



2023 Code Bills For The 237th Annual Grand Lodge — See Pages 14-26

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

Const Master

Michael A Kessler (216)

Grand Master	Michael A. Kessler (216)
Deputy Grand Master	Benjamin W. Polston, II (6)
Senior Grand Warden	Mark A. Bradley (36, 766)
Junior Grand Warden	Bill Shepard (717, 214)
Grand Treasurer	Larry W. Nichols (59)
Grand Secretary	Van S. McGee (26, 70)
Grand Chaplain	Ross M. Laver (371, 216)
Grand Marshal	Jeff L. Smith (131, 2)
Grand Orator	Stanley M. Baum (216)
Senior Grand Deacon	Brian C. Coffey (271, 749, 710)
Junior Grand Deacon	Tom D. Bruce (42, 216)
First Grand Steward	Scott W. Johnson (68, 376)
Second Grand Steward	Wiley Q. Forrester, III (292)
Third Grand Steward	W. David Baxter (35)
Grand Tyler	Dennis W. Hewatt (165, 743)

Publications

Editor of the Messenger Daniel P. Bennett (364,154)

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Table of Contents

Grand Lodge Notices and Events From the Desk of the Grand Secretary......3 237th Grand Lodge Information......4-6 Edict 2023-05......7-8 Edict 2023-04.....9 From the Desk of the Grand Master..... From the Grand Chaplain's Study.....11 2023 Code Bills and Resolutions......14-26 Masonic Home News.....27-31 Publication Committee Announcements......32-33 Grand Lodge Tag Notice......34 Charlie Long's Barn Degree.....35 Deputy Grand Master Roast......36 Buford Lodge Anniversary Announcement......37 Gold Mine Degree......38 WB Brian Coffey, National Commander.....39 Articles Freemasonry Around Georgia.....41 From the Archives......42 Awards......43-45 *In Memoriam......*46-47

FORM FOR CHANGING ADDRESS FOR MESSENGER

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

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 _____

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.

Zip Code

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



From the Desk of the Grand Secretary Right Worshipful Van S. "Mac" McGee

2023 District Conventions

District	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	Host Lodge
1st District	March 25, 2023	10:00AM	Glenville @ Tattnall Shrine Club	Rising Sun Lodge No. 32
2nd District	February 25, 2023	9:00AM	Camilla	Camilla Lodge No. 128
3rd District	March 18, 2023	9:00AM	Cordele	Cordelia Lodge No. 296
4th District	August 19, 2023	9:45AM	Greenville Lodge No. 321	Columbian Lodge No. 7
5th District	September 9, 2023	10:00AM	Stone Mountain Lodge No. 449	Stone Mountain Lodge No. 449
6th District	May 6, 2023	9:00AM	Griffin @ Meridian Sun Lodge No. 26	Mabel Lodge No. 255
7th District	May 12th & 13, 2023	9:00AM	Rome	Cherokee Lodge No. 66
8th District	May 20, 2023	9:00AM	Covington	Golden Fleece Lodge No. 6
9th District	September 23, 2023	9:00AM	Jefferson Civic Center	Unity Lodge No. 36
10th District	June 10, 2023	10:00AM	Sandersville	Hamilton Lodge No. 58
11th District	September 16, 2023	9:00AM	Kingsland	Camden Lodge No. 476
12th District	April 15, 2023	9:00AM	Eastman	Eugene Smith Lodge No. 279

How to register for Grand View

Below is a link to a video that will show you how to set up your user account and the step to set up your account. If you have already created your user account and forgotten your password you can click on "Forgot your password?" under the sign-in button, enter your email address in the box and click "Send me to reset password instructions."

Video link- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hx-WliihfcM

- Step 1. Enter the URL for your jurisdiction. https://ga.grandview.systems
- Step 2. Click on Member Portal
- Step 3. Click on Member Registration (or you can Click the "Sign up" next to forgot password)
- Step 4. Enter your Lodge Number
- Step 5. Enter your Member ID
- Step 6. Enter your Last Name (case sensitive)
- Step 7. Click on Check Membership Status
- Step 8. Enter your email address
- Step 9. Enter a password that you can remember (password must contain at least 8 characters)
- Step 10. Enter Confirmation by entering the password again
- Step 11. Click on Submit

Procedures for Grand Lodge Communication October 24th and 25th 2023

All Members including committee members must pre-register for the Grand Lodge Communication via Grand View on or before October 20th.



Please log into Grand View, and from your member portal, click Print 2023 AC Registration Credentials Sheet. If you are a member of more than one Lodge, you must pre-register in the Lodge you wish to represent. You must bring your registration scan bar paper you printed when you pre-registered to the Grand Lodge Session. It will help the Credentials Committee to check you in faster. You must bring your dues card. You will be given a lanyard to slip your dues card in and will serve as your name badge.

Electronic voting will be used this year and will speed things up. The voting doggle will be scanned for each voting member at registration. You must return the voting doggle before leaving the session for the day. There will be tubs at the exits with a District Deputy present to assist you. When you arrive at Grand Lodge, please go to registration, and check in to pick up the voting doggle and voting panel. Lodge Per Capita must be up to date or your Lodge representation will be denied voting privileges.

Grand Lodge Information

Grand Lodge 237th Annual Communication will be held on Tuesday, October 24th, convening in the EX Hall A Convention Center of the Macon Centreplex, at 8:30 AM. Out of state guests and vendors will be present. Complete information will also be posted on Grand View. More details are available in this issue of the Masonic Messenger.

2023 Code Bills

The 2023 Code Bills are available in this issue of the Masonic Messenger. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Hickman at jhickman@glofga.org

Official Notice

Barry Lamar King a former member of Golden Fleece Lodge No. 6; resigned from Freemasonry effective September 3, 2021, 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 237th Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, will be held in Macon, GA on October 24th, 2022. Written objections must be sent to the Grand Secretary in a timely manner to be considered by the investigating committee.

237th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons

The 237th Annual Communication of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of Georgia, will be held on October 24th and 25th 2022 at the Macon Marriott City Center, 240 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA 31217

<u>Banquet</u>: The Grand Master's Banquet will be held on Monday evening, October 23rd at 6:30 pm in Ballroom A B C. Tickets are available for purchase through the Grand Lodge Office. Tickets are \$75.00 per person and limited to 175 guests. **No tickets sold at the door.**

<u>Ladies Luncheon</u>: The Ladies Luncheon will be held in the Magnolia Room at 11:00 am. Tickets are available for purchase through the Grand Lodge Office. Tickets are \$35.00 per person.

<u>Grand Lodge Session:</u> The session will begin at 9:00 am, in the EX-Hall A Convention Center, Tuesday morning, October 24th and will be set to refreshment at 5 pm.

<u>Grand Lodge Picnic:</u> The Tommy Irvin Farmers Market Picnic will be held Tuesday evening, October 24th at the Macon State Farmers Market, 2055 Eisenhower Pkwy., Macon, GA. The Picnic will begin at 6:00 pm for fun, fellowship, and food with special entertainment. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and are available through the Grand Lodge Office. **Tickets will be available at the event.**

PLEASE SEE THE TICKET REQUEST FORM IN THIS ISSUE OF THE MASONIC MESSENGER

Fill out the request form and mail to Grand Lodge of Georgia PO Box 4665 Macon, GA 31208-4665

Include your check and return address to insure prompt delivery of your tickets.

ALL TICKETS MUST BE ORDERED BY OCTOBER 6th.

NO TICKETS WILL BE MAILED AFTER OCTOBER 12th.

The Hospitality Room will be available in the Host Hotel, the Macon Marriott City Center, 240 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA. It will be open Monday, October 23rd, 11:30 am to 4:00 pm and 8:30 pm to 11:00 pm. Tuesday, October 24th, 6:45 am to 7:45 am, 8:30 am to 10:45 am, (closed during Ladies Luncheon) and 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Wednesday, October 25th, 7:00 am to 8:30 am.

IMPORTANT GRAND LODGE INFORMATION

Registration for the Annual Grand Lodge Communication must be done on Grand View by clicking the blue Pre-register for 2023 banner from your member portal.

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

Welcome to the 237th Annual Communication of the

Grand Lodge of Georgia, Free and Accepted Masons

The Macon Marriott City Center Hotel is the host hotel 240 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA 31217

Telephone (478) 621-5300 (Mention the Grand Lodge of Georgia)

The Hospitality Room will be supplied with goodies and open Monday through Wednesday at designated hours for everyone's enjoyment.

GRAND LODGE BANQUET TOMMY IRVIN FARMERS **LADIES LUNCHEON** Michael A. Kessler Magnolia Room MARKET PICNIC Marriott Ballroom ABC **Marriott Hotel** Farmer's Market Monday - October 23rd Tuesday - October 24th Tuesday - October 24th 6:30 P. M. 11:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Tickets: \$75.00 Tickets: \$35.00 Tickets: \$10.00 Number of Tickets Number of Tickets___ **Number of Tickets** (Dark Suit, Formal or Sunday Dress required) **FOOD PROVIDED BY** (NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR.) DISTRICT LODGES (TICKETS AVAILABLE AT EVENT)

BREAK FOR LUNCH

12:00 PM

All tickets are available for purchase through the Grand Lodge Office

Make Checks Payable to: Grand Lodge of Georgia

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

All Tickets Must Be Ordered BY OCTOBER 6th

No Tickets Will Be Mailed AFTER OCTOBER 12th

Attention Grand Lodge Office, Please send tickets to:

Name:		
Title:		
Guest Names		
A ddress:		



EDICT NO. 2023-5

TO ALL CONSTITUENT LODGES UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA, FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS:

I hereby issue this edict, to-wit:

WHEREAS, Grand Lodge officers can often benefit from having assistance in the performance of their duties; and

WHEREAS, the Masonic Code of Georgia, Section 4-101(10) already provides for an acting assistant to the Grand Secretary, and

WHEREAS, it is proper and fitting that the Grand Master be able to provide for such assistance as he sees fit:

NOW THEREFORE, it is my edict that:

- 1. The Grand Master has authority, in his sole discretion, to appoint an acting assistant to the Grand Treasurer, Grand Marshal, or Grand Chaplain to confer with and assist those officers in the duties of their office.
- 2. Assistants shall serve at the pleasure of the Grand Master and may be removed at any time. Otherwise, any such appointment shall expire upon the installation of the new Grand Master.
- 3. Upon approval of this edict by Grand Lodge in session, thereby authorizing aprons for this purpose pursuant to Masonic Code Section 12-101, assistants may wear such aprons, if any, as may be approved by the Education and Historical Commission.
- 4. Assistants do not need to be installed in the same manner as Grand Lodge officers but should take an obligation to faithfully perform their duties, such oath to be administered by the Grand Master or his designee.

