



Work & Lectures

A Metropolitan Atlanta Masonic Newsletter



news @ morelight.org

March, 2008

http://news.morelight.org

Lodge Participation

DeKalb County Masonic Association Report

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DCMA This Month



Join us at North DeKalb 714 on Tuesday, 4 March, 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting. This month's program has not yet been announced. 714 meets at 2587 East Osborne Road, NE Atlanta, GA 30319

5th Dist. GACHIP Update

Dear Worshipful Masters of the 5th Masonic District,

Greetings. if it is not too much to ask, I would like each of you to assist me in advancing the GACHIP Program.

Since the 5th District is composed of 40 Lodges, some structure is needed to provide all the training and information required to make this Program successful. And, since our district comprises the cities of Atlanta and Decatur, we have the chance to ID a huge number of children, and can really push this program forward.

I would like to request each Worshipful Master to designate a GACHIP representative to be the point of contact for his Lodge. It is very important this be done quickly, as it is the first step to holding an event.

Each lodge GACHIP representative will be the single point of contact for the communication and coordination between members of the GACHIP program and that lodge; he will also coordinate all the activities required to hold an event for his respective lodge - *at the WM's direction*.

In addition to this, there will also be a need for six Deputy Directors - one for each sub district. These individuals will be very important to our success in the upcoming months. No person should hold both jobs, as it would be difficult to perform both sets of duties required by each position when your lodge hosts a GACHIP event.

I would ask that anyone interested in either position contact me directly or by email. I will include my information here but it is also posted on the GACHIP web site under District Directors. It is very desirable (*but not mandatory*) that each candidate has email.

I would like to thank each of you for your assistance in this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Richard Sims, 5th Dist Dir, GACHIP H: 770-621-0202
Atlanta_Mason @ yahoo.com W: 404-431-7877

DCMA Next Month

Our April meeting will be hosted by Masters 295 on Tue, 5 March, 6:30 meal and 7:30 meeting.

DCMA Last Month

If you missed our February meeting, you missed Rick Conn speak about the Masonic Service Association, especially Georgia's crucial part in its founding, as well as the presentations to our three charities.

Below: 2007 Pres. Jones presents checks to PGM Garner, PDGM Grantham, and REGK Hendry for our charities.



DCMA This Year

- President: Mike Wilson, Lithonia 84 & EA Minor 603
mikew @ morelight.org or 770-482-3338
- 1st VP: David Herman, Chamblee-Sardis 444 & Internet 9659, EC
davidh @ morelight.org or 404-310-8541
- 2nd VP: Ray Skiles, Glenwood Hills 703
rays @ morelight.org or 678-313-0802
- Sec/Treas: Bill Eleazer, Glenwood Hills 703
bille @ morelight.org or 770-922-5412

The DCMA... Determined to Cover Masonry in Atlanta!

We'd like for your lodge to join us - ask one of us how.

Standard Disclaimer

This publication is created to inform the brethren. Any views or opinions that manage to sneak in are solely those of the editor, who does **NOT** speak for any organization whatsoever. Really.

Where's YOUR News?

We'd be honored to support the community by publishing *your* news and events - all you have to do is let us know by emailing news @ morelight.org with all the information you'd like listed.

Old Tiler Talks

by Carl H. Claudy
PGM, District of Columbia

Kinds of Masons

"I am almost through!" The New Brother displayed a sheaf of cards to the Old Tiler. "Soon I will have joined them all and become every kind of Mason there is."

"What do you know about the kinds of Masons there are?" asked the Old Tiler, interested. "You have not been a Master Mason long enough to gain all that knowledge!"

"That's not hard to gain, with all the brethren poking petitions at you. There are Scottish Rite Masons and York Rite Masons and Templar Masons and Chapter Masons and council Masons and..."

"Oh!" the syllable said much. The Old Tiler added, "I didn't understand. I thought you couldn't have learned yet."

"Learned what? Are there some more kinds of Masons?"

