



Work & Lectures

A Metropolitan Atlanta Masonic Newsletter



Formerly the DCMA Crier

<http://morelight.org>

June, 2007

DeKalb County Masonic Association News

In This Issue

- 1- Area News & DCMA Report
- 2- Old Tyler Talks: *Why Men Love Freemasonry*
- 3- List of Special Events & Trophy Roundup
- 4- Calendar of Regular Atlanta Communications
- 5- Masonic Education: *Lodge Officers* & Georgia Code: *Charter*
- 6- Davo: *Lodge Websites* & Spotlight: *Philaethes Society*

DCMA This Month



The June meeting will be held at Grant Park 604 (5843 Redan Road, Lithonia, 30058-5494) on Thursday the 14th, where WBro. Jerry Moss of Mountain Park 729, our Junior Grand Deacon, will speak to us about change. Dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30.

Lodges on the Move

As reported last month, Glenwood Hills 703 has sold their property and are meeting at EA Minor 603 for now.

Grant Park 604 has decided to put their property on the market, and hope to have it sold shortly, as they have already had over 40 inquiries on their nearly five acres.

DCMA Last Month

The May meeting was held at Lithonia 84 in Lithonia, where we were treated to a seemingly endless supply of ham, rolls, potato salad, cole slaw and tea, with cake and ice cream for dessert.

After the meal we went upstairs, where WBro. & Rev. Kenneth Hughes, pastor of Lithonia's Macidinia Baptist Church, PM of Snellville 99 and sitting WM of Gwinnett Daylight 744, gave us a heartfelt and educational talk on the meanings of the various biblical passages which are used during the perambulations. It was well received by Brethren and Ladies alike, and WBro. Hughes encouraged everyone present to read the Brock's Manual to further their education.

Tucker 42 won the Banner with eight present; Clarkston 492 won the Gavel with six. We had a total of 42 present, including one 50-Year Mason, two DDGMs, and seven members of the Memorial Club. \$69.75 was collected for distribution among our three charities.

Children's Home goes to a Braves Game

On Friday 4 May 2007, 24 brethren and family members of Chamblee-Sardis Lodge 444 took 36 children and staff from the Georgia Masonic Children's Home to an Atlanta Braves game. The lodge provided soda, water, hot dogs, chips and snacks, as well as peanuts and snacks to bring inside.

This was the seventh annual trip sponsored by 444, and the children seem to look forward to the trip each year.



444 Braves Trip, 4 May 2007

Atlanta Masons, supporting the *Heart of Georgia Masonry*.

DCMA Next Month

The July meeting will be held at Clarkston 492 on Tuesday, 24 July. Dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30. Mark your calendar TODAY!

DCMA This Year

- President: Bobby Jones, Clarkston 492
 dcma.pres@morelight.org or 404-966-8050
- 1st VP: Mike Wilson, Lithonia 84 & EA Minor 603
 dcma.1vp@morelight.org or 770-482-3338
- 2nd VP: David Herman, Chamblee-Sardis 444 & Internet 9659, EC
 dcma.2vp@morelight.org or 404-310-8541
- Sec/Treas: Bill Eleazer, Glenwood Hills 703
 dcma.sec@morelight.org or 770-922-5412

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.

Corrections (or: what I got wrong last time)

Something major seems to have gone awry last time, in that no corrections were reported. I'm sure I had some mistakes, so I suspect that you are not reading closely enough! Please do let me know if anything needs to be corrected in the future. ☺

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.

The DCMA... Determined to Cover Masonry in Atlanta!
We'd like for your lodge to join us, too; ask one of us how.

Old Tiler Talks

by Carl H. Claudy, PGM, DC

Why Men Love Freemasonry

The New Brother sat near the Old Tiler in the anteroom, crossed his legs and took out his cigar case.

"Have a smoke and unpuzzle me."

The Old Tiler accepted the proffered cigar with a smile.

"I am often puzzled, too," he sympathized. "Tell me."

"I am quite crazy about Masonry. I love it. So do a lot of other men. And I don't know why. I can't find anyone who will tell me why. Old Tiler, why do men love Masonry?"

The Old Tiler got up and crossed the room to a bookcase, extracted a volume and returned.

"I read that question in this little book, 'The Magic of Freemasonry,' by Arthur E. Powell. Let me read to you."