5. Assistants shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the Grand Master or the officer they are appointed to assist.

SO ORDERED and this edict is given under my hand and seal as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of Georgia, and under the seal of the said Grand Lodge, this 30th day of June 2023.

Michael A. Kessler, Grand Master

Attest:

Van S. McGee, Grand Secretary

[SEAL]

The Grand Lodge

Of Free and Accepted Masons for the State Of Georgia

EDICT NO. 2023-06

TO ALL CONSTITUENT LODGES UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA, FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS:

I hereby issue this edict, to-wit:

WHEREAS, it has come to my attention that some Lodges operating under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Georgia do not issue a current dues card to recently raised Master Masons until they have stood examination on the Master Mason's catechism, and

WHEREAS, a Master Mason is entitled to all rights and privileges of a Master Mason, except as restricted by the Masonic Code, as soon as he is raised and declared including the right to visit other Lodges which could require a dues card; and

WHEREAS, all Master Masons who are current on their dues are entitled to a dues card, and

WHEREAS, Masonic Code §44-104 already provides a remedy for failure to stand examination on the Master Mason's catechism and Masonic Code §77-126 restricts affiliation in other Masonic bodies;

NOW THEREFORE, it is my edict that:

Subordinate lodges operating under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Georgia shall promptly issue a current dues card to every Master Mason at the time they are raised and declared or not later than the next regular communication of the Lodge. Lodges may not condition the receipt of the dues card on the candidate standing or passing examination.

Nothing herein shall be construed as restricting the right to bring charges against a Master Mason who fails to stand examination on the Master's catechism in accordance with Masonic Code §44-104.

SO ORDERED and this edict is given under my hand and seal as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of Georgia, and under the seal of the said Grand Lodge, this 11th day of August 2023.

Michael A. Kessler, Grand Master

Attest:

Van S. McGee, Grand Secretary

811 Mulberry Street • Macon, GA 31201 • Office: (478) 742-1475 • Email: gsec@glofga.org • www.glofga.org

From the Desk of the Most Worshipful Grand Master Michael A. Kessler

The Grand Lodge of Georgia will meet in Macon on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 and Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at 9:00am for the

annual communication. Georgia Masonry has been around longer than that, however, with the first Masonic meeting in Georgia being organized by James Edward Oglethorpe at Sunbury on February 21, 1734, 289 years ago. The Grand Lodge of Georgia was founded on December 16, 1786. That means the Grand Lodge of Georgia was organized before the United States Constitution was ratified and before George Washington became the first president of the United States in 1789.

This year, the Grand Lodge session returns to Macon. The session will be held at the Macon Centreprlex and the adjoining Macon Marriott Hotel. The Grand Master's banquet will be on Monday night, October 23rd. The MWB Tommy Irvin Farmers Market Picnic will return on Tuesday night. There will be a ladies' luncheon and activities on Tuesday. Elections will be held Tuesday after lunch and installation will be Wednesday morning. All are urged to register in advance for any of the events you or your lady plans to attend.

For the first time, the Grand Lodge session will use electronic voting. This is a reliable system that has been used successfully by other Grand Lodges. There are a number of advantages including that it is faster, more accurate, and the results are available immediately. At registration each voting member of Grand Lodge will be given, and be responsible for, an electronic device to be used to record their votes. Large screens will display the results. This will limit voting to those eligible and shorten the time for the process including tabulating the results. Each member will be responsible for returning the device at the conclusion of the session.

The voting system is simple and user-friendly. It has been used by other Grand Lodges for several years. If the Brethren of other jurisdictions are comfortable using it, I am sure Georgia Masons have little to be concerned about. Votes are cast by clicking a button on a device that is no larger than a garage door opener or a small calculator. In addition, for clarity, screens can display the issue being voted on as well as the results of the voting. Any amendments, which must be submitted in writing, can also be displayed in real time. The system and how it works will be explained prior to any voting and again as necessary.

District cooking teams are needed to make the farmers market a success. The different food that is prepared by the districts has always been a great hit. As we travel to other Grand Jurisdictions the primary question is whether we are going to hold the farmers market event. If you have any questions please contact your DDGM.

I look forward to seeing you at Grand Lodge.

From the Grand Chaplain's Study

Psalm 133

or those who enjoy stories about Knights and Knights Templar, *Knightfall* is a very fictional portrayal of the lives of Knights. *Knightfall* recounts the success, fall, persecution, and suppression of the Knights Templar, as orchestrated by King Philip IV of France on October 13, 1307. The series focuses on the fictional Templar leader "Landry du Lauzon," a brave warrior discouraged by the Templars' failures in the Holy Land who is reinvigorated by news that the Holy Grail has resurfaced.

In Season 2, Episode 2 there is a scene where the novice knights are faced with a problem in training. They are assembled at a wall which they are tasked with scaling without rope, ladder, or other tools.

Divided into teams, several attempt to climb it and fail. At that point, the Master, standing atop the wall utters disparaging remarks at the teams who have failed. Looking at the next team he provides the following. "Now, look to Psalm 133 for guidance and CLIMB THAT ******* WALL!"

Trying to understand the meaning of the order of the Master, a brother recites Psalm 133 "Behold how good and pleasant it is for Brothers to Dwell TOGETHER in UNITY." Two of the team attempt to climb the wall but it is raining and the slippery wall is not scalable.

One member says, "It's too slippery, it can't be done." Then one man looks up saying "When Brothers Dwell Together in Unity." Watching his face you see the light of wisdom and a widening smile as he pronounces, "this time it's about BROTHERHOOD; Teamwork."

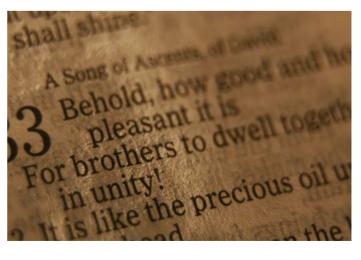
Someone asks "How the hell do we get to the top without rope or ladder?" to which the enlightened Brother says, "We become the ladder." Two men stand at the bottom and instructions are given. "Each man climbs upon the shoulders of the next until they reach the top then helps pull up the others."

In four minutes the meaning of Psalm 133 is clearly explained, but more importantly it gives meaning to "Brotherhood." It demonstrates what we can do as a Band of Brothers for our Families, Community and the World.

Take a minute and consider what your thoughts were when you first heard those words recited during the perambulation in the Entered Apprentice Degree. Remember the words in the preparation room prior to your first entry. "Freemasonry is a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols." Psalm 133 as used in Lodge is not intended to be allegorical. Yet it us up to each man to hear the words and determine the meaning as he sees fit. You must answer the question, what does Psalm 133 mean to you.

The scene in *Knightfall* illustrates the meaning so succinctly that it raises the question, "was the writer a Freemason?"

Knightfall is currently available on NetFlix.



RESOLUTION

ILLUSTRIOUS LEONARD EDGAR BUFFINGTON 33°



Born: May 3, 1936 - DeKalb County, Georgia

Died: June 18, 2023 – Tucker, Georgia

PASSED TO THE GREAT BEYOND IN HIS EIGHT SEVENTH YEAR

WHEREAS, The Officers and Members in the Valley of Atlanta, Orient of Georgia, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, desire to record their deepest sorrow at the death of their Masonic Brother,

ILLUSTRIOUS LEONARD EDGAR BUFFINGTON, 33°

who, since May 11, 1963, has served the Scottish Rite, Valley of Atlanta in several capacities. Brother Buffington contributed greatly to mankind and our country through his knowledge and leadership in the various Masonic bodies. His zest for life and his accomplishments will not soon be forgotten.

Brother Leonard attended the public schools in DeKalb County, Georgia before studying electrical engineering at both the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech. He worked as a building contractor and started Leonard E. Buffington Builders, Inc. company in 1964. In 1965 he got his real estate brokers license. He was prominent in the real estate field, serving as owner, president and qualifying broker of Triangle Realty, Inc. He also served as President of East Metro Surveyors and Engineers, President of DeKalb Society of Commercial Realtors, chairman of the public relations and communications committee of the Georgia State Board of Realtors, and president and membership chairman of the Dekalb County Board of Realtors.

Brother Buffington was initiated in Clarkston Lodge No. 492 in Clarkston, Georgia on October 23, 1962, passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on November 13, 1962, and raised as a Master Mason on November 27, 1962. He was suspended for nonpayment of dues on June 26, 1984, and reinstated on July 14, 1987. He served as Worshipful Master in 1994 and 1995. He served several years as a District Deputy to the Grand Master in the Fifth Masonic District and served as the Chairman of the Deputies in the Fifth District. He served as Worshipful Master of the Fifth District Masonic Convention in 2007 and was also a past president of Dekalb County Masonic Association.

Brother Leonard became a charter member of Metro Daylight Lodge No. 743 in Chamblee, Georgia on October 28, 1992, serving as the Worshipful Master in 2004. He also became a charter member of Charity

Daylight Lodge No. 754 on October 22, 2002. His beloved Lodge, Clarkston No. 492, was consolidated with Tucker Lodge No. 42 on November 28, 2017, and he became a member of Tucker Lodge No. 42. He received his Fifty year award in November 2015.

Brother Albert F. Garner appointed him in 2002 as Third Grand Steward of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia and he served with distinction as Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Georgia in 2010. He was very active in Grand Lodge, serving on several Committees. Grand Master Larry Nichols appointed him Grand Orator for the Grand Lodge in October, 2017.

Leonard joined Mt. Zion Chapter No. 16, RAM, Jason Burr Council No. 13, RSM, and Coeur de Lion Commandery No 4, KT in that now famous one day class held on September 30, 1995. He was a past presiding officer of all these bodies and was invited to membership in Cherokee Rose Priory No. 56, Knights of the York Cross of Honour on August 31, 2010.

Brother Buffington became a member of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry on May 5, 1963, as a member of the Thomas Cassels Law, 33°, S.G.I.G. of GA., Class which was the 102^{nd} reunion. He was suspended on December 31, 1971, for nonpayment of dues and reinstated on December 3, 1987. He worked in the classroom and worked in the 13^{th} and 30^{th} degrees. He served on the Child Care Committee from 1996 to 1999. He was invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour on October 9, 1995, and was Coroneted an Inspector General Honorary, 33° on October 13, 2001.