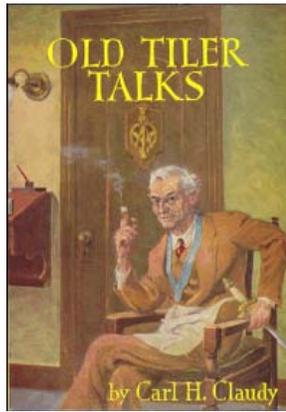
"Indeed, yes! answered the Old Tiler. "A great many kinds. But seven you haven't mentioned stand out more prominently than others."

"Do tell me! I thought I had joined most of them..."

"You don't join these. You become one, or are made one, or grow into one of them. For instance, there is the King Solomon Mason. He thinks that everything that Solomon did as a Mason is right and everything he didn't do is wrong. To him Masonry was conceived, born and grew up in the shadow of King Solomon, and every word of the legend is literally true, much like the man who refuses to believe the earth is round, because a verse in the Bible refers to the 'four corners of the earth!' The King Solomon Mason lives his Masonry according to his light; perhaps it's not his fault it is so dim.

"To the ritual Mason the importance of Masonry is the form of its words. A good Mason in his belief is one who can repeat a lecture from end to end without a slip. A man may do battle, murder, or cause sudden death, commit arson or run away with a neighbor's wife; if he knows his ritual letter perfect, it 'was all a mistake!' The man who doesn't know his ritual letter perfect is not, in this man's eyes, a good Mason; not though he give to charity with both hands and carry love for his fellowman in both head and heart.

"The practical Mason looks at life from a utilitarian standpoint. He prefers electricity to candles for Lesser Lights because they are simpler and prefers candles to electricity because they are cheaper. He thinks a choir impractical because it produces nothing permanent, and would rather spend the money for printed matter or a new carpet. He is at his best when raising money for a new temple and at his worst when asked to express himself upon the spirit of Masonry. His hand is in his pocket for charity, but never entertainment. He is usually on the finance



committee, and recommends a budget in which rent and heat and light are bigger than relief.

"The heart Mason is the opposite. He is full of impractical schemes. He wants to start a new temple which will never be built. He talks much of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, but is absent when the hat is passed and the committee on funds needs a few workers to go out and gather in. The heart Mason is the lodge sob-sister; he usually seconds any motion to spend any amount of money for flowers or to send a brother away for his health, and always makes a little tear-filled speech about the fatherless loved ones, even if the dear departed died a bachelor.

The business Mason belongs because he thinks it helps his job. He usually sits next to the solid businessman in lodge and likes to tell people what he does. If he is a Past Master, he never comes to lodge on time, so that he can get a special welcome at the Altar. His favorite speech is about the man who tried to advertise his business in lodge and how evil this was; in the speech he always mentions his own business. He wears an extra large sized pin and prints squares and compasses on his letterheads.

"We dominate another kind by the expressive term of belly Mason. He is most faithful in attendance at lodges where there may be a feed. He will cheerfully spend twenty cents carfare and a long evening to get a fifteen-cent sandwich. If there is to be a sit-down meal he will sit up all night to be on time. If the affair is in another lodge and needs tickets he will take time off from his job to hunt a brother who has a ticket and doesn't want it. He usually manages to cross the lodge room while the cigars are passed so he can dig into the box twice. If the crowd is small, he is the last man to get a smoke, so he can take all that are left. If the crowd is large, he is among the first, to make sure he doesn't get left.

"And then there is the regular Mason- the fellow who does his best with the time and brains he has. He is the great bulk of the fraternity. He pays the dues and fills the chairs and does the work. He is seldom a fine ritualist, but he is usually an earnest one. He is not very practical, and would spend more than we have if it wasn't that he is too sentimental to permit the charity fund to be robbed. He passes the sandwiches and coffee, and if there is any left he gets his; but he doesn't care so long as the evening is a success. He isn't a student, but something in the heart of Masonry has reached deep into his heart, and so he comes to lodge and does his best. He is not learned, but he is not stupid. He is not hidebound, and yet he is conservative. He loves his lodge, but not so much he cannot see her faults. He is most of us."

