



Work & Lectures

A Metropolitan Atlanta Masonic Newsletter



news@morelight.org

August, 2007
On Visitation

http://morelight.org

In This Issue

- 1- Area News & DCMA Report: *Clarkston 492*
- 2- Old Tyler Talks: *Country Lodge*
- 3- List of Special Events & Trophy Roundup
- 4- Calendar of Regular Atlanta Communications
- 5- Masonic Ed.: *Visiting Brother* & Georgia Code: *Visitations*
- 6- Davo: *Visiting* & Spotlight: *The Masonic World*

DeKalb County Masonic Association Report

DCMA This Month



The August meeting will be held at Panthersville 543 (3605 Union Church Rd, Stockbridge) on Tue, August 21st. Supper at 6:30, meeting follows. We look forward to seeing you there for an evening of fellowship!

The October Children's Outing

The annual outing for the Children's Home sponsored by the DeKalb County Masonic Association has been moved back a week, to Saturday, 13 October. This will allow the participants to attend the Tour of Southern Ghosts - just in time for Halloween! More details as we get closer.



DCMA Last Month

The July meeting was held at Clarkston 492 in Clarkston, where we were treated to a delightful meal, followed by Col. Bracewell, who shared his insight and observations about the military in "the desert" in general, and the Georgia National Guard volunteers in particular. Col Bracewell received a standing ovation afterwards.

Tucker 42 won the Banner; Metro Daylight 743 won the Gavel. We had over 50 present, including six 50-Year Masons, one DDGM, one PGM, and eight members of the Memorial Club. \$102.00 was collected for distribution among our three charities.

DCMA Next Month

The August next will be held at Tucker 42 on Monday, 24 September. This is a great opportunity for some lodge to take the Clarkston Gavel (requires at least four brethren, one of whom must be a sitting JW, SW, WM, or a PM. This is also a great opportunity for some lodge to take the 5th District Gavel (requires at least four brethren from a lodge outside of the district currently holding the gavel).

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

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

The Jimmy Davis Memorial Fund

The annual outing is the DCMA's most active activity in support of the Children's Home; our late Secretary, WBro. Jimmy Davis, was an ardent supporter. Each year we also give the kids some spending money before the outing. We have now named the fund from which this money comes in his honor.

We would like to thank the following bodies for contributing \$100 or more to help give the kids a memorable excursion: Pantehrsville 543, EA Minor 603, Grant Park 604, Glenwood Hills 703, Metro Daylight 743, and the Past Master's Club of Chamblee. We also thank the several individuals who have made contributions.

Won't your lodge consider a gift for the Children?

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

Country Lodge

"It was the funniest thing I ever saw!

"What was?" asked the Old Tiler of the New Brother.

"That lodge meeting I attended in Hicksville. Listen, and I'll tell you!"

"I'm listening. Anyone who can find a lodge meeting funny deserves to be listened to!" answered the Old Tiler.

"The lodge room was funny!" began the New Brother. "Lodge rooms ought to have leather-covered furniture and electric lights, a handsome painting in the east, an organ-be dignified, like ours. This lodge room was over the post office. There were two stoves in it. And every now and then the Junior Deacon put coal on! The Lesser Lights were kerosene lamps, and the Altar looked like an overgrown soap box! The benches were just chairs, and they didn't have any lantern or slides- just an old chart to point to in the lecture.

But it wasn't so much the room, it was the way they did their work. You'd have thought they were legislating for a world, not just having a lodge meeting. Such preciseness, such slow walking, such making every move and sign as if it were a drill team. There wasn't a smile cracked the whole evening and even at refreshment, there wasn't much talking or laughing. I'm glad to belong to a lodge where people are human!"

"Yes," answered the Old Tiler, "I expect it is."

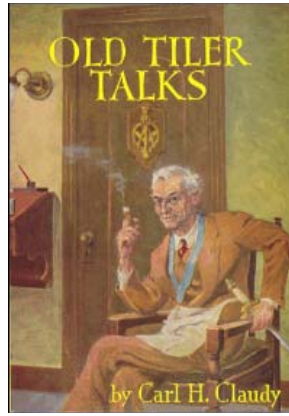
"Expect what is?"

