

THE SPRIG

ACACIA LODGE 94 ANCIENT FREE MASONS COLUMBIA, SC

Volume 18 Issue 6

JUNE 2013

TIDINGS FROM THE EAST (Coast) By DAVID P. STUARD, JR. WM

2011 OFFICERS

David P. Stuard Jr. WM
Douglas Hall SW
Jeffery Hall JW
Art Ford Treasurer
Jack Coker Secretary
Eric Crowe SD
Art Nebliker JD
Eddie Hill Steward
Howard Wood Steward
Wayne C Smith Jr Chaplain
Thomas Baker Tyler
Charles Marthers Organist



DATES TO REMEMBER

Master Mason Degree
5/23
Regular Communication
6/6
Proposed Fellowcraft
Degree 6/20
St. John the Baptist
Fish-Fry 6/22

JUNE BRITHDAYS

7 Olin Longino
12 Johnny Raines, Sr.
14 Richard Unger, Sr.
18 James Mucklevaney
20 Marshall Conner
21 Ben Glenn
22 Jason E. Crowe
23 Raymond Insprucker
26 John Drane
27 Randy W. Edwards
28 Richard S. Smarr

I bring you fraternal greetings from Myrtle Beach, SC, the scene of the 276th annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of South Carolina. It was only my second time to attend this very inspirational event, and my first in an official capacity, so I can say honestly that it still held quite a bit of wonder and excitement for me, as well as a healthy dose of education and enlightenment. I got to rub elbows and converse with brothers whom I hadn't seen in years, and to acquaint myself with many new friends and brothers with whom I found much in common. It was also my first time in this particular part of our great state, and as any old sailor well might, I made sure I found time to commune with another true and dear friend, the ocean.

So many things that took place at Grand Lodge merit mentioning here but first, let me run down the roster of your new Grand Lodge officers. It is a list with which I'm sure you will be familiar, as most were simply advanced unceremoniously from their previous stations, while others were held over to serve again in positions for which they did indeed seem to be well suited. Deputy Grand Master David J. Dechant was unanimously chosen to serve as our new Grand Master, with his old position being filled by Right Worshipful William B. Rogers. Our new Senior Grand Warden is Right Worshipful William R. Logan, with Right Worshipful Michael D. Smith edging out the competition to take the South, in an otherwise uncontested ticket. Holding on to their old seats, and in my opinion, rightly so, were Right Worshipful Jack A.

Marler, PGM, as Grand Treasurer, Right Worshipful G. Ray Marsh, PGM, as Grand Secretary, and the Reverend Jerry L. Phillips as Grand Chaplain.

The craft also voted on a few issues of importance to us here in the 10th Masonic District, the most dramatic being the revocation of the charter of Shandon Lodge #370. It is never a good day when one of the lights of Masonry goes out, and this one strikes us rather close to home. On a happier note, I am very pleased to report the selection by Grand Lodge of one of Acacia's brightest stars, the now Right Worshipful Brother Jeffrey L. Hall, who will be serving us and the entire 10th District as our new District Deputy Grand Master. I'm sure I speak for everyone who knows him when I say, Congratulations, Right Worshipful, this one is well chosen and very much deserved. I should also take the time to congratulate Sinclair Lodge's Acy Flora, a long-time friend of Acacia, who will now serve the 8th Masonic District in the same capacity.

In local news, Acacia lodge welcomes our newest member, brother Reese Way, who was initiated on May 9th. On May 18th a Past Masters breakfast meeting will convene at Ms. B's on Sunset Blvd at 9 am. I hope all of our Past Masters will attend. (RSVP Worshipful Brothers Jim Neal or Jack Coker) Also, remember to mark on your calendars the night of May 23rd as on this night our brother Giff Carpenter will be raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Please plan to attend, and contact me by e-mail at akhenaton1701@gmail.com to take

part in the work itself. I will be holding a practice on Tuesday May 21st at 6 PM and really need your support. It is my hope that we can accomplish this degree without any outside help. I have had to call in ringers from other lodges recently, and this is not our way. I'm sure most of you can remember a time when Acacia's degree team was the go-to whenever other lodges needed assistance. We can yet be that again, all we need is YOU!

And finally, two bytes of virtual news; we have recently re-gained access to our Acacia 94 webpage, and will be upgrading it shortly. Any contributions or submissions will be welcomed and can be sent to me at the above address or to Right Worshipful Jeff Hall at his new dedicated e-mail address, 10thddgm@gmail.com. More importantly, we have been attempting to reconstruct our lodge e-mail list. Many entries were lost recently due to a crash, and the list has only been partially restored. We are asking all brothers to re-send their contact information, whether we have it already or not, so that we can be 100% sure. Please contact Worshipful Brother Richard Miner at rminer@sc.rr.com and use the subject "Contact List". In order to reach those who may have been dropped, and who would otherwise be expecting to receive this issue of the Sprig by e-mail, it may be helpful if the brothers contact each other as well and pass this information along. We will try to contact any others by phone, if we do not hear from you soon, just to be comprehensive. Don't be left out of the loop. Drop us a line. It only takes a minute. David P. Stuard, Jr. W.M.