"And what class of Mason am I?" asked the New Brother, uneasily looking at his sheaf of cards.

"You have cards enough to be considered a Mason for almost any reason," answered the Old Tiler. "But I'll take your word for it. What kind of Mason are you?"

"I don't know for sure, but I know what kind I am never going to be!" answered the New Brother, putting his many cards away.



List of Special Events - March, 2008

- 4 Mar, Tue - DeKalb County Masonic Association - North DeKalb 714, Atlanta. 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting.
- 6 Mar, Thu - Grand Master's Visitation - Mountain Park 729, Stone Mountain. 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting.
- 7/8 Mar, Sat - Shellman's Bluff Workday - 7:00 registration, 8:00 work.
- 8 Mar, Sat - Master Mason Conferral - Kennesaw 33, Marietta. 8:00 am meal, 9:00 conferral by Knights of Mecca.
- 8 Mar, Sat - Master Mason Conferral - Nelms 323, Smyrna. 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting.
- 8 Mar, Sat - Gwinnett County Masonic Association - Lawrenceville 131, Lawrenceville. 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting.
- 10 Mar, Mon - Lecture: The Cardinal Virtues - Piedmont 447, Atlanta. 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting.
- 15 Mar, Sat - Spaghetti Fundraiser - Clarkston 492, Clarkston. 4:00 - 7:00, \$5.00.
- 16 Mar, Sun - Stewards & Deacons Workshop - Duluth 490, Duluth. 7:00, open to all Master Masons.
- 20 Mar, Thu - Grand Master's Visitation & 100 Man Meeting - Rockmart 97, Rockmart. 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting.
- 24 Mar, Mon - Lecture: King Solomon's Temple - Piedmont 447, Atlanta. 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting.
- 26 Mar, Wed - South Side Memorial Association & Lodge of Instruction - Meridian Sun 26, Griffin. 6:30 Memorial Association, 7:30 Lodge of Instruction, 9:00 meal.
- 5 Apr, Sat - GACHIP Program - Fulton 216, Atlanta. 9:00 am start.
- 5 Apr, Sat - BBQ Fundraiser - at EA Minor 603, 11:00 - 4:00. Supporting EA Minor 603, Grant Park 604, Glenwood Hills 703 and Metro Daylight 743.
- 8 Apr, Tue - Gwinnett County Masonic Association - Dacula 433, Dacula. 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting.
- 12 Apr, Sat - Master Mason Conferral - Tucker 42, Tucker. 8:00 am meal, 9:00 conferral by Tennessee degree team.
- 15 Apr, Tue - DeKalb County Masonic Association - Masters 295, Decatur. 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting.

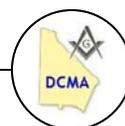
Free and Accepted Masons

Traveling Trophy Roundup

4 th District SW of Atlanta	Carroll 69 Traveling Gavel : Carroll 69, Carrollton Bowdon 206 Traveling Gavel : Temple 322, Temple Buck Creek 639 Traveling Gavel : Buck Creek 639, Carrollton Tyus 671 Traveling Gavel : Tyus 671, Tyus
5 th District Includes Atlanta	5 th District Traveling Gavel : Tucker 42, Tucker Clarkston 492 Traveling Gavel : Gate City 2, Atlanta
6 th District South of Atlanta	Jonesboro 87 Traveling Gavel : Riverdale 709, Riverdale Rex 251 Traveling Gavel : Rex 251, Ellenwood East Point 288 Traveling Gavel : Mickey Fuller 720, Bryon Lakewood 443 Traveling Hat : Hapeville 590, Hapeville
9 th District NE of Atlanta	Gwinnett County Donkey : Mountain Park 729, Stone Mtn.

If you know of any other Metro Atlanta area traveling trophies or any published trophy acquisition rules, please let us know.

5th District Gavel rules at <http://5dist.morelight.org/gavel.html>
Clarkston 492 Gavel rules at http://www.clarkston492.com/traveling_gavel.htm



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Schedule of Regular Communications for Lodges meeting within about 10 miles of I-285 and/or in DeKalb County.