"Impossible for a New Brother to understand the work of a country lodge," answered the Old Tiler. "What you saw wasn't funny. Listen- it is you who are funny."

"Me funny? Why, what do..."

"I said for you to listen!" sternly cut in the Old Tiler. "I have never been to Hicksville, but I have visited in many country lodges and your description is accurate. But your interpretation is damnable!

"Masonry is beautiful, truthful, philosophical, strives to draw men closer to God, to make them love their fellow, to be better men. Is that funny? The more regard men have for outward symbols, the more apt they are to have regard for what is within. A man who won't clean his face and hands won't have a clean heart and mind. A man who is slovenly in dress is apt to be slovenly in his heart. A lodge which reveres the work probably reveres the meaning behind the work.



"You criticize the Hicksville Lodge because it is too precise. Would that our own was more so! The officers who have so deep a regard for appearances can only have learned it through a thoughtful appreciation of what the appearances stand for.

"You have been taught that it is not the externals but the internals which mark a man and Mason. What difference can it make whether a lodge seats its membership on leather benches or chairs, or the floor, or doesn't seat them at all? Our ancient brethren, so we are taught, met on hills and in valleys. Think you that they sat on leather benches, or the grass?"

"It's good to have a fine hall to meet in. It's a joy to have an organ and electric lights and a stereopticon to show handsome slides. But all of these are merely easy ways of teaching the Masonic lesson. Doubtless Lincoln would have enjoyed electric lights to study by, instead of firelight. Doubtless he would have learned a little more in the same time had he had more books and better facilities. But he learned enough to make him live forever.

"We teach in a handsome hall, with beautiful accessories. If we teach as well as the poor country lodge with its chairs for benches, its kerosene lamps for Lesser Lights, its harmonium for organ, its chart for lantern slides, we can congratulate ourselves. When we look at the little lodge with its humble equipment, thank the Great Architect that there is so grand a system of philosophy, with so universal an appeal, as to make men content to study and practice it, regardless of external conditions.

"I do not know Hicksville Lodge, but it would be an even bet that they saved up money to get better lodge furniture and spent it to send some sick brother South or West, or to provide an education for the orphans of some brother who couldn't do it for his children. In a country lodge you will get a sandwich and a cup of coffee after the meeting, in place of the elaborate banquet you may eat in the city; in the country lodge you will find few dress suits and not often a fine orator, but you will find a Masonic spirit, a feeling of genuine brotherly regard, which is too often absent in the larger, richer, city lodge.

"I find nothing 'funny' in the dignity and the seriousness of our country brethren. I find nothing of humor in poverty, nor anything but sweet Masonic service in the Junior Deacon putting coal on the fire. Would that we had a few brethren as serious, to put coal upon our Masonic fires, to warm us all."

"You've put coals of fire on my head!" answered the New Brother, "I deserved a kicking and got off with a lecture. I'm going back to Hicksville Lodge next week and tell them what they taught me through you."

"If you won't expect me to laugh, I'll go with you!" answered the Old Tiler, but his eyes smiled.



