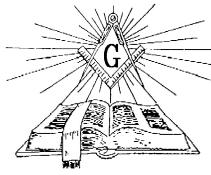


WEBB LODGE #166 F. & A.M.
FEBRUARY 15TH, 2016 TRESTLEBOARD (#338)



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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 Monday, February 15th, 2016. 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.

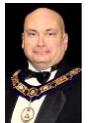
1. **GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION:** The 10th District Officers are planning a program to celebrate the Birthday of George Washington. The event will be held at the Masonic Temple, 3201 Wrightsboro Road, Augusta, GA 30909 on February 20th, 2016. The Play "Rose on the Altar" will be presented with a lunch to follow. Coffee and donuts at 10:00 am with the play beginning at 12:00 pm and lunch will be served following the Play, approximately 1:45 pm. All masons, their spouses and friends are invited.



2. **SCOTTISH RITE REUNION:** The Valley of Augusta Scottish Rite will be holding their Spring Reunion; (**The Paul Spohn Class**) **When:** Friday and Saturday, May 13-14th, 2016. **Where:** Scottish Rite Center, 2553 Washington Road, Augusta, GA 30904 **Cost:** \$200.00. Moneys and Petition deadline is May 4th, 2016. **Who is eligible:** All Master Masons. Petitions are available at the Center or online: (augustascottishrite.org) You may also call the General Secretary, Gregory Oblak (706-829-1665 cell or 706-733-5387 office). The candidates are asked to report to the Center around 4:00 PM Friday for registration, sandwiches and light refreshments will be served to all beginning around 4:30 PM. The conferral will begin following dinner.



3. **GRAND MASTER'S FORUM RESCHEDULED:** **When:** Friday, February 26, 2016. **Where:** Scottish Rite Center, Augusta, GA. **Time:** Dinner at 6:00 pm with the forum beginning at 7:00 pm. All officers of Webb Lodge should attend if they can.



**HAPPY VALENTINES DAY FROM ALL
THE OFFICERS OF WEBB LODGE #166**



4. **IT'S LOVE:** The Washington Post asked readers to come up with inept romantic sentiments for Valentine's Day: a) I am irrationally exuberant for you in the third quarter of my fiscal life, with rising indicators. b) My love for you runs hotter than a 1974 Nova with a busted water pump. c) If we were cockroaches, I'd want to have all 456, 938 of your children. d) You make me hotter than a hand dryer in a turnpike restroom.

5. **TO ALL THE NEW SECRETARIES IN THE 10TH DISTRICT:** Will a Secretary go to Heaven??? If a Secretary writes a letter, it's too long, if he sends a postal, it's too short, if he doesn't send a notice he is lazy. If he attends a committee meeting, he is butting in, if he stays away, he is a shirker. If he duns the members for dues, he is insulting. If he fails to collect the dues he is slipping. If he asks for advice, he is incompetent. If he does not he is bull-headed. If he writes his reports complete, they are too long. If he condenses them they are incomplete. If he talks on a subject in Lodge, he is trying to run things and if he remains quiet he has lost interest in the meeting. Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust, If others won't do it, The Secretary must!



6. **QUOTABLE QUOTES:** 1. When you relinquish the desire to control your future, you can have more happiness. (Kidman) 2. The first step to getting the things you want out of life: Decide what you want. (Stein) 3. People always call it luck when you have acted more sensibly than they have. (Tyler) 4. Assumptions are the termites of relationships. (Winkler) 5. Concentration comes out of a combination of confidence and hunger. (Palmer)

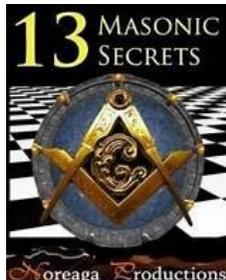


7. **LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE:** These words have been used by me for several years for this light hearted section of the newsletter. But now I know that they are true. I recently received a letter from the wife of a brother who had just recently passed away which stated the following, "I wish to inform you of the death of my husband. I do want to mention to you how much he always enjoyed receiving your monthly newsletter. He read every word of it and always read the jokes to me, you were always in his heart." A letter like that justifies to me the time to produce this newsletter as well as the newsletter I write for the Scottish Rite and that it is enjoyed by some of the brethren. 1) Over the years I have heard my share of strange questions and silly comments from people who call the computer software company where I work as a tech support operator. But one day I realized how absurd things can sound on the other end of the line when I heard myself say to one caller, "Yes sir, you must first upgrade your download software in order to download our upgrade software. 2) After drilling his platoon in the hot sun, the sergeant barked out a final order: "All right, you idiots, fall out!" The men dispersed, but one rookie stood firm. The sergeant stared as the rookie smiled and said, "There sure were a lot of them, weren't there, Sergeant?"