All meetings start at 7:30 pm unless noted otherwise.

2

Snellville 99
Stone Mountain 449
Union City 600

3

Kennesaw 33
Georgia 96
Norcross 228
East Point 288
Masters 295
Panthersville 543
Capitol City 642
North DeKalb 714
Metro Daylight 743, 10:30 am
DeKalb County Masonic Assn. at North DeKalb 714

4

Fulton 216
DeKalb Masonic Memorial Club at Clarkston 492, 2 pm

5

Pythagoras 41
Mountain Park 729

6

Leroy Duncan 262

7

Campbellton 76
Nelms 323
Gwinnett County Masonic Assn. at Lawrenceville 131

8

9

Tucker 42
Piedmont 447
College Park 454
Hapeville 590

10

Gate City 2
Sandy Springs 124
Clarkston 492
E. A. Minor 603
Ben Hill 674

11

Cobb County Daylight 742, 10:00 am

12

Atlanta-Peachtree 59
Lithonia 84
Chamblee-Sardis 444
Palestine 486, 7:00 pm
Grant Park 604

13

Glenwood Hills 703

14

Samuel S. Lawrence 721

15

16

Snellville 99
Stone Mountain 449
Union City 600

17

Kennesaw 33
Georgia 96
Norcross 228
Masters 295
Panthersville 543
Capitol City 642
North DeKalb 714

18

Fulton 216

19

Pythagoras 41
Mountain Park 729
Charity Daylight 754, 10:30 am

20

21

22

23

Tucker 42
Piedmont 447
College Park 454
Hapeville 590

24

Gate City 2
Sandy Springs 124
Clarkston 492
EA Minor 603
Ben Hill 674

25

Southside Memorial Assn. (location varies), 6:30 pm

26

Lithonia 84
Chamblee-Sardis 444
Palestine 486, 7:00 pm

27

28

29

30

Past Masters Club of Chamblee at C-S 444

31



The Lamb Skin
Bro. Edgar A. Guest, "The People's Poet"

It is not ornamental, the cost is not great,
There are other things far more useful, yet truly I state,
Tho of all my possessions, there's none can compare,
With that white leather apron, which all Masons wear.
As a young lad I wondered just what it all meant,
When Dad hustled around, and so much time was spent
On shaving and dressing and looking just right,
Until Mother would say: "It's the Masons tonight."
And some winter nights she said: "What makes you go,
Way up there tonight thru the sleet and the snow,
You see the same things every month of the year."
Then Dad would reply: "Yes, I know it, my dear."
Forty years I have seen the same things, it is true.
And though they are old, they always seem new,
For the hands that I clasp, and the friends that I greet,
Seem a little bit closer each time that we meet."
Years later I stood at that very same door,
With good men and true who had entered before,
I knelt at the altar, and there I was taught
That virtue and honor can never be bought.
That the spotless white lambskin all Masons revere,
If worthily worn grows more precious each year,
That service to others brings blessings untold,
That man may be poor tho surrounded by gold.
I learned that true brotherhood flourishes there,
That enmities fade 'neath the compass and square,
That wealth and position are all thrust aside,
As there on the level men meet and abide.
So, honor the lambskin, may it always remain
Forever unblemished, and free from all stain,
And when we are called to the Great Father's love,
May we all take our place in that Lodge up above.



Dave Digresses: On Attendance

David Herman, PM, Chamblee-Sardis 444
5th District MELD Director

Here we are, making our way through another winter. Some brethren don't make meetings, because the weather is too bad. When spring comes, some brethren won't make meetings because the weather is too nice.

Some brethren would honestly love to come to lodge, but find themselves in situations where it is better for them to stay at home, or attend to other business - and it's not our place to criticize their decisions. Each of us must decide for himself what to do each day, each week, each year. We each have many things vying for our time; sometimes going to lodge tops the list, and sometimes it does not.