He served as Commander of Atlanta Court of Honour, K. C. C. H. in 2001 and as Wise Master of the Chapter of Rose Croix in 2002. Shortly after the death of Earl Harris, the S. G. I. G. in Georgia, in July 2002, Leonard was appointed Deputy in Georgia for the Orient of Georgia on October 3, 2002. He was made Sovereign Grand Inspector General for Georgia on October 7, 2003, and thus became an active member of the Supreme Council and served thirteen years until 2016 when he turned eighty years old and had to step down. His retirement party was held on October 1, 2016, at the Petite Auberge French Restaurant in Atlanta and was attended by several out of state S.G. I. G.s, former Georgia Governor Roy Barnes and the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, Ronald A. Seale, 33°. Leonard worked hard as S. G. I. G. to establish Rite Care clinics in Georgia to help children with speech, language, and hearing disorders. He also promoted the Scottish Rite Foundation in the giving of scholarships. He appointed Illustrious Albert Garner, 33°, as the Personal Representative for the Valley of Atlanta in 2003 and brother Al served fourteen years until 2017.

Brother Buffington was a member of several of the honorary appendant bodies in Georgia, Zarthan Council No. 329, Allied Masonic Degrees, past sovereign master 2009, St. Ambrose Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, past sovereign 2014, Luther G. Palmer York Rite College No. 123 and Carl F. Lester, Jr, Councill No. 65, Knight Masons. He was a former member of Grand Tabernacle A, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, in Washington, D. C. He was also a member of the Royal Order of Scotland and a Shriner in Yaarab Temple in Atlanta.

Brother Leonard was at one time a charter member of the Rehoboth Presbyterian Church where he was Youth Fellowship Leader, and later at Briarlake Baptist Church where he served as the Baptist Youth Training Union leader and coached Youth Baseball and Basketball teams. His wife Shirley Jean Gaines, whom he married about 1958, preceded him in death on September 27, 2018. They had been married sixty years. He was also preceded in death by his son Steven, who died on April 10, 2018. He is survived by three daughters, one son four grandchildren, nine great grandchildren and two great – great grandchildren. He is buried at Floral Hills Memory Gardens Tucker, DeKalb County, Georgia.

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

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

Joe E. Turner, 33° Orient of Georgia Historian

2023 Code Bills and Resolutions for the 237th Annual Communication of the

Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons

Code Bill No. 2023-1

A Bill to amend Chapter 77-1, Section 77-127 of the Penal Section of the Masonic Code of Georgia to provide for the updating of the language of said code in regards to the Laws of the State of Georgia as it pertains to carrying concealed weapons, both by carry license and constitutional carry,

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

That Code Section 77-127, relating to the carrying of concealed weapons in Lodge, be amended so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

It is a violation of Masonic law and contrary to the rules of decorum and common decency for a member to enter the Lodge room carrying a deadly weapon; and should he do so, he shall be charged and tried for un-Masonic conduct. This section shall not apply to members who are active law enforcement officers, retired law enforcement officers, members who have a valid Georgia recognized carry license are not disqualified by the Laws of the State of Georgia to carry a concealed weapon, or any other such person what is permitted to carry concealed weapon under Georgia Law, and/or is exempt from those laws under O.C.G.A. § 16-11-130 (i.e. Peace Officers, Judges, District Attorneys, Probation Officers); provided said member MUST carry said weapon in a concealed manner that does not allow the weapon to be visible to

any other member or visitor. Any member who enters a Lodge room with a weapon in any other manner than stated above will be in violation of Masonic law; and should he do so, he shall be charged and tried for un-Masonic conduct. Notwithstanding the above, however, a law enforcement officer displaying his badge of office may carry their service weapon in an open and visible manner in the Lodge room. This Code Section must be posted outside the entrance to the Lodge Room. (Edict 2004-1)

Joshua M. Blakely, PM Lavonia Lodge 241, F&AM

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

Code Bill No. 2023-2

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Great State of Georgia:

This bill seeks to amend MC Section 23-102.1 Flag of the United States of America. All subordinate lodges shall properly display an appropriate size flag of the United States of America on an appropriate flagpole in the proper position of the Lodge, which shall be displayed during every tyled meeting.

To be amended as: 23-102.1 Flag of the United States of America and other flags. All subordinate lodges shall properly display an appropriate size flag of the

United States of America on an appropriate flagpole in the proper position of the Lodge, which shall be displayed during every tyled meeting. Lodges may also display the current or any former official state flag of Georgia. Lodges may also display flags and banners of regular Masonic bodies that meet in that space. No other flags may be displayed in the lodge room during a tyled meeting. Any historic flag or banners that honor any current or past member(s) may be displayed in or on the lodge property at the discretion of the lodge.

This bill seeks to repeal Edict 2023-02 relating to the current and historic Georgia State Flags as this edict is a violation of MC 71-103. Masonry Non-Sectarian, Non-political.

Listed below is the reasoning and a summary of the bill:

There is absolutely no hatred associated with the Confederate Battle Flag if you learn the true history of the flag. It is a soldier's flag and nothing more. The 1956 Georgia Flag was given to the citizens of Georgia by the Georgia General Assembly as a memorial to those Georgians who served, fought and died to defend the Great State of Georgia when our beloved state was invaded by the armies of the North during the War for Southern Independence. It is a war memorial and should in no way, shape or form be construed as political, nor should it be replaced by a flag that is purely political.

The facts are: Judge John Sammons Bell, Chief Judge of the Georgia Court of Appeals designed the Georgia flag (1956-2001). He says that the purpose of the change was "to honor our ancestors who fought and died and who have been so much maligned" (Authority: Interview with John Sammons Bell by Vivian Price published in the 'DeKalb News/Sun,' page2-F 13 July 1988.) He denies any accusation that the flag change was

proposed in defiance of integration saying, "Anybody who says anything to the contrary is wrong or perpetuating a willful lie." Governor Carl Sanders, a Civil Rights Supporter, and Governor Ernest Vandiver were in the legislature when the flag change was made. Both agree that the debate in the legislature over adoption of the new flag had nothing to do with integration or the Supreme Court decision (Brown v. Board of Education). Neither the Atlanta newspapers nor any other newspaper of the day ever published anything which indicated that the flag was being changed in defiance of desegregation decisions of the Supreme Court.

It must be remembered that Confederate patriotism was running high in 1956. On January 20,1956 it was announced that the Civil War Centennial Committee would be formed to plan commemorative events for the 100th anniversary of the War Between the States.

This coincided with the deaths of the last remaining Confederate veterans. The last soldier in Georgia died in 1952. The last soldier of the entire Confederacy died in 1959. In the years between, the old veterans were one by one passing away. A great deal of sympathy was felt throughout the South for the old soldiers and many commemorative activities took place. (Authority: The Atlanta Journal, 20 Jan. 1956, page A-5; 'The South's Last Boys in Gray' by Professor Jay S. Hoar, University of Maine.)

The charges are that the battle flag portion of the 1956 Georgia flag represents slavery and bigotry and also that our the 1956 State flag was adopted in defiance of the Brown vs. Board of Education Supreme Court decision, which led to integration of schools. Neither charge is true. The 1956 Flag opponents continue to make these charges but refuse to back or debate them.

The document from the State Senate; Senate Research Office, prepared by Alexander J. Azarian, former interim director of the Senate Research Office (who was arrested in Cobb County in August 2022 on child pornography charges as reported by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution on August 2, 2022) and Eden Fesshazion an Atlanta attorney. This document was prepared under the Barnes administration in 2000 and after the last paragraph of page 6 is nothing more than an attempt to remove from context, distort and discredit true Southern and Georgia history. The 1956 Flag was created for one purpose; to honor the Georgia Confederate Soldier and that purpose must be remembered, regardless of any political party or group who used the flag to undermine its true history in order to promote their own political agenda or ideology.

The Georgia flag was "officially" changed in 2001 to a blue design that many have likened to a restaurant place mat. Flag experts (vexillologist) called the new design "the ugliest flag in North America." After stating that he had no intentions to even discuss changing the 1956 Georgia flag, one-term Governor Roy Barnes and his fellow associates pushed the new design through the General Assembly in 2001 near the end of the session. This "11th hour" approach reveals that they knew the people of Georgia did not want the flag changed. In open defiance of the people, the infamous change was pushed through.

Governor Barnes and many others bet their jobs that Georgia voters would forget the flag change. They were wrong.

In the election November 5, 2002, Sonny Perdue ran and won the governorship based largely on the campaign promise of allowing Georgians to vote on which flag they wanted and the people of Georgia spoke loudly and clearly; it was a state-wide mandate for a fair vote on the 1956 flag. Many of the people who voted for the 2001 flag change are no longer in

office. We want our flag back. The people of Georgia are entitled to make this decision, but our representatives and state senators are afraid to simply let the people choose their Georgia flag. The representatives and senators in the General Assembly caved in to pressure from anti-Southern bigotry groups such as the NAACP, SPLC and Atlanta business interests (especially Jesse Jackson's "Rainbow Coalition" organization).

No matter how you package this new 2003 flag 'compromise' (subterfuge) it fails at the very core because the 1956 flag was removed under false pretenses and until that flag has the opportunity to be restored Georgia will continue to be divided. Yes, the new flag resembles the provisional First National Confederate flag, but the honor of the Confederate Battle flag has been attacked and that is what must be restored. In addition, this new politician's flag has 13 stars rather than seven like the First National Confederate Flag and the Georgia law (§O.C.G.A. 50-3-1) defining the new flag states that the 13 stars are to represent the 13 original colonies that seceded from Great Britain. Thus, any claims that this flag is "Confederate" are specious at best. The 2003 flag is a counterfeit, politician's flag.

In April 2003, the General Assembly gutted the flag bill (HB380) of the provision for a July 2004 referendum that would allow the people to choose their preferred flag. As of May 8, 2003, when Governor Perdue signed the bill enacting a new Perdue flag, once again, the General Assembly is ramming a politician's flag down the throats of the people. The referendum in March 2004 provided for a vote to keep the politician's new flag, or to "choose" the "Ugliest Flag in North America" (the Barnes Flag). That's not a choice, that's an insult. It's once again time to remind representatives and senators under the dome in Atlanta just who they are supposed to represent. Did your representative and senator vote to

let you have a real choice, to choose the 1956 flag? Or, did they vote to deny Georgia citizens a choice, give us an insult and call it a choice? The Fair Vote bill was outmaneuvered in the back rooms of the 2005 legislature, and it was left to die in Committee.