The Old Tiler fluttered the pages. Finding his place he sat and began:

"Why do men love Masonry? What lure leads them to it? What spell holds them through the long years? What strand is it that tugs at our hearts, taut when so many threads are broken by the rough ways of the world? And what is it in the wild that calls to the little wild things? What sacred secret things do the mountains whisper to the hillman, so silently yet so surely that they can be heard above the din and clatter of the world? What mystery does the sea tell the sailor; the desert to the Arab; the arctic ice to the explorer; the stars to the astronomer? When we have answered these questions mayhap we may divine the magic of Masonry. Who knows what it is, or how or why, unless it be the long cable tow of God, running from heart to heart."

The Old Tiler closed the book and waited.

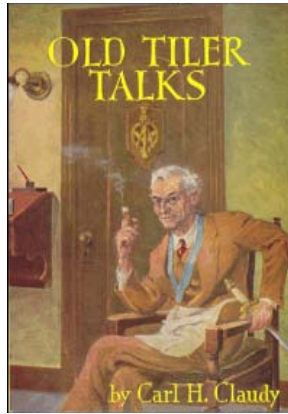
"The cable tow of God," repeated the New Mason. "That's a beautiful phrase."

"It's more than a phrase, I think," the Old Tiler answered. "As I see it, the heart of Freemasonry by which all manner of men are attracted and held, is just that-the longing for communion with the Most High."

"Oh, you must be mistaken. Men who want God go to church."

"Do you go to church?"

"Er, oh, well, sometimes."



"Yet you never miss coming to lodge."

"No, I don't, but--"

"Never mind the 'but.'" The Old Tiler smiled: "A lot of them come to the lodge who do not find heart's ease in the church. The lodge is not a substitute for church. Masonry is not a religion, although it has religion. If the church fails, occasionally, it is because all human institutions must fail at times. No minister or church can satisfy all men. Some men find communion with the Most High in Masonry a greater satisfaction than in a church. I think that is the real reason some men love Freemasonry so much."

"You give me credit with being a lot more religious than I do," retorted the New Mason.

"Men are incurably religious," asserted the Old Tiler. "Many don't know it and refuse to call it by that name, like you, for instance! In a church, men are told various things about God. In a lodge they are allowed to tell themselves what they will. In a church you are taught a creed, a dogma. In a lodge there is neither. In a church you are quiet and respectful and whisper if you speak at all. It is kept high, unspotted from the world. A lodge is more intimate, personal. You can be jolly in a lodge, except during a degree. Here are just other men, brothers. They think as we do; they believe in the one God, as we do. They repeat the same words, think the same Masonic thoughts, do the same Masonic acts, as we do. We feel at home with them in consequence."

"Through years of simple, profound degrees, we weave the Mystic Tie. We cannot say of what it is composed. We cannot put a name to it. St. Augustine, asked of God, answered, 'I know until you ask me-when you ask me, I do not know.' In your heart you know, and I know, what the Mystic Tie is-what Freemasonry is. But you cannot say it, nor can I. It is too deep for words. It is the reason we use symbols, for words cannot express it."

"Deep in us is something which understands what brains cannot think; something which knows what our minds cannot comprehend. Masonry speaks to that something in its own language. If we must put it into words, God is the only syllable which seems to fit. But when we say God we mean no special deity, but all that is beautiful in life, in friendship, in charity, in brotherhood."

"So, my brother, there is no reason for you to be puzzled; no man can answer your puzzle. Freemasonry is loved by men because it strikes deep into the human heart, and supplies the answer to the question, the food for the hunger, which the tongue cannot express..."

"Unless it is the tongue of a wise, wise Old Tiler," finished the New Brother thoughtfully. "And thank you. I am not puzzled now."



List of Special Events - June, 2007

2 Jun, Sat - Ride Fundraiser - Ride for motorcycle enthusiasts who want to join in supporting the Southwest Christian Hospice (Southwest Christian Care), the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, and The Juvenile Diabetes Fund. The ride will be escorted, and will depart the Union City Masonic Lodge and travel to the Campbellton Masonic Lodge where hamburgers, hot dogs, and all the trimmings will be supplied. Registration opens at 9am. Ride departs at 11am. Cost \$25.00 entry rider- \$10.00 passenger includes lunch. For further information, contact W Brother Lee Brown-770-652-2186 or lbrown@unioncityga.org - sponsored by Union City 600 and Campbellton Lodge 76.