SICK AND DISTRESSED

W/B Don Michie
 Bro Roger Doyon
 W/B Hugh Bickley
 W/B Jim Neal



Bro. Richard Garis writes:

I am doing research for a book of Masons who served, in any branch of the military, in the Vietnam war combat zones during 1955-1972. There is currently nothing, as far as I know, written on this subject, and I believe the topic is long overdue in coming. If you were in 'Nam during those periods or know anyone who was there, please contact me. You, and they, will get full credit for your stories. I was a medic in 'Nam from Dec. '67 - Dec. '68, so my brothers, I know and understand how it was and is. I can be contacted at the following:

Richard Garis
 146 Red Pine Drive
 Lexington SC 29073-6911

or by e-mail at:

garisrichard@yahoo.com

but I prefer the letters.

Thank you
 Richard Garis
 Lexington 152

FROM THE SOUTH by RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JEFFREY L. HALL, DDGM

Greetings from the South Brethren. Here it is June already and we are once again planning our annual Saint John the Baptist Fish Fry. We will partnering once again with Columbia Chapter #59 Order of the Eastern Star. They are also celebrating their 100 year Anniversary this year with Worthy Matron Carol Coker leading the Chapter into this very special year for the Chapter. We had a really good turnout last year as we teamed up with the OES Ladies for the very first time. They bring so much energy to these gatherings and always turn out some great food and deserts. This year, they will also have baked goods for sale at our Fish Fry. I am already getting a head start on my diet as I know there will be plenty of calories available at this year's event.

The menu will consist of fried catfish filets, fries, hush puppies and cole slaw. The price of the meal is \$7.00 and it is an "all you can eat" meal. We will have dine in and carry out available. Please try and make it out to this year's fish fry and support your Lodge and/or Chapter fundraiser. Bring your friends and families and join us for some great food and even better fellowship. Tickets are available in advance and can also be purchased at the door. Contact any member of Acacia Lodge or the Eastern Star Chapter for tickets.

I look forward to seeing all of you there as we kick off another year's fundraising event. I wish you all a Blessed summer and safe travels as we enjoy another Carolina summer. Don't forget to come out to the Lodge. We have been busy with candidates this year and hope to continue bringing more good men to further light in Masonry.

See you in Lodge soon.
 Sincerely and Fraternally,
 Jeff Hall JW DDGM 10th District

MASONIC EDUCATION By ART NEBIKER, 32nd Degree, Junior Deacon

Who are we? - - - we are many- - - and not surprisingly so - - - from the historical List of Masons we find that many of our Brothers have come forward with significant and meaningful contributions to our country and our culture and indeed to the world. Contributions which were made in their own special ways, and in their own specific fields, e.g. - - - in politics, in the arts and entertainment, in science, physics, sports, the art of war, industrialists, astronauts, authors, etc, etc, there are many that you would recognize and be happy to share a Masonic grip with. Their contributions come from many widely diverse arenas but yet have followed the same guiding principles and motivations as that of "Creating and Giving More Light". It will take several issues of the Sprig to introduce you to all the more popular and well known brethren; but here is a start, and I am sure you will recognize and welcome them, but mostly it is my hope that you should become inspired by these brother Masons:

Walter Chrysler	Industrialist	General Mark Clark	Commander US Fifth Army
William Clark (of Lewis & Clark Fame)		Henry Clay	US Speaker of the House
Samuel Clemens	Author - Mark Twain	Thomas Dewey	Gov, NY State
Nat King Cole	Musician	Davy Crockett	Frontiersman
Gordon Cooper	Astronaut	Ty Cobb	Baseball Legend
Alexandre Gustave Eiffel	Eiffel Tower - Paris	Bob Dole	Senator (R-Kan)
James Doolittle	WWII Pilot - bombed Tokyo	Wyatt Earp	Frontiersman
Sir Arthur Conon Doyle	Author - Sherlock Holmes	Samuel Colt	Revolvers

So my Brothers and members of this Lodge, you see, that these are our brothers too, and that you are indeed in good company - - - the question now is, "how good is your company?" Acacia Lodge 94 meets "on the Level" on the first Thursday of every month and would like to enjoy your company and share in the Light of Brothers Past and Present - - - no reservations needed - - - come in for fellowship and in search of more light.

Fraternally yours,
 Art Nebiker, 32nd Degree
 Your Junior Deacon

"Try not to become a man of success, but rather to become a man of value." - Albert Einstein