List of Special Events - August, 2007

- 4 Aug, Sat - EA Conferral - Fraternal 37, McDonough. 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting.
- 6 Aug, Mon - Mentor Class - Cochran 217, Cochran. 7:00 pm start. Attendees must have read the Mentor's Manual and the Lodge System of Masonic Education (four booklets or four section combined edition), available from the Grand Secretary. RSVP to Charles Berry, bonnchar@bellsouth.net
- 8 Aug, Wed - Awards Presentation - Clarkston 492, Clarkston. Called communication, 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting. MWGM to present 50- and 25-Year awards.
- 9 Aug, Thu - FC Conferral - Palestine 486, Atlanta. 6:00 meal, 7:00 meeting.
- 11 Aug, Sat - Masonic Home Workday - Districts 5, 8, 10 and 11. 9:00 am, lunch and wages at noon.
- 11 Aug, Sat - Gwinnett County Masonic Association - at Gwinnett Daylight 744. Noon meal, 1:00 meeting.
- 14 Aug, Tue - MM Conferral - Kennesaw 33, Kennesaw. 6:30 meal, 7:30 called meeting.
- 18 Aug, Sat - MM Conferral - Meridian Sun 26, Griffin. 8:00 meal, 9:00 meeting. WBro. Mac McGee to raise his son.
- 21 Aug, Tue - DeKalb County Masonic Association - Panthersville 543, Decatur. 6:30 meal, 7:30 open meeting; lodge meeting follows.
- 22 Aug, Wed - Southside Instruction - at Lakewood 443. 6:30 Memorial Association, 7:30 Lodge of Instruction.
- 22 Aug, Wed - Open Program - Oostanaula 113, Rome. Sheriff Burkhalter and Gang Task Force Officers to speak about gang activity recognition, reporting and prevention. RSVP to Karl Waechtler, kwaechtler3@comcast.net
- 23 Aug, Thu - EA Conferral - Palestine 486, Atlanta. 6:00 meal, 7:00 meeting.
- 25 Aug, Sat - Rock Quarry Degree - Annual Rock Quarry Degree in Morganton.
- 26 Aug, Sun - Picnic - Annual 5th District Family Day Picnic, Wills Park, Alpharetta. 11:00 to 5:00, \$10 donation for lunch. Live entertainment.
- 1 Sep, Sat - Etiquette Class - Hampton 70, 10:00 am. Cost is \$4 with your Georgia Masonic Etiquette book, \$6 if you need one. RSVP to Tim Legarth, welder5@comcast.net
- 13 Sep, Thu - MM Conferral - Palestine 486, Atlanta. 6:00 meal, 7:00 meeting.
- 17 Sep, Mon - Gwinnett County Masonic Association - at Snellville 99. 6:30 meal, 7:30 meeting.
- 22 Sep, Sat - Mentor Class - Sandy Springs 124, Sandy Springs. Time to be determined. Attendees must have read the Mentor's Manual and the Lodge System of Masonic Education (four booklets or four section combined edition), available from the Grand Secretary. RSVP to Chris Franklin, cfranklin@primeautofinance.net

Traveling Trophy Roundup

4 th District Southwest of Atlanta	Carroll 69 Traveling Gavel : Carroll 69, Carrollton Bowdon 206 Traveling Gavel : Sand Hill 350, Sand Hill Buck Creek 639 Traveling Gavel : Tyus 671, Tyus Tyus 671 Traveling Gavel : Tyus 671, Tyus
5 th District Includes Atlanta	5 th District Traveling Gavel : Tucker 42, Tucker Clarkston 492 Traveling Gavel : Tucker 42, Tucker
6 th District South of Atlanta	Jonesboro 87 Traveling Gavel : Hampton 70, Hampton Rex 251 Traveling Gavel : Hampton 70, Hampton 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 us know.

Who sponsors the Traveling Hat?

Where is the 7th District Gavel?

5th District Gavel rules at <http://5dist.morelight.org/gavel.html>
Clarkston 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.

5

Stone Mountain 449
Union City 600

6

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

7

Cobb County Daylight 742, 10:00 am

8

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

9

Leroy Duncan 262

10

Campbellton 76
Nelms 323
GCMA at Gwinnett Daylight 744, noon

11

Ch. Home Workday Dist. 5, 8, 10, 11

12

Tucker 42
Piedmont 447
College Park 454
Hapeville 590

13

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

14

15

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

16

Glenwood Hills 703

17

Samuel S. Lawrence 721

18

Tournament of Champions (ASR)

19

Stone Mountain 449
Union City 600

20

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

21

Southside Memorial Assn. at Lakewood 443 (location varies), 6:30 pm

22

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

23

24

Rock Quarry Meeting, Morganton

25

26

Tucker 42
Piedmont 447
College Park 454
Hapeville 590

27

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

28

29

30

Georgia Lodge of Research

31

5th Dist. Picnic, Alpharetta



Masonic Education: The Visiting Brother

From Short Talk Bulletin, Feb, 1930; author unknown.