6 Jun, Wed - Program - On this 63rd anniversary of D-Day, Fulton 216 (Atlanta) will have a program honoring WWII Veterans. Dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30.

9 Jun, Sat - Program - 5th Annual Dave Goodnow program at Nelms 323, starting at 7:00 pm.

12 Jun, Tue - Degree - Fellow Craft conferral at Clarkston 492; dinner at 6:30, meeting follows (called).

14 Jun, Thu - Association - DeKalb County Masonic Association at Grand Park 604 (Lithonia); dinner at 6:30; meeting follows. 1GS WBro. Jerry Moss will give a presentation.

14 Jun, Thu - Awards - Chamblee-Sardis 444 will present 2007 HL Smith Scholarship Awards; dinner at 6:30, meeting follows.

16 Jun, Sat - Program - Flag Retirement Ceremony by the Legion of Honor at Yaarab Shrine Temple; please bring any worn out flags to be retired with honor. Starts at 7:00 pm, reception follows.

22 Jun, Fri - Program - MWBro. Richard E. Fletcher, PGM of Vermont and Executive Secretary, Masonic Service Association, will be the guest speaker at the Georgia Lodge of Research. Meets at the Atlanta Masonic Center, 7:00 pm.

23 Jun, Sat - Dance - Yaarab Shriners will host a Ballroom Dance in their auditorium at 400 Ponce de Leon Ave., starting at 7:00 pm.

23 Jun, Sat - Program - Georgia DeMolay to present the Flower Talk at Nelms 323, starting at 7:00 pm.

23 Jun, Sat - Program - Leadership Conference and Mentor Training at Mount Vernon 23, Athens, register at 8:30 am.

23 (?) Jun, Sat - Exchange - Coosa 622 (west of Rome) will host their annual Tri-State communication, with teams from Alabama, Tennessee, and Georgia each conferring one of the three degrees. Breakfast at 7:00, lunch after the FC. *Please note that I have been unable to get this date confirmed; it might be on the 30th instead!*

25 Jun, Mon - Golf Fundraiser - Grand Masters Golf Tournament, proceeds of which will go directly to our Masonic Children for summer activities and personal needs. The golf tournament for the NW part of the state will be held June 25th at the Pinetree Country Club (Kennesaw). "Shotgun Start" at 9:00 am; the first 120 players now being accepted. Prizes and trophies will be awarded to the winners of each flight. The cost will be \$80.00 per player, and everyone is invited to play. For more information, enquirers may contact Harold Mc Durmon, hlmjm2@aol.com or 404-379-2136.

28 Jun, Thu - Degree - Master Mason conferral at Chamblee-Sardis 444; dinner at 6:30, meeting follows.

29 Jun, Fri - Exchange - Georgia / South Carolina Exchange Night at Augusta Scottish Rite Center; dinner at 6:00, meeting follows.

30 Jun, Sat - Picnic - The Valley of Atlanta will host a Family Day Picnic at Sweetwater State Park in Lithia Springs.

Traveling Trophy Roundup

4th District
Southwest of Atlanta Carroll 69 Traveling Gavel : Carroll 69, Carrollton
 Bowdon 206 Traveling Gavel : Sand Hill 350, Sand Hill

5th District
Includes Atlanta 5th District Traveling Gavel : Tucker 42, Tucker
 Clarkston 492 Traveling Gavel : Tucker 42, Tucker

6th District
South of Atlanta Jonesboro 87 Traveling Gavel : Jonesboro 87, Jonesboro
 Rex 251 Traveling Gavel : Montgomery 31, Zebulon
 East Point 288 Traveling Gavel : East Point 288, Peachtree City
 Traveling Hat : Griffin 413, Griffin

If you know of any other traveling trophies, or any current trophy locations, or any published trophy acquisition rules, please let me know.

Who sponsors the Traveling Hat? Where is the 7th District Gavel?



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.

