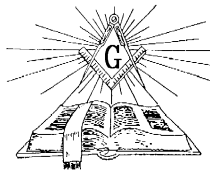


**WEBB LODGE #166 F. & A.M.**  
**July 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2015 TRESTLEBOARD (#331)**



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Brethren: The **Regular Communication** of Webb Lodge #166 F.& A.M. will be held at the Masonic Temple, 3201 Wrightsboro Road, Augusta, Georgia, on **July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. and a Lodge of Master Masons will be opened at 8:00 p.m. Please remember to call a brother or widow and invite them to come and share an evening of fellowship with us on that date. If you, another brother or widow need transportation to and from the lodge please call one of the officers. Ladies are invited. (Telephone numbers are located on the reverse side of this newsletter) Widows have an open invitation to come join us for dinner each month and please bring a guest.

**1. THE LETTER "G" (Bro. Stoney):** Everybody knows what the letter G suspended over the Master's chair in the East means, right? Do you really know its full meaning and how old it is? Unfortunately, a number of Masons know neither the symbolism nor history. Today we take a closer look at an all too common symbol in our lodges that over time we simply take for granted. When our lodges are opened all minds and hearts should be tuned to the light and truth illustrated by the letter G and when closing the lodge, the memory of that divine letter and its august



suggestions ought to be our last thoughts. In English lodges the letter G is not located in the East but rather it is in the center of the ceiling of the room with the lodge grouped around it, rather than assembled beneath it. Below is found the checkerboard floor (symbol of the vicissitudes of life). The floor is illumed with white lights showing us divine guidance and blessings so needed in our journey through this physical life. Also of note in the English lodges the letter G is illumed during the First and Second degrees but dark in the Third degree. Through the first two degrees the light is needed to guide the candidate along his journey with the purpose of initiation being to bring God and man together and make them one. God becomes man that man may become God, a truth which lies at the core of all religion and more especially that of Freemasonry. No longer is artificial outside light needed as we have God within us and His illumination is now our guiding principle. Throughout history as far back as we are able to go, one letter of the alphabet was generally used as a divine symbol. In the Egyptian mysteries it was the solar *Ra*, a symbol of the spiritual sun shining on the mortal path. In the Greek mysteries at Delphi is was the letter "E" – *Epsilon* – the fifth letter of the Greek alphabet; which just so happens to represent the five senses and therefore man. Plutarch mentions that the letter *epsilon* was made of wood in the First Degree, bronze in the Second and gold in the Third which was to show the advancement and refinement of the moral and spiritual nature, as well as the higher value to the truth that was revealed. Unfortunately as is the case with much of our Craft, much has been lost to us. In our lodges today the letter G stands for geometry and also the initial for our word for God. Since all Masonry rests on Geometry, and it is a known fact that geometry is the way of God, it is simple logic that the two are interchangeable. That the G stands for geometry stems from the oldest charges of the Craft and is agreed that Masonry is moral Geometry. It is an actual fact that geometry is the thought-form of God in nature, in both the snowflake and in the orbits of the stars. Masonry does not seek to hide the fact that we rest in God, live in God, and seek to lead men to God. Everything about Masonry shouts references to God, every lesson, lecture, and each degree. Without God our Order has no meaning, no mission among men. For Masonry, God is the first truth and the final reality. Yet, here is an interesting facet of Masonry, we rarely use His Name. We substitute His Name with the phrase, The Great Architect of the Universe. Even though the phrase fits nicely into our ritual and symbolism, I think the principal reason for our infrequent use of His Name is we fear it will lose some if its awe and wonder if used too often. It is the same concept our Jewish brothers employ when we see His name spelled thusly, G\_d. Recall, Masonry only asks that we confess our faith in a Supreme Being. It does not require that we analyze or define in detail our thoughts of God. True faith goes much deeper than words can ever describe. It gets into instincts and feelings and all attempts to put it in words are generally futile. I think the words of Tolstoy in his book *War and Peace* illustrate the point quite well. When the young count said with a sneer that he did not believe in God, the old Mason smiled, as a mother might smile at the silly saying of a child. Then, in a gentle voice the old man said: *Yes, you do not know Him, sir. You do not know Him and that is why you are unhappy. But He is here, He is within you, even in these scoffing words you have just uttered. If He is not, we should not be speaking of Him, sir. Whom doest thou deny?* All these things – all this history and hope and yearning which defy analysis – Masonry tells us in a shining letter which hangs in the lodge. It is the wisest way; its presence is a prophecy, and its influence extends beyond our knowing. Never do we see that great Letter and thinking what it implies that the message of Watts is not felt: *O God, our help in ages past, Our hope in times to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.*