Governor Perdue knew that supporters of the 1956 flag were the driving force that elected him or rather, defeated Barnes. Yet, he lacked the fortitude to VETO the gutted flag bill (insult!) and force the issue. Instead he chose to sign it and blame the outcome on the General Assembly. It has been alleged that Perdue sold the flag vote for support of his budget and tax package. Governor Perdue has denied this allegation by writing "My administration was not part of any deal that limited the options for Georgians. Further, I did not tamper with the process to give one flag a greater likelihood of winning over another, nor did I ever authorize any legislative or budgetary trades in order to secure enough votes for passage of the legislation." He also wrote, "While this bill did not include everything I asked for, I respect the decision of the elected members of the General Assembly and have signed HB 380 into law." This is called shifting the blame. He still calls the March referendum on whether to return to the Barnes Flag a "choice." He writes that "the process is complete" and he hopes that we'll simply "tum the page" and move on.

The South did not fight to preserve slavery. Slavery was protected in the U.S. Constitution. It could not possibly have been changed without support from the Southern States. All Southerners had to do was stay in the union (ratify the Corwin Amendment) to keep slaves. When the war started, there were more slave States in the Union (8) than in the Confederacy (7). To have a war over slavery, one side would have to fight to end slavery. President Abraham Lincoln stated, "My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and it is not either to save or destroy slavery". He further promised to enforce laws that required

runaway slaves to be returned. General U.S. Grant, Union Commander, (and future U.S. President) stated "If I thought this war was to abolish slavery I would resign my commission and offer my sword to the other side."

Southerners were forced to pay most of the taxes to a central government that had strayed from the Constitution and denied the independence of the States as established by the founding fathers. Seven States formed a new country. When the Northern States raised an army and invaded the Southern States, the war was on. Southern States only wanted freedom and independence. The Southern States did not rebel; all General P.G.T. Beauregard had to do was order Jackson to pursue the retreating Federal troops as they fled back to Washington after the Battle of 1st Manassas, Virginia. The Confederate troops could have easily captured and occupied Washington and ended the war on the first day, but the Confederates remained in Virginia and did not pursue.

Confederate General Robert E. Lee said, "All that the South has ever desired was the Union, as established by our forefathers, should be preserved." Freedom and Independence are the opposite of the totalitarian dictatorship the Nazis wanted. We resent the comparison.

The battle flag was adopted during the war so that Southern troops could distinguish their men from the enemy. The previous flag, the Stars & Bars, looked too much like the Stars and Stripes. Both armies were shooting their own men. The battle flag was never an official government flag, it was the flag of the soldiers. Black Southerners supported the Southern war effort in every way. Not only did they maintain farms, help look after women and children, and refuse to rise up against Southern white people as encouraged by the North, but also they actually participated in the war effort. Tens of thousands of black Southerners served in the Confederate armies.

Black Confederates were integrated and received the same pay as whites, which did not happen in the U.S. Armies until World War II. Frederick Douglas, black leader in the North, said "There are at the present moment many colored men in the Confederate Army doing duty not only as cooks, servants, and laborers, but as real soldiers, having muskets on their shoulders and bullets in their pockets, ready to shoot down loyal troops and do all that soldiers may do..."

The NAACP has adopted a resolution calling for a "systematic effort to remove all Confederate images from public display". It is not just our flag but also all our symbols, monuments and even our culture that they wish to destroy (Cultural Genocide).

All Southerners should be proud of our unique heritage. The Confederate battle flag is recognized around the world as a symbol of independence and self-determination. No other Americans have suffered so much and made such sacrifices as our Southern ancestors.

We reject the premise that the War for Southern Independence was about slavery and therefore, we reject any inference that the Confederate battle flag or any flag of the

Confederacy celebrates slavery or racial oppression. It's regrettable that malicious liars and the well-meaning ignorant continue to spread such misinformation in efforts to discredit our beloved flags. As stated before, the NAACP's stated goals are the total eradication of all vestiges of the Confederacy and eve1y Southern symbol associated with it, not just flags, but all monuments, markers, statues and celebrations. This is cultural genocide and it represents the height of intolerance and prejudice on their part.

Only in America is there any negative connotation associated with the Confederate flag. In the late 1980s,

the Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and others had thousands of students waving Confederate flags at a time when waving their own national flags would mean certain death at the hands of the KGB and the Politburo. All flags, currency and symbols of their former countries were forbidden by the Soviet empire.

Student protestors in Belgrade waved the Confederate flag. East Berliners raised the Confederate flag above the Berlin wall in 1989 (Newsweek published a famous 1989 photo) to show their defiance to Communist tyranny. The French-speaking nationalists of Quebec wave the Confederate flag along with the Fleur-de-I is as a symbol of their desire for independence from English Canada. Even the Zulus of South Africa wave Confederate flags as a symbol of defiance and their desire for independence. Everywhere else in the world, the Confederate flag is seen as a symbol of independence and defiance to tyranny. Why is it that these foreigners understand American history and our flag so much better than the hateful but vocal few who condemn the Confederate flag here in the USA?

Summary

Therefore, we as Georgia Masons simply wish to honor our Masonic ancestors; those Masonic brethren who stood and fought for the Great State of Georgia and for the United States of America when duty, state and country called, regardless of the time or place in history and to not have political limitations or conditions placed upon them or upon those Masonic brethren who wish to honor them.

Respectfully,

John Biddy, Worshipful Master Sugar Valley Lodge #733

Hughdon Tate, PM Sugar Valley Lodge #733 Walton Dunaway, PM Sugar Valley Lodge #733

Albert Edwards, PM Sugar Valley Lodge #733

Terry Thomas PM Sugar Valley Lodge #733

Benny Davenport, PM Eton #509, Sumach #55 Chatworth#664

David Penley PM Tilton Lodge #291

Kenneth Wade, PM Sugar Valley Lodge #733

Phillip Fisher, PM Floyd Springs Lodge #167

The Jurisprudence Committee is satisfied that the bill is not in proper legal form and recommends that it be ruled out-of-order.

Code Bill No. 2023-3

A Bill to provide for amending Code Section 77-127 so as to conform with Georgia Law (SB319 referred to as Constitutional Carry), by removing the unnecessary exceptions in the code, and by inserting language to cover all members eligible under the current law.

OF GEORGIA FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

"That, Code Section 77-127, relating to Carrying Weapons in a Lodge Room, be amended so that

section as amended shall read as follows:" It is a violation of Masonic law and contrary to the rules of decorum and common decency for a member to enter the Lodge room carrying a deadly weapon; and should he do so, he shall be charged and tried for un-Masonic conduct. This section shall not apply to members who are acting law enforcement officers, retired law enforcement officers, members who are legally permitted to carry a concealed firearm under SB319 or have a valid Georgia recognized weapons carry license or another such person that is permitted to carry a concealed weapon under Georgia Law, and/or is exempt from those laws under 2016 O.C.G.A.§ 16 11 130 (i.e. Peace Officers, Judges, District Attorneys, Probation Officers, provided said member MUST carry said weapon in a concealed manner that does not allow the weapon to be visible to any other member or visitor. Any member who enters a Lodge room with a weapon in any other manner than that stated above will be in violation of Masonic law; and should he do so, he shall be charged and tried for un-Masonic conduct. Notwithstanding the above, however, a law enforcement officer displaying his badge of office may carry their service weapon in an open and visible manner in the lodge room. This Code Section must be posted outside the entrance to the Lodge Room. Edict 01-2004.

Dennis W. Mclane, PM Buck Creek Lodge No. 639

The Jurisprudence Committee is satisfied that the bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

Code Bill No. 2023-4

A Bill to provide for amending Code Section 12-103 paragraphs 1 and 3. Removing the requirements for a dress code at individual lodges to be determined by

this code section, and removing the reference to attire, when a brother is not in lodge.

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

"That Code Section 12-103, relating to Proper Attire, be amended so that said section shall read as follows": In order to maintain proper decorum and to show proper respect for a Masonic Lodge and our Brethren, all Masons whether Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, or Master Mason, shall be properly attired when attending stated or called meeting of Lodge, Grand Lodge, district convention, funerals, memorial services, or public ceremonies such as cornerstones (hereafter "Meeting") unless some part of the program, ritual, or degrees normally requires them to dress otherwise.

No Mason shall attend a Meeting wearing shorts, an uncollared shirt, t-shirt, exercise wear, open toed shoes, sandals, or flip flops unless medically necessary. Nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting a Brother from wearing jeans, or overalls, with a collared shirt, or any required medical device. Nothing herein shall be construed as requiring a brother to wear a suit, sport coat, tie, or tuxedo unless the Worshipful Master so directs.

Neither Masonic Aprons nor collars may be worn unless the Brother is properly dressed as herein described to, to attend a Meeting. Clothing at events outside of the Lodge such as picnics, concerts, ballgames, etc. shall be at the discretion of each brother although proper decorum should always be a consideration. It shall be the responsibility of the Worshipful Master to see to it that this is enforced.

Dennis W. Mclane, PM Buck Creek Lodge No. 639 The Jurisprudence Committee is satisfied that the bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

Code Bill No. 2023-5

A Bill to provide for amending Section 83-401 of the Masonic Code.

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

That, Code Section 83-401, relating to "Trial of Masters", be amended so that said section, as amended shall read as follows:

83-401 Trial of Masters

If the Master of a Lodge be charged with immoral or un-Masonic conduct by a majority of the Lodge over which he presides, or by the Master of any other Lodge, the accusers or accuser shall present a written accusation to the Grand Master, or, in his absence, to the Deputy Grand Master, who shall summon a Lodge of Masters or Past Masters of not less than three nor more than thirteen, designation one of them to preside as Master. They shall proceed to try the case and pronounce such sentence as they deem just; but the same shall not take effect until approved by the officer summoning such Lodge. The accused shall have the right of appeal as provided by law. {Section 27-104}

Harold Logsdon, PM Fayetteville Lodge No. 711

John Loyd, PM Tyrone Lodge No. 644 The Jurisprudence Committee is satisfied that the bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

Code Bill No. 2023-6

A bill to amend Chapter 86-1, **Section 86-102** of the Masonic Code of Georgia to allow restorations from indefinite suspension for non-payment of dues by a show of hands since members were suspended by a show of hands.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 86-1, **Section 86-102** only be amended as follows:

By striking the words "unanimous secret ballot" in two places and replacing them with the words "a majority of those present and voting" in two places so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

86-102. Restoration, How Obtained

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

Indefinite suspension may never be imposed as a penalty except for non-payment of dues. Upon the payment of such dues and reinstatement fees required by the Lodge suspending him, and upon written petition, 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 a majority of those present and voting in the Lodge suspending him.