Mackey's Fourteenth Landmark begins as follows: *"The right of every Masons to visit and sit in every regular Lodge is an unquestionable Landmark of the Order. This is called the 'right of visitation'..."*

Where two rights conflict, the lesser must give way to the greater. This is in accord with human instinct, common sense and a proper social attitude. Thus, it is the right of every tax payer and citizen to walk freely upon the streets of his city; but if an emergency arises the police may rope off a street and forbid, temporarily, travel upon it. In a very large degree the Master is the absolute ruler of his lodge. He has the unquestioned power to exclude or admit at his pleasure.

Visitors come into his lodge when and only when he orders them admitted; he has the power to exclude a member, or even an officer of his lodge. But this great power is hedged about with restrictions; he is responsible to the Grand Lodge and the Grand Master for all of his acts. If he rules arbitrarily, he can and should be called to account before the supreme Masonic authority.

A Mason in good standing who desires to visit a lodge other than his own makes his wishes known to the Tiler, who communicates with the Master. The Master is not compelled to admit the would-be visitor; but, if he does not, he should have good and sufficient reasons for not permitting the brother to exercise his right of visitation.

The usual reason for refusal to permit a would-be visitor to enter the Tiled door is that his presence has been objected to by a member present. If over ruled by the Master, such an objection might easily destroy the peace and harmony of his lodge. The member has the greater right in the lodge than does the would-be visitor.

The visitor to a lodge pays it the highest compliment he can, short of seeking affiliation. Once admitted his status is that of a brother among brethren, a guest in the home of his host. Alas, too often the visitor is relegated to the benches and left severely alone. A stranger in town visits a lodge with the hope of finding friends, companions and brethren; he desires human contacts, to refresh himself at the Altar of Brotherhood, to mingle with his fellows on a level of exact equality. If he finds them not, he has a right to judge the lodge he visits as lacking in fine Masonic courtesy.

Happy the lodge with ideals of welcoming the visitor. Fortunate the lodge whose Master makes it his business, either personally or through a committee, to say a brotherly word of welcome, to see that the brother is in friendly hands, and make him feel that although far from his habitat yet he is at home. The fame of such a lodge spreads far!

Brethren of that lodge which has the privilege of acting as host to him who comes to the Tiler's door a stranger and enters the lodge as a brother may rejoice in the words: "Let Brotherly Love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." (Heb. XIV:1, 2.)

Know Your Georgia Code: Visitation

CHAPTER 48-1. VISITATION

48-101. Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft May Visit.—An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Mason may visit an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Lodge respectively unless such Lodge should refuse him admission, which is its right.

48-102. Visitation.—The right of visitation is subject to the prerogative of any member of a Lodge to object to the admission of a visitor when his relations to that visitor are of such nature as to render it unpleasant to sit in Lodge with him.

48-103. Right to Be Satisfied.—Proficiency in examination does not require a Lodge to admit a visitor. A Lodge has a right to be satisfied that he is worthy. Documentary evidence is not sufficient to prove a man to be a Mason. If no one in the Lodge is able to vouch for the visitor, an examining committee should be appointed. No hearsay evidence may be accepted. Nor is it lawful for a member of another branch of Masonry to vouch for a brother in a Masonic Lodge merely because he has sat with him in such other body. A Master Mason may be suspended and, through oversight, be permitted to continue his membership in such other body.

48-104. Examination.—A visitor may be examined privately by any competent Master Mason and vouched for by him, but it is the better practice to have the examination conducted by a committee from the Lodge.

48-105. May Not Visit During Suspension.—A suspended Mason may not, during suspension, visit any Lodge except when summoned as a witness, or during his own trial for some offense committed during his suspension.

48-106. Visiting Brother Has No Rights.—A visiting brother has no right to participate in the discussions of a Lodge and may speak only when special permission is granted.