**2. CONGRATULATIONS TO TWO MEMBERS OF WEBB LODGE:** Worshipful Brother Steve Fishman has been selected by the Scottish Rite to receive the 33<sup>rd</sup>, Inspectors General Honorary (Elect) (White Hat) on Saturday, October 17, 2015, at the Atlanta Masonic Center. Worshipful Brother Jack Goldenberg has been selected by the Scottish Rite to receive the 32<sup>nd</sup> KCCH (Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, Elect) (Red Hat), on Saturday, October 3, 2015, at the Augusta Scottish Rite Center. Congratulations to two of our Past Masters for attaining these Masonic Milestones. Steve and Jack are definitely each **"One of the Faithful Few."**



**3. LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE:** 1. At Bush Field in Augusta, Georgia, an individual, later discovered to be a high school teacher, was arrested trying to board a flight while in the possession of a compass, protractor and graphing calculator. Authorities believe he is a member of the notorious **Al-Gebra** movement. He is being charged with carrying weapons of math instruction. 2. **IN OTHER WORDS:** a). **ECSTASY:** Discovering a second layer of chocolates under the first. b). **PERFECTIONIST:** A person who takes great pains---and gives them to others. c). **SUMMER VACATION:** When parents suddenly realize that teachers are grossly underpaid.



4. **MASONIC DEFINITIONS:** Here are a few words and definitions that I thought might not only apply to our daily lives but might be used when communicating with our brethren in the lodge:  
**Collaborate:** Meeting people half way is the most significant trip we can take; We don't work for each other we work with each other. **Contribute:** Great achievements are nurtured with the cooperation of many minds with a common vision working toward a common goal. **Walk the Talk:** Take the initiative and lead the way; You can make the difference. **Opportunity:** An opportunity is never lost; it's just found by someone else. **Communication:** Communication is the secret to success.....pass it on. **Change:** Sometime in the waves of change we find our true direction. **Leadership:** A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way. **Service:** The high road to service is traveled with integrity, compassion and understanding; people don't care how much we know until they know how much we care. **Vision:** A leader's job is to look into the future and to see the organization not as it is but as it can become. **Excellence:** Excellence is never an accident; it is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction, skillful execution and the vision to see obstacles as opportunities.



5. **CONSIDER THESE THOUGHTS:** 1. The best way to get even is to forget. 2. Standing in the middle of the road is dangerous; the traffic from both ways will knock you down. 3. Words are windows to the heart. 4. It isn't difficult to make a mountain out of a mole-hill; just add a little dirt.



6. **SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS:** Webb Lodge will present two \$1000.00 scholarships to the following students; **John E. Crabtree**, son of Kenneth & Sandra Crabtree, and a student at Lakeside High School and **Aaron Rheins**, son of Todd and Anne Rheins and a student at Westside High School. These presentations will take place following dinner in the dining room at Webb Lodge on Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Join us in congratulating these two fine young men.

7. **QUOTABLE QUOTES:** 1. No one else, ever, will think you are great the way your mother does. (Matalin) 2. The true friend is the one that's coming in the door while everyone else is going out. (McGraw) 3. Never take a step backward, not even to gain momentum. (Garcia) 4. You're not famous until my Mother has heard of you. (Leno)

8. **THE CHURCH FEUD:** There was a feud between the Pastor and the Choir Director of the Hicksville Southern Baptist Church. It seems the first hint of trouble came when the Pastor preached on "Dedicating Yourselves to Service" and the Choir Director chose to sing: "I shall not be moved." Trying to believe it was a coincidence, the Pastor put the incident behind him. The next Sunday he preached on "Giving." Afterwards the choir squirmed as the director led them in the hymn: "Jesus paid it All." By this time the Pastor was losing his temper. Sunday morning attendance swelled as the tension between the two built. A large crowd showed up the next week to hear his sermon on "The Sin of Gossiping." Would you believe the Choir Director selected the song: "I Love to Tell the Story?" There was no turning back. The following Sunday the Pastor told the congregation that unless something changed, he was considering resignation. The entire church gasped when the Choir Director led them in: "Why not Tonight?" Truthfully, no one was surprised when the Pastor resigned a week later, explaining that Jesus had led him there and Jesus was leading him away. The Choir Director could not resist and sang: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."



9. **WHERE ARE YOU?** I know there are at least 30 members of Webb Lodge in the local area who I have not seen for some time. Did you not take the same obligation that I did? Did you not make the same commitments? I know we all are busy and we cannot make every meeting but will you please consider participating when you can even if it is only a few times per year? We miss you. We need your input. We need your Help. So Mote It Be.



**Editor & Secretary**  
**T. Gregory Oblak, P.M.**



**Worshipful Master**  
**Richard T. Williamson**

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WEBB LODGE #166 F. & A.M. 2014 OFFICERS

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 (Return Service Requested)