A member of a Lodge, the charter of which has been surrendered or forfeited, who was suspended for nonpayment 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, and after due investigation by a committee, may be restored to good standing by unanimous secret ballot a majority of those present and voting 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)

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.

Raymond C. Gray, Sr., PM Tucker Lodge No. 42

E. Ray Knittel, PM Cohutta Lodge No. 64

Johnie M. Garmon, PM Allegheny Lodge No. 114

Ted C. Collins, PM Millwood Lodge No. 198

The Jurisprudence Committee is satisfied that the bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

Code Bill No. 2023-7

A bill to amend **Chapter 31-1, Section 31-106,** of the Masonic Code of Georgia regarding sufficient notice given to a member before suspension for non-payment of dues, such that the notice may be given **either** by mail **or** email reducing the workload of the Lodge Secretary and postage expense for the Lodge

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 31-1, Section 31-106, only be amended as

By striking the word "and" and adding the words "or" and "address" so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

31-106. By Resolution

follows:

When a member is one or more years in arrears, a trial is unnecessary, and suspension may be by resolution. Each member so in arrears should be given sufficient

notice by proof of mailing sent to his last known address and or last known email address no less than forty-five (45) days prior to such suspension unless two (2) or more members appointed as a special committee by the Worshipful Master go and personally visit the member that is in arrears during that same forty-five (45) day period. The appointed committee will have their names entered into the minutes of the Lodge records upon being appointed by the Worshipful Master. The same committee will make a written report at a regular communication following the visit. The member to be suspended will have to show just cause why he should not be suspended. A collective motion or resolution may be made on all Lodge members so charged. The suspension of any member of the Lodge not so notified shall be deemed null and void.

Any costs if notified by proof of mailing shall be charged as a special assessment to the member so notified. (Sections 78-113, 83-506)

E. Ray Knittel, PM Cohutta Lodge No. 64

Johnie M. Garmon, PM Allegheny Lodge No. 114

Samuel Garcia, Jr., PM Fulton Lodge No. 216

The Jurisprudence Committee is satisfied that the bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

CODE BILL NUMBER 2023-8

A bill to amend **Chapter 4-1, Section 4-101,** of the Masonic Code of Georgia regarding the appointment of an acting assistant Grand Secretary such that it does

not require a disability of the Grand Secretary in order for the Grand Master to appoint an acting assistant.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code Chapter 4-1, Section 4-101, only be amended as follows:

By striking the words "if the Grand Secretary in the opinion of the Grand Master is unable to perform his official duties" and adding the words "The acting assistant Grand Secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the Grand Master and may be removed at any time. Otherwise, any such appointment shall expire upon the installation of the new Grand Master" so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

4-101. Power and Authority

The Grand Master shall have the power and authority, during the recess of the Grand Lodge:

- I. To grant dispensations for the constitution of new Lodges, continuing in force until the next regular communication of the Grand Lodge, unless revoked by him for good cause. (Sections 35-105, 35-106)
- 2. To convene the Grand Lodge at his pleasure when any business affecting the welfare of the Craft shall seem to require it, giving thirty days' notice, through the Grand Secretary, to the Lodges and members, of the time, place, and object of such meeting.
- 3. For good cause, and with the written concurrence of the Grand Wardens, to suspend from office any member of the Grand Lodge appointed to office by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or Grand Wardens, until the next regular communication of the Grand Lodge.

- 4. To convene any Lodge under his jurisdiction, and preside therein, with the Master of the Lodge on his left hand; to command the Wardens of the Lodge, or any Master Mason, to act as his Wardens for the time being; to inspect their records and work, and require their conformity to the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.
- 5. If unable to attend in person, to grant authority to any Past Master of a Lodge to convene a Grand Lodge for the following purposes only: to lay the foundation or cornerstone of some public edifice; to dedicate and consecrate Masonic Halls; to constitute new Lodges, and to install officers of Chartered Lodges.
- 6. To grant dispensations for processions and exercise all such powers as are warranted or required of him by the Ancient Regulations or Customs of the Craft; provided, always, that he shall have no power to suspend the operation of any bylaw of the Grand Lodge.
- 7. To appoint or remove Grand Representatives to Foreign Jurisdictions in fraternal intercourse with this Grand Lodge, the appointee in each case to be a Master or Past Master.
- 8. To appoint a chairman and a vice-chairman of each of the several Trial Commissions who shall serve during his pleasure.
- 9. To remove any trial commissioner for cause after hearing.
- 10. The Grand Master has authority to appoint an acting assistant to the Grand Secretary and to confer upon him all the rights, powers, and duties of the Grand Secretary if the Grand Secretary in the opinion of the Grand Master is unable to perform his official duties. The acting assistant Grand

Secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the Grand Master and may be removed at any time. Otherwise, any such appointment shall expire upon the installation of the new Grand Master. (Edict 1970-3)

11. The Grand Master has authority to remove any elective or appointive Officer of a Blue or Symbolic Lodge, for cause. Under no circumstances shall he do so, however, without having first thoroughly investigated whatever allegations of cause for such action have been presented to him. Such investigation shall include, but not be limited to, the Grand Master presiding at a communication of the Lodge having an officer or officers being considered for removal from office, to which all members have been summoned to attend. At such communication, every member of the Lodge who is present shall have the opportunity to be heard, and thereafter the Grand Master may immediately, or within thirty days of the meeting at which he presided, declare the officer under consideration to be removed from office. If the Grand Master allows thirty days to pass, such action shall not thereafter be taken during his term of office, insofar as the same alleged cause for such action is concerned.

In the event that more than one Officer of a Blue or Symbolic Lodge are being considered for removal from office, each shall be individually investigated by the Grand Master, although more than one officer may be considered during the same communication of the Lodge at which the Grand Master presides.

Upon removal of any Officer of a Blue or Symbolic Lodge by the Grand Master, the vacancy shall be filled according to the provisions of Code Sections 25-112 and 24-103.

Michael H. Wilson, PM Golden Fleece Lodge No. 6 Van S. McGee, PM Meridian Sun Lodge No. 26

The Jurisprudence Committee is satisfied that the bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

Code Bill No. 2023-09

A bill to amend **Chapter 77-1, Section 77-126,** of the Masonic Code of Georgia disallowing the potential ability of an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Mason from applying for membership in concordant or appendant organizations which might seek to change their membership requirements concerning the necessity of being a Master Mason for membership.

Be it Enacted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia Free and Accepted Masons that the Masonic Code **Chapter 77-1, Section 77-126,** only be amended as follows:

By striking the word "Master" so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

77-126. Minimal Time of Masonic Membership Before Eligible to Apply for Membership in Concordant or Appendant Organizations

No Mason in Georgia may petition for membership in any organization predicating its membership requirements on the petitioner being a **Master** Mason: (1) until six months have elapsed since he became a Master Mason, unless in the meantime he has stood examination in open Lodge on the Master Mason's catechism and is entitled to a certificate from his Lodge: and

(2) unless the organization (a) requires all of its male members to maintain active membership status in a Masonic Lodge while a member of such organization and (b) recognizes the law of the Grand Lodge of Georgia as supreme in all matters within Georgia and with respect to all Masons who are members of a Georgia Lodge, including (without limitation) matters of discipline. Signing a petition for membership in any such organization, either as petitioner or as recommender, prior to meeting either of the two optional requirements stated herein in subpart

(1) or knowing that the organization does not conform to the requirements of subpart (2) constitutes un-Masonic conduct. (Section 44-104)

S. Joe Colvard, PM Philomathea Lodge No. 25

Dennis W. Hewatt, PM Metro Daylight Lodge No. 743

The Jurisprudence Committee is satisfied that the bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code.

Code Bill No. 2023-10

A Bill to amend Code Section 39-101. Application, and the petition form, for the purpose of requiring a criminal background report, voluntarily obtained by the applicant, in order to provide the Investigating Committee information about the character of the applicant, as required by Code Section 39-114., Character; and, 39-118. Reputation; and, if the report should include any arrest or conviction records, that the Lodge may consider that information to determine if the applicant has reestablished his good reputation as required in Code Section 86- 105., Ex Convicts.

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

that Code Section 39-101, relating to "Application", and the form, be amended so that said section, as amended shall read as follows:

39-101. Application

No one shall be initiated in any subordinate Lodge without being proposed by a written petition at a regular communication, which petition shall lie over until the next regular communication, that the character of the candidate may be fully investigated. The petition shall be accompanied by a Criminal Background Report, to be obtained by the applicant from any Law Enforcement Agency in the county where the applicant resides, on the prescribed form, dated no more than 30 days prior to the date of the petition.

Fraternally and respectfully submitted,

Joe Riley Denson, PM Rose Hill Lodge No. 484

Torrey Oliver Knight, PM Rose Hill Lodge No. 484

The Jurisprudence Committee is satisfied that the bill is in proper legal form and not in conflict with any other section of the Code. We note, however, that should this Bill pass, the attached form (Editor's Note: find the form on pg. 25) is not a part of the Bill and should be disregarded. The petitioner must obtain his own form, since not all Law Enforcement Agencies use the same form.

Personal Criminal History and Arrest Record Request and Consent Form

Submitted to:						
Georgia Law Enforcement Agency Name			Location			
authorize the	Law Enforcemer ry record or info	nt Agency lis	ted above to	provio	sonal use, I hereby de me with any les of any Crimina	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	Race	Sex	(Date of Birth)	
List <u>ANY</u> o	ther name or names u	sed in the past		Soc	ial Security Number	
Address		City	State Zip	o Code	Telephone #	
Γhis request is	for my own per	sonal use.				
	Signature			Date	;	
	Do Not Write	Below This	Line (Offici	al Use	Only)	
	ber and reveal the foll				n searched by name and bject:	
No	local arrest record		_ Local arres	t record	attached	
No	record on G.C.I.C.		_ G.C.I.C. red	cord atta	ached	
No	record on N.C.I.C.		_ N.C.I.C. red	cord atta	nched	
Employee Name	e Ba	dgg/ID#	Signat	1180	Date	



Masonic Home of Georgia Wish List FOR THE CHILDREN PROJECTS FOR THE HOME & CAMP

- · Laptops, I-Pads, headphones
- Sports equipment (balls, racquets, etc.)
- · Trail & street adult size bicycles
- Support for school trips/sports
- · Professional art supplies
- · Science astronomy & lab supplies
- · Personal hygiene/grooming supplies
- · Cleaning supplies/Laundry supplies
- · Refresh cottage living areas

- Refurbish swimming pool deck & picnic tables
- · Modernize gymnasium
- · Remodel cabin bathrooms at camp
- · Renovate baseball field, basketball court
- Renovate staff & guest housing (camp & home)
- · Repave road leading into camp
- · Power wash main building & walkways
- · Modernize kitchen & equipment
- · Clear & mulch walking trail to and around pond

FOR THE FUTURE

PLEASE MAKE YOUR ONE TIME, RECURRING OR LEGACY GIFT OF SUPPORT TO THE MASONIC HOME OF GEORGIA TODAY AND CONTINUE TO CHANGE LIVES FOR THE NEXT 118 YEARS!