However the individual demands weigh on each of us, it seems that there are some brethren who make it to lodge very often, some who make it occasionally, and others who you may not ever have met. Why is this?

Well, there's no one reason. As time goes by, people change. While a brother may feel his obligation just as strongly, perhaps he no longer enjoys going to lodge, or perhaps he doesn't enjoy it enough to make the effort. Perhaps he has found something else to keep his interest, be it an appendant body or a television program that airs on lodge night. Perhaps he feels like he has put in long years in service to the fraternity, and has earned his rest. The possible reasons are too numerous to continue with - and to what point? The brother who has decided not to attend is unlikely to be convinced otherwise. And it would be well advised, at this point, to remember our charge to see "...who can best work, and best agree."

So we come to the brethren who come only occasionally - perhaps for the Annual Communication, or for degrees. These brethren, too, have evaluated their own needs and those of the lodge, and have consciously decided to attend only certain meetings, based on both their non-lodge life and the needs of the lodge. Perhaps we can ask them what it is that draws them to certain meetings - or, better yet - what fails to draw them to others. This will give us an idea of where we can start to take action - not only to keep these brethren and increase their attendance, but, looking forward, to get and keep the attendance of the newer brethren.

The goal, obviously, is to have lodge meetings that the brethren will want to attend. And while most existing members have already established their attendance patterns, the new brethren coming in are just now being exposed to a whole new world; and during the first six months of their membership as Master Masons, each of them will each decide for himself how important it is, compared with the other demands on his time, to set aside a few hours each month to come to lodge and enjoy the fellowship of his brethren.

What is your lodge doing to demonstrate to the new members that participation and attendance are worth their time?

Let's try not come in second to television.

Richard Reflects: The Trowel

J. Richard Sims, SW, Masters 295
5th District GACHIP Director

As February is now at a close, I think to myself, what have I done to deserve my Masonic wages. Can I count the things that are the duty of my current chair? I think not, as those are expected of me by my lodge, I attempt to do them to the best of my ability.

I pulled together all of the Masonic Birthdays for the month in our lodge, gave each Brother a call. Most are old now and can no longer attend our lodge any more for one reason or another. So as I wished each a happy anniversary of such a major milestone in their lives, it was fun to hear their smiles and stories of distant but fond memories. Yes, you can hear a smile if you listen close enough. I think it brighten my day almost as much as it did theirs. I need no wage for that task as it put a smile on my face and in my heart. I look forward to those I will call in March to see if they will lift my heart as those in February did.

I have known many operative Masons, their trowel and level are the most important tools they have. I remember one that was a good friend of my late Uncle. I recall one day when he was doing a brick wall, he asked this young kid to grab his trowel from his tool box. As I went to retrieve it, there were a few, so I grabbed the shiny one. As I handed it to him, he looked at me and smiled, this is a new one he said. I smiled back proudly, and said I know it the best one you had in the box. He shook his head and said, Son this one will not do the fine work I need to do here. I did not understand and asked why? He said; it has not yet been used enough to form the correct edge for this type of work. He told me that like any good tool it needs to be broken in before it can do the intended work properly. As I grew older and bought and used my own tools, I understood what he meant. Once the tool has been used enough to break it in, it does a better job and your skill with the tool is more proficient.

As a speculative Mason, we received our trowel once we became Master Masons. What is the condition of your tool today? Is it still looking new, or does it show the wear of a tool worn with spreading the cement of brotherly love to fellow Brothers. Does the world see that you have become proficient in the use of your trowel? We as Masons have a deeper obligation to our fellow man far above that of non-Masons. We have a duty that if completed will make us better men! This obligation was not made to men, but to God. He will be the one that will know if we have kept out pledge to him. That is why you are no longer cable bound.

Do your best to be a better Mason everyday in every way. Go out of your way at least once a month to better another life, even if just to put a smile on someone's face. Don't forget to tell your wife or child, just how special they are to you. They already know it, but it makes it special when you show it.

Fraternally and Sincerely,

Richard Sims, Atlanta_Mason @ Yahoo.com

