

THE SPRIG

MARCH 2014

ACACIA LODGE #94 ANCIENT FREE MASONS COLUMBIA, SC

Volume 19 Issue 3

From the East by WB Lyth B. Clark, Jr. Worshipful Master

2014 OFFICERS

WB Lyth B. Clark Jr. WM
WB David P Stuard Jr SW
Jamle W. Sanders JW
WB Art B Ford Treasurer
WB Richard G. Miner
Secretary
Eddie Hill Sr Deacon
Giff Carpenter Jr Deacon
Eric Lloyd Steward
WB Thomas A. Baker
Steward
WB Wayne C. Smith Jr.
Chaplain
Randy Edwards Tyler
Charles A. Marthers
Organist



The soon-to-be-forgotten winter storm only delayed the EA degree work. Postponed for one week, the work was accompanied by a most unusual occurrence, one that I had never seen happen before. We ran out of food. That was not necessarily a bad thing. Several brothers not in attendance for a while came back for the degree as well as numerous guests. For planning purposes, if any brother invites a large number of guests, please let the Junior Warden or myself know so that we can be prepared. We plan to have the FC degree in March. Check the lodge calendar for the date.

February reminded us again of the uncertainties of life. Brother Teddy Orvin's son, Stephen, passed away. Brother Randy Edwards, our Tiler, suffering from chest pains, went to the hospital and had a heart catheterization. The doctors found nothing amiss. Brother Charles Marthers has a spot on his lungs. Please keep these brothers in your thoughts and prayers as well as those currently on the Sick and Distressed List. If you know of others to be added, please let us know.

Finally, be faithful to your trust. We hope to ____

See you in Lodge.

DATES TO REMEMBER

3/6

Regular Communication
Dinner and Fellowship
at 6:30 PM
Lodge opens at 7:30

3/20

Proposed
Fellowcraft Degree
(times same as above)

From the Secretary's Desk by WB Richard G. Miner, PM

Hope everyone survived the winter weather. It reminded me of the time I spent up North and of the winter sports we played. Good times, but I'm glad they are just a memory.

We still have a few brothers who have not paid their 2014 dues. Please be sure to get them in as soon as possible. If for some reason you can not get your dues to the lodge, please let me know so we can help. Let's have a second year without NPD's. Along the same note, if you have any news you want share with the brethren, please e-mail it to me at acacia94@outlook.com.

Worshipful Master
Lyth B. Clark requests
that all Lodge officers
be in attendance at
our March 6 business
meeting as we will be
taking a new set of
Lodge Photos. Please
remember to wear
your Sunday Best.

The lodge's annual report will be presented at our regular March meeting before we submit it to Grand Lodge. Please plan to attend, and hear the recommendations made by the Audit Committee. Our Worshipful Master, Lyth B. Clark, Jr., has also appointed a By-laws Committee to review and revise our Lodge's By-laws. If you have any suggestions or recommendations for this committee, please e-mail them to me at acacia94@outlook.com.

The only medicine for suffering, crime, and the other woes of mankind, is wisdom--Huxley

ACACIA LODGE #94
is located at
1518 HAMPTON ST
COLUMBIA, SC 29201
OFFICE HOURS
MON-THURS 9AM-2PM
(803) 256-2538

Regular communications
held every first Thursday
at 7:30 (dinner at 6:30)



SICK AND DISTRESSED

WB Don Michie
WB Jim Neal
Bro. Randy Edwards
Bro. Eddie Hill, SD
Our Bro. Organist
Charlie Marthers
As well as
Bro. Teddy Orvin,
mourning the recent
loss of his son Stephen
and Bro. Alton Blanks
on the death of his
Brother Heyward

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

18 Thomas M. Gault, Jr
19 Larry B. Davis
23 WB Arthur B. Ford
25 Wilbur L. Harding
26 David T. Beals
30 Donald T. Ross
31 Norman G. Barkoot
31 Reese Way

It is said that we are first made Masons in our hearts, our desire for light being then fulfilled by taking upon ourselves the obligation of a Master Mason, and that, in doing so, a man may earn the right to call himself our brother, but at what point is a man truly a Mason? Is it enough that he be in possession of certain esoteric signs and tokens, or be current in his dues; can it be marked by his regular and faithful attendance to lodge? Is there a decisive factor, some standard to be met or condition to be fulfilled, or is it enough that we tread the path, attempting to apply the principles of our order to our lives? I do not feel myself qualified to judge, but I offer as benchmarks this quotation from Joseph Fort Newton, who wrote in his book, "The Builders"

"When he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope, and courage — which is the root of every virtue. When he knows that down in his heart every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic, and as lonely as himself, and still he seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellow man. When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sins — knowing that each man fights a hard fight against any odds. When he has learned how to make friends and to keep them, and above all how to keep friends with himself. When he loves flowers, can hunt the birds without a gun and feels the thrill of an old forgotten joy when he hears the laughter of a little child. When he can be happy and high-minded amid the drudgeries of life. When star-crowned trees and glint of sunlight on flowing waters subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead. When no cry of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without response. When he finds good in every faith that helps any man to lay hold of divine things and see majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of the faith may be. When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond sin. When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope. When he has kept faith with himself and his fellow-man, with his God; in his hand a sword for evil, in his heart a bit of a song — glad to live, but not afraid to die! Such a man has found the only real secret of Masonry, and the one which it is trying to give to all the world."

Live your beliefs and you can turn the world around—Henry David Thoreau