FOR MORE INFORMATION

1 5 m

Tel: 478-7435154

Email: jeffcohen@masonichomeofgeorgia.com

Jacob Maria Jami

Masonic Home Summer 2023

As our Masonic Home children prepare to go back to school we want to take a moment to remember a magical summer and give thanks to the staff, lodges, donors, youth, and all those that made every day a special day. Special thank you to the following lodges: Altamaha #227, Bryan #303, Brunswick #717, Ezel, #335, Flowery Branch #212, Hinesville, #371, Jasper #50, Landrum, #48, Mabel #255, Ogeechee #213, Philadelphia #73 & Walton #200.







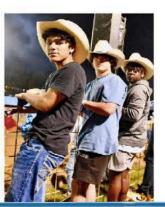














MASONIC HOME OF GEORGIA ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT MS. SARA HELTON





My name is Sara Helton. From the ages of 5-20, my life was the Masonic Home of Georgia. Coming to the home as a kindergartner with my brother Arron and my sister Amy was a difficult transition. I was so young and so scared. My childhood before coming to the home was difficult and trust was something that didn't come easy to me. My house parents instantly put me at ease, making me feel welcome and comfortable. The Masonic Home made me realize that there are people in the world that care and are willing to take care of you. I'm beyond blessed for the loving care I received from the other children, the staff, and the masons throughout the years I lived there. My Masonic Home family supported me in everything that I did and made me believe in myself. Although, there were many times I got in trouble I'm still thankful to the Masonic Home for making me the woman I am today! I am currently a mother to a beautiful 1 1/2-year-old daughter, and I can't wait to share many more stories and the beauty of the Masonic Home.





THE MASONIC HOME BY THE NUMBERS

CURRENT RESIDENTS: TOTAL: 23

BOYS: 9 GIRLS: 14

HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS: 3

PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS: 19

COLLEGE STUDENTS: 1

COTTAGES OPEN: 5

MEET MS. JANICE BEARD, HOUSE PARENT EXTRAORDINAIRE!

Ms. Janice has served as a house parent at Masonic Home for 9 years. A native of Macon, she is the mother of two grown boys and this past year became a first time grandmother. Ms. Janice sees the Masonic Home as a place that can help develop and nurture children in a loving and structured environment. When asked why she does what she does Ms. Janice answered, "If I can help just one and hopefully all my Masonic Home children be successful, I feel my purpose in life has been fulfilled." We love you Ms. Janice!







SHARE YOUR LOVE! LOVE YOUR JOB!



Provide a nurturing home environment to ensure students maintain a healthy consistent routine and develop life skills. Houseparents have a lasting impact. That's why it's a career that's worth every minute!

- Be a vital part of changing the lives of youth in need. We are seeking qualified individua to work with children in a group home environment in Macon, Georgia.
- Our goal as a team is to nurture the "whole" child, providing supervision, structure and assistance in meeting children's social, emotional, spiritual, and physical needs while teaching them crucial life skills. Together, we thrive!
- If you have a passion for working with children, please scan the QR code below to apply We look forward to hearing from you!

Requirements:

- 21 years of age
- No criminal record
- Clean driving record
- High School diploma/GED

More Information:

chrisbabcock@masonichomeofgeorgia.com

APPLY NOW



SCAN ME

Expertise:

- Experience with children
- · Great communication and interpersonal skills
- Organizational and problem solving expertise



PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

of the Grand Lodge of Georgia



Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Georgia

In an attempt to standardize publication dates and deadlines, the Publications Committee has determined to put in place the following deadlines for submissions.

Spring (March) Issue: deadline for content-Feb 1
Summer (June) Issue: deadline for content-May 1
Fall (September) Issue: deadline for content- August 1
Winter (December) Issue: deadline for content- November 1

When you make a submission to messenger@glofga.org, you should receive an automatic reply noting that your submission was received. If you are submitting a 50, 60, 70+ Award, you will get a second email notifying you when your award will run in the Messenger.

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION EMAIL, please check the email address or call the Editor at 770-608-6232 for issues.



We Want **YOU** to Submit Articles to the Georgia Masonic Messenger!

Brethren,

Do you have an idea for an article? Does your Lodge have some interesting history behind it? Are you interested in a historical topic related to Georgia Freemasonry or Freemasonry in General? Do you feel that you have an insight that would benefit the Craft at large? Does your Lodge of Research routinely have esoteric, historical, or informational papers presented? Have you read a really good book on Masonry recently? Did your Lodge host a really successful event or hold a Lodge social outing?

If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, please send it in to the Editor of Georgia Masonic Messenger at Messenger@glofga.org. We would love to publish it in our state Masonic Magazine.

Remember, if you would like to read it in the Messenger, there are probably other Brethren who would too and the only way it gets into the Messenger is for you to send it in! So don't delay!

Write it up and send it in today!

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 Kessler has made available this lapel pin for all who either renew or order the Masonic car tag in 2023. Simply contact any Grand Line Officer with a copy of your 2023 tag order or provide a photo of your 2023 tag to receive your FREE lapel pin.

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

CHARLIE LONG BARN DEGREE Saturday, October 7th, 2023



The Annual Barn Degree will be held at



Charlie Long's Farm
695 Orr Mill Rd SE
Ranger, Georgia 30734
On Saturday, October 7th, 2023
Gates Open Early! Degree at 3pm!

Come and Enjoy the Farm and Fellowship by the Creek!
Activities and Entertainment for Ladies!
Master Mason Degree will Begin at 3pm.

Admission \$15 Per Person. BBQ will be Served!

Degree Conferred by Golden Fleece Lodge No. 6
All Master Masons are Invited and urged to Attend!

Proceeds got to the Travel Fund for the Incoming Grand Master!



BROTHER BEN POLSTON

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DEPUTY GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN GEORGIA

SATURDAY OCTOBER 14, 2023 6PM

Join Brother Ben Polston's friends as they come together to roast him. Monies raised help support charities and travel for brother Ben and his brethren as they travel the state.

Prime Rib Dinner

The James Madison Conference Center
240 West Washington St.

Madison, Georgia 30650

(valet parking included)

RSVP by September 8th, 2023



\$50 TICKET



Send donations to:
Golden Fleece Lodge # 6
PO Box 1441
Covington, GA 30013

or Scan QR Code and pay by Credit Card

BUJORD MASORIC LODGE 20. 292 -150 YEAR ANNIVERSARY-

99 SPRING STREET, BUFORD GA 30518 CHARTERED OCTOBER 30[™], 1873



Join us in Celebrating our Sesquicentennial!!!

150 years of Service to the Greater Buford Community!

"Making Good Men Better"

November 5th, 2023 at 1:00PM

Come join us for a day of Food, Refreshment, and Festivities as we celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Founding of Buford Masonic Lodge No. 292. Tours of the Lodge will be available. All are welcome!

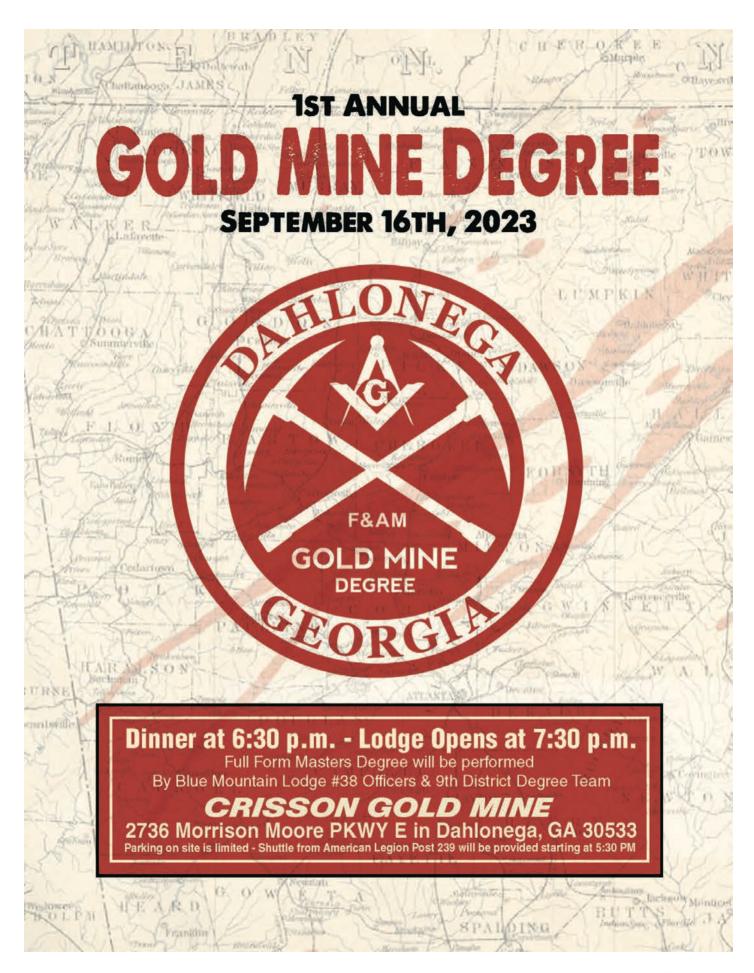
A Cornerstone Dedication Ceremony (2:30pm), commemorating this Special Day, will be performed by the Grandmaster of Masons in Georgia, along with other Grand Line Officers.



For further information, please contact: WB Wiley Q. Forrester III/Secretary (678) 925-9333 or Bro. Bill Garrison/SW (404) 775-7764

We look forward to seeing you there!

<u>www.BufordMasonicLodge292.com</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/BufordLodge292</u>



WB Brian C. Coffey, National Commander, Heroes of '76, National Sojourners, Inc.



A Georgia Mason is serving as the National Commander of the Heroes of '76, a subordinate Order of the Military Masonic Order, National Sojourners, Inc. Worshipful Brother Brian C. Coffey has risen to the pinnacle of this International Order of Freemasons that have served in the United States Military. He was installed as National Commander in June of 2023 in Hershey Pennsylvania.



