNS, JERRELL MILO	240	BURCH, CHARLES ROBERT	368
COLSTON, JACK WILLIAM	243	HUBBARD, JAMES KENDRICK JR.	369
MARTIN, DAVID HENRY	244	HURST, CLAXTON EARL	369
BUSH, DONALD DONNIE	244	MEANS, MARLIN OAKLEY	381
LONG, ROGER DALE	246	FARMER, WALTER FRANKLIN SR.	381
REID, ROBERT BRUCE	251	DURDEN, RUSSELL CLARK SR.	386
SHULTS, ROY MARVIN	255	MARCHANT, JOE FRANK	393
ROBERTSON, JOHN LEE	255	NIX, BILLY JOE	393
ANDERSON-WELCH, THOMAS KASON	256	BROWN, RALPHARD TIM	403
LESTER, WILLIAM HAMMETT	256	PORTERFIELD, REESE GROVER	404
DAILY, FRED HARRY III	256	LOVE, W. D.	405
WATSON, JAMES RYAN	276	MCCRANIE, DANIEL ALLEN	405
WARREN, HERBERT DEE	288	FOSTER, DAVID FRANKLIN	423
SMITH, ROBIN ALLEN	288	GARDINI, MICHAEL THOMAS	424
HYDE, GEORGE WILBERT	292	STITCHER, WILLIAM RUSSELL	429
SEXTON, RAY HOWELL	292	ROBERTS, CHARLES WAYNE	434
		COMLEY, LIMOND B. JR	434

In Memoriam

**Members Reported Deceased June 1, 2021
—August 31, 2021**

Name:	Lodge No.	Name:	Lodge No.
JONES, JOHN EDWIN SR.	435	JOHNSON, FLOYD O'NEAL	718
WEBBER, SILAS	438	GEREN, GLENN RAYMOND	719
FINCH, PERRY DENE	440	NEWSOME, JAMES CARLOS JR.	730
RATLIFF, NEILSE BENJAMIN	444	HARRIS, DEVAUGHN JUNIOR	745
THOMAS, HOWARD FRAZER	449	FOUTS, WILLIAM EDWARD SR	747
ROBINSON, HERMAN FRANKLIN	455	UNDERWOOD, JOSEPH GARLAND	755
WASDIN, JOHN TREADWELL	456	MURPHEY, RODGER DALE	755
ABERNATHY, JOHN WILLIAM	457	HOLLY, DAVID WOODROW JR	756
LOWE, IRVIN THOMAS	467	LANGSTON, FRANK HOPE JR	5000
FORREST, ANDREW FRANKLIN	479		
GERMAN, CHARLES RAY	483		
WILLIAMS, MICKEY RAY	484		
PARISH, JAMES PHILLIP SR.	489		
BURNS, JERRY LAMAR	503		
THOMAS, KENDALL JOE	519		
DUTTON, ROY DARRELL	537		
THOMPSON, RALPH O'NEAL	544		
KEPNER, HERBERT ELMER	558		
MALONEY, JACK LEE	558		
ROBERTS, DELAND HOWARD	566		
KELLEY, ROBERT LEO	579		
MOORE, BRUCE EUGENE	590		
WHEELER, WADE HENRY	590		
BUTTS, LEVERETT BELTON III	590		
WINGATE, WILLIAM DOUGLAS	591		
MINSHEW, HERBERT DONALD	591		
WARD, BILLY ROGER SR	591		
GENTRY, SAMUEL HUBERT JR.	597		
DAVIS, GEORGE RONALD	644		
MACK, JOHNNIE SR.	644		
HILL, CHAN DAVIS JR	663		
MORRISON, JOHN BYRD	664		
BRYSON, HENDERSON DEWEY	680		
CLARK, ROBERT CLINTON	691		
FULLER, RICHARD TIMOTHY	693		
SPURR, MICHAEL MELVIN JR	694		
COLLINS, JAMES CEPHUS	699		
HAYES, NICHOLAS RYAN	703		
NEWSOME, KENNETH ALLEN	710		
BRAY, HUIE LAWRENCE	711		
SUMNER, ROBERT THOMAS	716		
BISHOP, JAMES MONNIE	717		

JUSTICE

“...THE MASON, GUILTY OF AN ACT OF INIQUITY, AND EXPECTING LENIENCY AT THE HANDS OF A MASON IS TWICE GUILTY.
HE HAS VIOLATED A SPIRITUAL LAW, AND IN HIS ATTEMPT TO USE MASONRY AS A SHIELD, HE HAS VIOLATED A SACRED OBLIGATION.
THE JUDGE WHO EXTENDS LENIENCY TO THE ACCUSED PURELY BECAUSE THE OFFENDER IS A MASON, FAILS IN HIS DUTY TO ALL PEOPLE AND HIS DUTY TO MASONRY.
JUSTICE HAS BUT ONE SCALE. ON IT MUST BE WEIGHED MASONS AND NON-MASONS WITH THE SAME UNFAILING PRECISION.”



-DEWEY H. WOLLSTEIN, PGM, 1944

The “Grand Lodge of Georgia” Store is now online at
<https://av8rstuff.com/GLofGAindex.html>

While many items are from the “Kids Store” (we’re working in partnership with them), we are also going to be offering many new and unique items for our many Masons in Georgia to show their pride, leading their friends and neighbors to inquire as to what a Freemason is and what we’re all about. We are excited about the new outlet we Georgia Masons have to obtain the items we want.

You can also find the link on the Grand Lodge of Georgia website or can contact
“Whitey” White (478-997-1011) or Ivy Smith (478-731-6050)