CHAPTER 33-1. DIMITTED MASONS

33-102. Rights.—A dimitted Mason has no Masonic rights except to burial and to visitation as herein provided. See Secs. 51-106; 49-103; 49-106; 33- 105; 37-101



33-105. Restrictions.—A non-affiliate having continued as such for more than six months shall not be permitted to make Masonic visitations, nor shall he be permitted to appear in any Masonic procession. See Secs. 51-106, 49-103, 33-102, 37-101.



Dave Digresses: Visiting Lodges

Isn't it great when you have a few visitors attend your lodge meeting? The officers want to be just a little bit sharper with the ritual; the visitors inquire about your lodge's history; and the members on the side are proud that these few arranged for a night away from their other responsibilities, just to come visit your lodge.

So, how great would it be if you got a group together from your lodge to go visit another lodge once a month? I know of one lodge last year where the WM put out a survey of what lodges the members wanted to visit, and they planned their visits for the whole year. While they didn't visit my lodge, they did get to a lot of the lodges not too far from them. This opens up opportunities for more fellowship, as well as increasing participation in each others' fund raisers.

Take a look at the calendar on page four. Nine of those lodges meet in Atlanta proper; another 13 meet in DeKalb County, and the next 10 are either within or just barely outside of the Perimeter. That's 32 lodges meeting in the Metro Atlanta area; surely at least a third (*at LEAST a third*) of them are not much of a haul for those of us living in or near the city. So, have you visited 10 lodges in the past year? In the past decade? Since you were raised?

Wouldn't your lodge enjoy it if every second or third meeting, four or five brethren from some nearby lodge visited your lodge? Well, it would be just as much fun for other lodges if a team from your lodge visited them every once in a while.

So, you say your nights are almost all spoken for. I understand - so are mine. But I've set aside at least one night a month to visit another lodge, just because I enjoy it that much, and I think it helps spread the cement of brotherly love and affection which unites us all into one common band of friends and brothers.

Start small. Grab a brother, and plan to visit a lodge close by. Then, report back to your lodge how much fun it was, and how they "do stuff just a little different than we do..." and try to have a group of three or four go visit elsewhere the following month. You might be surprised at who wants to come along!

Give it a try - I've never been sorry I visited a lodge. I don't think you will be, either.



Spotlight: The Masonic World

From Short Talk Bulletin, Mar, 1932; author unknown.

All of us live in a plurality of worlds. Each of us inhabits his world of the home, his world of business or profession, his world of pleasure which may be anything from books to baseball. Freemasons live also in the Masonic world, but, curiously enough and rather pitifully, not one in a hundred adventures far into that land. For the majority of Masons the Masonic world begins and ends at the doors of their lodges.

The average Mason reads his lodge circular or Trestleboard, hears occasionally of lodge charities, now and then attends a lodge funeral. More rarely he may be attracted to some interlodge gathering, as when a District Deputy pays a visit to two or more lodges meeting under one roof, or an educational meeting in which several lodges participate.

But unless he is ... a Freemason with both curiosity and determination, he knows little of the many "foreign countries" of the Masonic world ... many a Mason believes the Masonic world to be an occasional evening at the lodge - and nothing more.

Yet what a world it really is, and how far it reaches, curiously intertwined with the social and civic worlds, avoiding or meeting them at will. The Masonic world is usually non-existent to the general public, except as the profane occasionally catches sight of it in public ceremonies or newspaper notice of a meeting of Grand Lodge. Which is as it should be since Freemasonry devotes herself to her purposes silently, if not secretly, without ostentation or advertising.

In Jurisdictions where Masters and Wardens Associations function in Masonic Districts, the officers have an opportunity to envisage a larger horizon of their Masonic world than in states where each lodge is a little world unto itself, touching other little lodge worlds only at Grand Lodge. Masters and Wardens Associations bring together the principal officers of all lodges in a given area, affording an opportunity for the exchange of ideas, the solution of puzzling problems and often foster visits by lodge to lodge which makes for broader horizons to all who take part.

The same may be said for those Jurisdictions which have Schools of Instruction, either stationary in one place, traveling from District to District, or held occasionally or periodically at prearranged points which differ from year to year.

The Masonic world has hundreds of other ramifications too numerous even to catalog. But perhaps enough has been said to give an idea of its size and variety.