The Heroes of '76 is the public face of the National Sojourners, Inc. whose purposes are to cultivate Masonic ideals and support all patriotic

aims and activities in Masonry, and to develop true Patriotism and Americanism throughout the Nation. It brings together current and former members of the uniformed forces of the United States, and Honorary Members who are Master Masons, into Chapters for the promotion of good fellowship among its members.

WB Coffey has served in many capacities in the National Sojourners including the Committee of 33 (the advisors to the National President), Chairman of National Committees and as a Region and Area Representative. WB Coffey was awarded the Memphis Cup as the outstanding Area Representative of the Year in 2018. His hard work and dedication helped double the number of Chapters in Georgia from 5 to 10 in 4 years.

WB Coffey is a 40-year Mason, currently serving the Grand Lodge of Georgia as the Grand Senior Deacon. He is Past Master of Hinesville Lodge 271, Past Master and current Junior Warden of Clarence H. Cohen Daylight Lodge 749, and Past Master and current Secretary of Martinez Lodge 710.

Worshipful Brother Coffey is a 33° Scottish Rite Mason and is active in the Valley of Augusta and the Valley of Savannah serving in many capacities over the years. He is also an Active Shriner in Alee Temple and a member and Past President of the Hinesville-Ft Stewart Shrine Club.

Worshipful Brother Coffey is extremely active in all aspects of Masonry, and he makes huge contributions to any Masonic organization to which he belongs. He and his Lady Wendy are outstanding ambassadors for Georgia and Freemasonry in this International organization.

Reflections of a new Mason: "Once, I Was Penniless Too..."

By Brother Andrew M. Anderson Martinez Lodge No. 710

I am a relatively new Mason – raised this past November – but wished to share with my Brethren one of the most impactful lessons I have learned thus far. During the Entered Apprentice degree, I found myself "penniless," without any token, money, or other good within my possession to offer in order to continue upon my journey. All those reading these words know the moment I am referring to, when we stood before the Worshipful Master and our new Brother is in such a vulnerable state, with the former expressing his bewilderment that I had not brought something of value to contribute in order to proceed around the Lodge, in search of more light. And then, in the uneasiness and embarrassment of that moment, you feel that metallic token mysteriously slipped

into your hand. A worthy Brother, who I hardly even knew at the time, obeyed his obligation to help a Brother in

need, and contributed to my relief.

After the degree was completed, I took a closer look at that token my new Brother had discreetly placed into my palm. Among other things, it read, "Once I Was Penniless Too," and this struck a chord with me. All men are children of the Great Architect of the Universe, and made in His image; yet we are fallen beings, who often turn our virtues into vices. All men have their specific vice and temptation. Some are tempted by alcohol, too often drinking to excess. In our modern world, convenience and relaxation are too easily converted to sloth and laziness. But one of the most timeless temptations is that of money (or, as a wise man once said, the *love* of money). I have always been a person who practices moderation and frugality, it is simply my nature, and such attributes are indeed virtues. However, this personality trait too often results in stinginess, greed, and judgment on my part. When I see a beggar on the street corner, the judgmental side of my mind begins to formulate reasons not to place a sum of money into his hand. But why should I do this? I do not know the specific trials this man has gone through to cause him to beg. When a token was slipped into my hand, my fellow Brother did not force me to justify my penniless state.

But what if we do know the reasons for a Brother's present struggles? Perhaps he made a bad investment, or some other poor financial choice. Maybe his behavior at his place of employment resulted in a loss of income, or his failures as a husband brought about a divorce, leading to financial hardship. In other words, a Brother has made a mistake or a poor choice. Well, then, that Brother is in very good company! That same wise man who taught that the love of money is the root of all evil also commanded, "Let he who has not sinned cast the first stone!" All Masons, indeed all children of the Great Architect of the Universe,

fall short of their potential, whether it be their own fault or not. It is the duty of

Masons to provide relief, be it emotional, spiritual, or financial to our fellow man, especially if that man be a brother Mason, if he be humble and worthy of such relief. One the greatest men I ever knew was my late grandfather (who was not a Mason, but did have the wisdom to marry an Easter Star!). He was a very wellrespected businessman in his community. Yet, I later learned he had faced great financial difficulties throughout various times in his life. Even the best among us make mistakes,

or simply must face the storms of life. As Masons, we should have the benefit of knowing that we need not face these hardships alone.

Since that worthy Brother slipped that copper coin into my hand at a time of great need, I have looked upon the spirit of giving in a new way. When I am tempted to turn the virtues of moderation and thrift into the vices of greed and selfishness, I am reminded of the spirit of charity and my obligation as a Mason. So, when a fellow Brother or man stretches out his hand seeking some small token, let us not look upon him with judgment or scorn. Instead, let that noble phrase, "Once I Was Penniless Too," echo within our minds and guide our hearts and hands in contributing to his relief.

Cy Nunnally Memorial Scholarship Recipients



Fergus Lodge No. 135 presented 5 \$2000 scholarships for the annual Cy Nunnally Memorial scholarship. Pictured are (left to right) Brother Danny Ford, scholarship committee, Cheyenne Carter, Addisyn Allgood, Braxton Brooks, Zachary Moser, Harley Stapp, Brother Josh Camp, Worshipful Master.



WM Scott Childress of Roswell Lodge #165 presents the 5th district's "A. Gerald Williams, PM Intra-District Traveling Gavel" to brethren of Fulton Lodge #216. WB Childress graciously agreed to allow Fulton Lodge to bring their candidate for a courtesy EA proficiency examination and they repaid his kindness by "stealing" the gavel.

Greenville Lodge Gives away \$5000 in Scholarships!

On May 22, 2004, Greenville Lodge No. 321 presented its 2023 George E Morrison, A. Cy Gasses and Richard C Fountain Memorial Scholarship. This Scholarship was founded in 2007 and has historically given two \$1000 scholarships every year. This year, thanks to fundraising events at the Cotton Fair in Gay, Ga, Greenville Lodge elected to give five \$1000 Scholarships!



Flowery Branch Holds Awards Night



Flowery Branch Lodge No. 212 had an awards night at our regular meeting on June 13th where one 25-year, three 50-year and one 60-year awards were presented by W.B. Jason Gee, DDGM for Sub-District 9D. Pictured left to right are Jason Gee, DDGM, Phillip Williams (50), Charles Bell (60), Lyman Williams (50), Thomas Hoover (50), and Jim Roach (25). The presentations were made in open Lodge with over 50 members, family and friends in attendance.

Grand Master Kessler a Friend to All



While attending the Tri-State Communication at Caledonia Lodge in Cedartown on Saturday, June 25, Grand Master Kessler was befriended by a bird that had found its way into the Lodge. Our avian friends are apparently quite the interlopers.

Traveling Men Hold State Meeting



Traveling Men Masonic Motorcycle Riding Club held their annual state meeting on June 24 in Fayetteville Lodge 711. A great time was had by all and a donation was taken up and matched to be presented to the Children's Home soon.

Hudson Lodge Hosts Candle-Light Degree

Following a large breakfast the uniform E.A. Degeee was conferred by the Hudson Lodge Degree Team using nothing but lanterns and candles. The Degeee was a major success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. They were extremely pleased to have 12 different lodges representing both the 8th and 9th Districts.



From the Archives

A Trowel Returns Home

November 14, 2013

In 1946-1947 the State of Georgia Grand Master Judge Chesley W. Monk of Worth Lodge #194 in Sylvester, Georgia was presented this commemorative trowel by Indiana Grand Master Dwight Smith in Washington, D. C. at the annual meeting of Grand Masters at the invitation of Masonic Brother President Harry Truman. Masonic Brother Ridley Monk, 91 year old son of Chesley Monk, asked Brother Joseph Neihardt, Star Lodge #225 F.&A.M., Orland, Indiana and longtime family friend, to return the trowel "from whence it came". So tonight (November 14, 2013) Worshipful Master Bryan Cook of the New Albany Lodge #39, New Albany, Indiana; I, Joseph Neihardt, make this presentation in memory of our past Brothers.

Trowel Returns Home



1946-47 State of Georgia Grand Master Judge Chesley W. Monk, Worth Lodge #194, Sylvester, Georgia Given to Brother Joseph Neihardt, Star Lodge #225 F.&A.M., Orland, Indiana

By Brother Ridley Monk, Worth Lodge #194, Sylvester, Georgia For presentation to Worshipful Master Brian Cook, New Albany Lodge #39, New Albany, Indiana

And

Whereas PM Brother James Rogers of Union Lodge #2 Madison, IN longtime friend of Brother Joseph now serves as District 10 Deputy Grand Lecturer and Herman Thomas, Secretary of New Albany Lodge #39 assisted in arranging the presentation

And

Whereas Worshipful Master Bryan Cook New Albany Lodge #39 was gracious to receive this travelling trowel "from whence it came" on behalf of all New Albany Lodge #39 Masonic Brothers since it began its historic journey

And

Whereas our 163rd Indiana Grand Master Mark A. Genung has the trowel as his working tool in his official Grand Lodge portrait urging all Indiana Masons "as good people to reach out to everyone in life's path harboring nothing but good will and intentions, remembering the power of God's eternal love."

Therefore be it resolved that November 14, 2013 be designated as "Lead by the Trowel Day" for New Albany Lodge #39 in honor of our Most Worshipful Grand Master Mark A. Genung

And

Be it further resolved that November 14, 2013 be designated as "Return of the Trowel Day" for New Albany Lodge #39 in memory of Georgia Past Grand Master Chesley W. Monk by his son Brother Ridley Monk both of Worth Lodge #194, Sylvester, GA

And

Be it further resolved that November 14, 2013 be designated "From whence it came Day" in memory of all passed and current Masonic Brothers of New Albany Lodge #39. New Albany, IN

Trowel Returns "From Whence It Came"

Whereas New Albany Lodge #39 dedicated the addition to their temple by issuing a commemorative trowel in 1920

And

Whereas this trowel has made a most interesting journey spreading the cement of Brotherly Love and Friendship through several Masonic families

And

Whereas in 1946 Indiana Grand Master Dwight Smith of Prince Lodge #231 Princeton, IN presented this trowel to Georgia Grand Master Judge Chesley W. Monk of Worth Lodge #194, Sylvester, Georgia at the annual meeting of Grand Masters in Washington, D.C. at the invitation of Brother Mason President Harry Truman

And

Whereas Brother Mason Ridley Monk of Worth Lodge #194, son of PGM Chesley W. Monk, became a Master Mason in 1946 and served as Secretary of the Worth County Hospital Board when Indiana Brother Mason Joseph Neihardt of Star Lodge #225 Orland, IN was hired as CEO Administrator of Worth County Hospital in 1974 just before PGM Chesley Monk passed on to the Chapter Eternal

And

Whereas Brother Ridley, now 91 years old, wanted Brother Joseph to return the treasured commemorative trowel "From Whence It Came" Back Home Again in Indiana to New Albany Lodge #39

Brother Ridley Monk is also featured on page 45 for recently receiving his 75 Year Award. The Editor would like to sincerely thank Joseph and Beverly Neihardt for providing him with the information for this page.