3

Stone Mountain 449
Union City 600

4

Kennesaw 33
Georgia 96
Norcross 228
Masters 295
Panthersville 543
Capitol City 642
North DeKalb 714
Metro Daylight 743, 10:30 am

5

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

6

Pythagoras 41
Mountain Park 729

7

Leroy Duncan 262

8

Campbellton 76
Nelms 323

9

10th Dist. Conv., Hephzibah
Shrine Ceremonial, Helen

10

Tucker 42
Piedmont 447
College Park 454
Hapeville 590

11

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

12

Cobb County Daylight 742, 10:00 am

13

Atlanta-Peachtree 59
Lithonia 84
Chamblee-Sardis 444
Grant Park 604
Palestine 486, 7:00 pm
DeKalb County Masonic Assn. at Grant Park 604

14

Glenwood Hills 703

15

Samuel S. Lawrence 721

16

17

Stone Mountain 449
Union City 600

18

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

19

20

Pythagoras 41
Mountain Park 729
Charity Daylight 754, 10:30 am
Georgia Lodge of Research

21

22

23

24

Tucker 42
Piedmont 447
College Park 454
Hapeville 590

25

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

26

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

27

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

28

29

30

St. John's Day

GA/SC Exchange Augusta



Masonic Education: So, you want to be a Lodge Officer, eh?

By WBro. Tim Bryce. Article reprinted with permission of the author and FreemasonInformation.com.

So you have been asked to sit as a Steward or some other appointed office in the Lodge. Before you say yes, there are a few things you should know. First, there is really no such thing as a trivial office in a Masonic Lodge. But there is more to it than dressing up and marching around in the Lodge room, there are certain duties and responsibilities associated with each chair which you will be expected to perform. In other words, there is more to being a Masonic officer than pomp and circumstance, you will be expected to work. If you are agreeing to become an officer simply as an excuse to buy a tux or to have some sort of Masonic title, then you are getting into it for the wrong reasons.

More importantly, understand that becoming a Lodge officer requires considerable commitment. It means attending additional meetings, classes, workshops, and more memorization work. Further, once you are in the chairs (aka "in line") it will be expected that you stay in the rotation until you have become Worshipful Master, and this can take as long as seven years depending on where you enter the line. Each chair teaches us a different set of responsibilities and skills. (As far as I am concerned, the Senior Deacon is the best seat in the house). If you are willing to accept the commitment and have something to offer the Lodge, great; if not, forget it.

Too often I see smaller lodges, who are desperate to fill chairs, raise new Brothers and immediately appoint them as officers (sometimes on the same night). The newbies are, of course, flattered and accept the position without question. Only later do they realize the commitment expected of them and balk at advancing through the line. Yes, we need to get our newly raised Brothers active in the Lodge, but this should not include putting them in the officers line right away. Instead, they should be allowed to sit on the sidelines, observe what is going on, then allow them to make a conscious decision to go into the line. By going in with both eyes wide open, they are more likely to accept the commitment required to properly serve as a Lodge officer.

I am most definitely not poo-pooing becoming a Lodge officer. Masonry teaches us a lot of lessons in life, becoming a Lodge officer kicks it up a notch and teaches us some basic management and people skills which are invaluable in both our personal and professional development. I just believe people should know what they are getting into, and are getting into it for the right reasons. For example, there are those shallow individuals who are only interested in having a Masonic title, and accomplish and accomplish nothing for the Lodge. If they are only interested in chasing a Past Master's apron, I say let's give them the apron and get them the heck out of the way.

Keep the Faith.



Know Your Georgia Code: The Charter

CONSTITUENT LODGES

CHAPTER 21-1. CHARTER

21-101. Custody of Charter.—*The warrant of the Lodge is committed to the custody of the Master thereof, to be by him delivered in due form to his successor. He shall not withhold the same under any pretense whatever to prevent the Lodge from assembling.*

21-102. Duplicate Warrant.—*Upon the loss or destruction of a warrant of a Lodge, a copy taken from the records of the Grand Secretary and certified to be true under the seal of the Grand Lodge shall be issued in lieu of the original.*

21-103. Presence Of.—*No work should be done in the absence of the charter, which should at the time be in the Lodge room, except at funerals or public installations, where its actual presence is not required.*

21-104. Surrender Of.—*So long as seven Master Masons who are regular members of a Lodge and in good standing are willing and desirous of working as a Lodge, the remaining members shall not have the power to surrender its charter, nor may a charter be surrendered by the vote of the Master and Wardens alone.*

21-105. Arrest by Grand Master.—*The Grand Master has the right to arrest the charter of any subordinate Lodge which violates the laws of Masonry or is guilty of gross un-Masonic conduct, and for good reason to restore such charter so arrested by him. In either case he shall report his action and the reasons therefor in writing to the next regular communication of the Grand Lodge for confirmation or disapproval by it.*