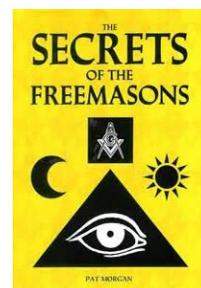
3) The lieutenant wanted to use a pay phone but didn't have change for a dollar. He saw a private mopping the floor and asked him "Soldier, do you have change for a dollar?" "I sure have, buddy", the private answered. Giving him a mean stare, the lieutenant said, "That's no way to address an officer. Let's try it again. Private, do you have change for a dollar?" "NO, Sir," the private replied. 4) SIGN LANGUAGE: a) Sign seen on a local tire store: "Invite us to your next blowout." b) Sign seen on an Albuquerque, N.M., motel: "We're as cheap as you are." c) Sign on the door of the post office in Grovetown: "PULL, if that doesn't work, PUSH. If that doesn't work, we are closed. Come again." 5) Quote by Brooke Shields: "Smoking kills. If you're killed, you have lost a very important part of your life. 6) Two little girls, ages 5 and 6 were playing wedding. Their mother overheard these vows: You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say may be held against you. You have the right to have an attorney present. You may kiss the bride. 7) Vegetarian is an old Indian word for "doesn't hunt well."

8. **SECRETS** (Bro. Stoney): Get out your pen and paper as I am going to tell you the secrets of our fraternity. Oh, you think



you know them already? I am guessing you are thinking of certain grips, tokens and passwords, and maybe a few lines of catechism. Yes, I have to agree, those are esoteric to our Fraternity but they are not really the secrets. For anyone who is interested, the Internet tells all. A Greek philosopher once said the most valuable qualities were to be "secret and silent". In ancient societies the god of secrecy was worshiped, in our society we tend to worship the god of gossip. If all Masonry ever did was to teach men to hold sacred the secrets confided in them, we would indeed have justified our existence and earned the respect of all mankind. We all know that Masonry could not exist without secrets. Remember, I just said all our "secrets" are easily found on the Internet. So, whatever am I referring? We certainly have no secrets that are unknown the wisest of men. So I ask once again, what are the secrets? Listen carefully; our secrets are our method of teaching, the atmosphere it

creates, the spirit it instills in our hearts and minds, and the tie it creates among the brotherhood. Our obligations, signs, tokens and words simply evoke what is most secret and hidden in our hearts. Recall, we take good men and make them better. While we cannot, in concrete terms, explain the process, we just know it happens. I have heard some say our ceremonies, signs and tokens are of little value, to which I respond, "That is simply not true". They are profound and we should take extra pains to protect them. Just because one has not taken the time and made the effort to plumb their depths is no excuse to blow them off and irrelevant. They are as relevant now as they ever were, more so I believe in the present social environment we currently find ourselves. Our Craft forms a network of fellowship, friendship, and fraternity around each brother, uniting all in a common cause of seeking Truth wherever its golden nuggets may be found. I believe it helps to think of our lodges as an old home in which generations were raised and thereby has a thousand separate little memories which make it unique and special. Now imagine a new owner of the house. Yes, I changed the term from home to house because that is what it becomes in the hands of the new owner. All the memories mean absolutely nothing to the new owner. Now, think of our lodges opened to the curious. Gone would be the spirit and faded the glory, its beauty blighted and power gone. Given the above, should anyone be alarmed at books or Internet sites exposing Masonry? Disappointed maybe, but not alarmed. The real secrets of Masonry can never be exposed, as they are unique to the individual as he transforms his rough ashlar to a perfect ashlar to precisely fit the building of his inner spiritual temple.



The Essence of Destiny: Watch your thoughts, for they become words. Choose your words, for they become actions. Understand your actions, for they become habits. Study your habits, for they will become your character. Develop your character, for it becomes your Destiny.



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T. Gregory Oblak, P.M.



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