Clarence Lewallen Cornelia #92



William D Earwood Dalton #105



William D Grizzard College Park #454



Lyman K. Williams Flowery Branch #212



Phillip W. Williams Flowery Branch #212



Thomas L. Hoover Flowery Branch #212



Jerry W. Mize Nancy Hart #690



Herbert A. Ledbetter Jr. Ducktown #572



Asa Maund Philadelphia #73



Dale P. Dutton Philadelphia #73



Daniel P. Hodges Philadelphia #73



Clayton D. Randall Philadelphia #73



Jerome R. Sheffield Philadelphia #73



Edgar L. Gibbs Cordelia #296



Tony E. Elrod Flowery Branch #212



W.G. Weathers Elm City #544



Roy Gay Mayerhardt Lodge #314



P.D. Duncan Thomasville #369



Sidney L. Reed Bowersville #595



J. Lumuel Kennedy Bowersville #595



Teddy N. Whealton Mt. Hermon #304



Ralph A. Nation Crawfish Springs #300



George B. Barbee Jr. Crawfish Springs #300



Robert D. McCarty Crawfish Springs #300 Crawfish Springs #300



Ernest B. Ware



Charles B. Jackson, Jr. Hamilton #58



Philip Harris Rose Hill #484



Joseph Powell II Ft. Benning #579



Dave Lloyd Sweetwater #421



Clayton Goff Macon #5



William L. Hester Quitman #106



Charles B. Land Quitman #106



Gaylord L. Mercer East Point #288



Robert Barron Cornelia #92



Marion T. Robinson Lindale #455



Randall Day Matt #694



Billy Phillips Walter C Dancer #115



Steve Lawrence Pickens Star #220



Charles Burgess Pickens Star #220



Tommy J. Warren, Jr. Mickey Fuller #720



Charles Q. Miller Floyd Springs #167



Ross Martin Cornelia #92



Joe J. Wilson Dalton #105



Charles D. Bell Flowery Branch #212



Ernest Hensley Pickens Star #220



Glenn Sheifield Walter C Dancer # 115



Erford Harrison Cornelia #92



Philip Thompson Pickens Star #220 65 Years



Carlton Woodson Elm City #544 65 Years



Emory L Morris Crawfish Springs #300 65 Years



John C. Sinquefield Mickey Fuller #720 65 Years





William E. Stripling Chipley #40



Ridley Monk Worth #194 75 Years



Howard Brooks Sims, Jr. Tucker #42 75 Years

In Memoriam

Members Reported Deceased May 2 to August 1, 2023

					_
Miles, William Edward	1	Hudson Jr., James Arthur	75	Rampy, Jerry Murphy	126
Oliver III, Harry Delesley	1	Scarboro, Billy Edward	75	Robinson, Willard Marby	126
Granade, Wayne Morgan	3	Bramlett, James Randall	81	Stringfellow, Charles William	129
Denham, Harvey Marion	4	Clark, Hubert Lewis	87	Mayo, Augustus Rhodes	132
Rossee, Alexander Jackson	4	Clark, Johnny MacK	87	Aldrich, Ronnie	135
Upton, Michael Raymond	5	Taylor, Lonnie Argulus	87	Hitt, Ronald Eugene	139
Bailey, Thomas Herbert	6	Hammond, George Phillip	88	Horn, William Joseph	144
Cummings, Thomas Verlyn	9	Tucker Jr., Ollie Shelby	91	Turk, Bobby Frank	148
Mauldin Jr., MacOn Ralph	11	McCoy, Gary Brooks	92	Turpin, Wyley Lee	148
Keaton, Randall Wayne	12	Owens Sr., David Moody	98	Avery Sr., Jimmie Carmon	154
Champion, John Frederick	16	Kimbrell, Douglas James	99	Pruitt, Aubrey Ray	165
Ewing, Harold Eugene	20	Lomax, Jimmy Lee	99	Ogletree, William Lawrence	166
Attaway, Coy David	25	Poole, John Erwin	100	Sears, John Henry	166
Perkins, Rufus Fowler	28	Casper, Jerry Lee	103	Richardson, Jason Chris	192
Anderson, Bradley Glenn	33	Chastain, Marion George	105	McLean, Frederick Lanier	194
Channell Sr., James Rayford	34	Elrod Sr., Raymond Allison	105	Pendley Sr., Ray Carroll	194
Bloodworth, Stewart Irwin	35	Holland, Joe Don	105	Sikes Sr., Donnie Roscoe	195
Bullock, Larry Vance	36	O'Donald, Dean Lebron	106	Reed, Ronald Anderson	198
Elliott, Charles Robert	37	Robertson, Robert Jack	106	Tarpley, Lynn Madison	206
Davis Sr., Charles Irvin	38	Rumptz, Daniel Arthur	109	Toles, Lee Lamar	211
Buffington, Leonard Edgar	42	Smith Jr., George	109	Dickerson, Jackie Lawrence	213
Ramey Sr., Michael James	44	Upshaw, Joseph Charles	111	Fagan, Jack Allen	214
Fountain, Cleveland Johseph	46	Tuggle, Charles Larry	113	Reisman, Donald	216
Steptoe, Billy	48	Gurr, Arthur Morris	114	Anderson, Bradley Lavon	217
Thetford, Richard Rust	54	Hutchinson, Robert Howard	114	Giddens, Abie Gene	217
Eanes, Arthur Brent	60	Bunch, James Kenneth	116	Baker, Christopher Thomas	219
Summey, Milton Kent	63	Edenfield, Ed Rivers	116	Speaks, Alan Daniel	219
Johnson Jr., Walter Alexander	66	Greene, Robert Grayson	116	Dawson Jr., Norman Edward	220
Garner, William Janell	72	Grizzard Sr., Ernest Cohen	116	Carver, James Franklin	221
Dubberly, Tommy Harold	73	Rouse, Robert Wayne	124	Darnell, Robert Ray	221
Alexander Jr., Leland Harrell	74	Stebbins, Edward Elliott	124	Mashburn, Marvin Leonard	221

Members Reported Deceased May 2 to August 1, 2023

Members Reported August 1, 2023

Bennett, Horace John	224	Davies Sr., Grady Clay	369	Ledbetter Jr., Herbert Atwood	572
Garvin, Ray	248	Heald, Emory Elton	369	Mullinax, Glenn Anthony	572
Pylant Jr., Hugh Terrell	251	Cash, Wesley Glenn	371	Moye, James Darryl	579
McTier, Morris	257	Griffith Sr., Ronald Watson	371	Rosso, Walter Frederick	579
Walden, Claude Collins	257	Rogers, Gary Anthony	381	Anderson, Daniel Earl	590
Haynes, John Nolan	261	Bentley, Donald Hershel	382	Anderson, Clyde Ferman	591
Prettyman, Lee Roy	261	Lankford Jr., Carlos	386	Sullivan, William Roger	591
Erbelding, John Stuart	265	Johns, Andrew Jackson	391	Bradley, Dewey Marshall	595
Southard, William Henry	265	Wahl Jr., John Conard	393	Dills, Vester L.	597
Dixon Sr., Ralph Hampton	271	Atkinson, William Harry	397	Grizzle, James Howard	597
Allen Sr., James Lloyd	274	Lamothe Jr., Joseph Woodrow	413	Early, Vernon William	622
Cowart, Charles David	274	Generazio, Joseph Conrad	414	Blackwell Jr., William	
Smith, Jerry Thomas	279	Grindstaff, Tommy Junior	423	Coleman	680
Campbell, Dallas Cecil	288	Gillespie, Melvin Gene	429	Pollard, Jimmie Wayne	688
Benson Sr., Gerald Range	289	McLain, Wiley Raybon	429	Brown, James Howard	690
Brown Jr., Billy Joe	289	Ethridge Sr., Charles William	430	Cobb, Charles Allen	690
Moore, James Gorham	299	Fraker, Richard Allison	440	Davis Jr., Luther May	690
Kimbrell, Jimmy Arnold	301	Baker, James Felton	443	Bundrick, Eli Lynear	691
Hoffman, Phillip Alan	304	South ???, Samuel David	444	Bottoms, Edwin Lynn	694
Mincey, Don Kevin	306	Chadwick, Berry Thad	449	Martin, Thomas Larry	694
Thompson, Johnie Mack	306	McKain Jr., William Perry	452	Mathis, Ricky Lane	694
Pollock Jr., Roy Lester	312	Lewis, Don Michael	454	Voyles, Willard Don	698
Strickland, Nolin Michael	312	Eady, Samuel Henry	456	Menhennett, Daniel Robert	703
Huggins, Scott Chandler	316	Myers, Joel David	469	Fullteron, Lawrence Allen	708
Goodell, Kim Leslie	323	Mills, Wilbur Ray	484	Brooks, James Russell	709
Kuckuck, Kody James	333	Rainey, Archie Wayne	484	Ray Sr., Kenneth Edwin	709
Britt, James Mont	334	Hayes Jr., Franklin Doyle	509	Harp, Charles Edward	711
Livingston, Wilfred Floyd	335	Thompson, Francis Marion	513	Ramsby, Joseph Wayne	716
Ezell, Morris Gene	349	Bell, Roger Joe	542	Stalvey, John Hugh	716
Boyce, Roy Edward	350	Byers Sr., Clyde Edward	566	Husk Jr., Floyd Arthur	718
Townson, Troy Lake	367	Hardeman, Richard Wendell	572		
		,	_		

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

720 Clark, Kerry Dee Goins, Benny Richard 730 730 Pearson, John Dudley Muse, William Kim 733 Hix, Gary Joe 744 Holland, James Barnard 747 Dyson, James Leon 753 Chambers, Terrell Wallace 754 755 Harrison Jr., William Blair 766 Perry, Marcus Eugene Roberts, Tommy Franklin 103, 333, 766 NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID MACON, GA. PERMIT NO. 477



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)