21-106. Arrest by Grand Lodge.—*The Grand Lodge may of its own initiative arrest charters of subordinate Lodges, and its action of approval or disapproval of an arrest of a charter by the Grand Master shall be final.*

21-107. Effect of Arrest.—*The arrest of a charter suspends all the members of such Lodge unless otherwise specifically stated in the suspending act.*

21-108. Restoration.—*The restoration of a forfeited charter restores all members in good standing at the date of forfeiture, and all such members are liable to the Lodge for their proper dues which the Lodge had to pay to the Grand Lodge before restoration of the charter.*



Dava Digresses: Lodge Websites

Not every lodge has a website - in fact, the Grand Lodge site (<http://GLofGA.org/gaonline.html>) lists only 38 lodges, two districts, and one county association with websites.

Obviously, a lodge doesn't *have* to have a website. But if you have one, you should treat it like the outside of the temple where your lodge meets.

If your temple is in disrepair, with unkempt landscaping or peeling paint, it does not invite the curious; likewise, an out of date website, which shows activity or officer information from years ago, will cause many viewers to just click on past.

If your lodge wants a website, ask around - chances are that someone in your lodge knows enough (or is willing to learn enough) to put one together. A lodge website doesn't need a snazzy domain name, and it doesn't have to be a demo of the latest technologies, which might confuse viewers who don't have all the latest plugins. It just needs to be clean, inviting, and current - like the temple your lodge meets in.

The best way to get started is to visit other lodge websites, and get a feel for what information you want to present and how you want to present it. Most sites will include the following elements:

- Meeting Schedule, Address and sometimes Directions
- Recent News and Upcoming Events
- List of Present Officers
- Contact Information to at least one Person

In addition, many sites include one or more of the following:

- Photos of Recent Events and Officers
- Lodge Background or History
- List of Past Masters and Secretaries
- General Masonic Information
- Information about Joining

You never know where your next petition will come from; if your lodge doesn't have a website, some of today's young men, who do research online, might not realize that your lodge is right there, will all it has to offer.

Food for thought.

Feedback, Please!

Hopefully this second issue was an improvement over the first; if so, it was largely due to the feedback I received from you all. Please keep it (and submissions) coming to me at news@morelight.org

Sincerely & Fraternally,

David Herman

Spotlight: The Philalethes Society

The Philalethes Society was founded on October 1, 1928, by a group of Masonic students. It was designed for Freemasons desirous of seeking and spreading Masonic light. In 1946, The Philalethes magazine was established to publish articles by and for members. For many years it has been voted the best Masonic publication in the world.

The sole purpose of this Research Society is to act as a clearinghouse for Masonic knowledge. It exchanges ideas, researches problems confronting Freemasonry, and passes them along to the Masonic world.

Among the original 40 Fellows were Harold V. B. Voorhis, Rudyard Kipling, Robert I. Clegg, Louis Black, J. Hugo Tatsch, Charles S. Plumb, Harry L. Haywood, and Charles C. Hunt. Fellows of the Society have been elected from every country in the free world, proving The Philalethes Society has always been international in scope.

The name of the Society is pronounced fill a [as in a-bate] lay thess with the accent on the third syllable - lay. It is derived from two Greek words, philos and alethes. It means lover of truth. The Philalethes Society was founded on October 1, 1928, by a group of Masonic Students. It was designed for Freemasons desirous of seeking and spreading Masonic light. In 1946 The Philalethes Magazine was established to publish articles by and for its members. The sole purpose of this Research Society is to act as a clearing house for Masonic knowledge. It exchanges ideas, researches problems confronting Freemasonry, and passes them along to the Masonic world.

Its membership consists of Members and 40 Fellows who are Master Masons in good standing in a Regular Masonic Lodge anywhere in the world. Today the Society has members within 185 Regular Grand Lodges.

Benefits to members include:

- Six editions yearly of The Philalethes Magazine
- Access to an e-mail list for members only
- Fellowship in a Chapter of the Philalethes Society
- Bonus Books
- Participation in the Annual Assembly and Feast
- Correspond with like-minded Master Masons throughout the world
- Find an open door to More Light in Masonry
- Develop your leadership abilities to the fullest
- Keep informed about what is happening in the Masonic world

More information at <http://freemasonry.org>

