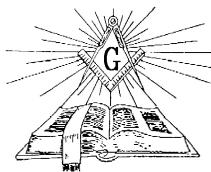


WEBB LODGE #166 F. & A.M.
MARCH 21ST, 2016 TRESTLEBOARD (#339)



3201 Wrightsboro Road, Augusta, Georgia 30909

Cell Phone: 706-829-1665

Website: www.webblodge166.org

Email: goblak@comcast.net



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, March 21, 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.

Growing old is no more than a bad habit which a busy man has no time for.

1. **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.

2. **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Daylight Savings Time Begins - **March 13 2:00 AM**

Webb Lodge March Dinner - **March 21 7:00 PM**

Webb Lodge March Meeting - **March 21 8:00 PM**

Easter - **March 27 ALL DAY**

Scottish Rite April Lodge of Perfection Meeting - **CANCELLED**



Masters Golf Tournament – **April 4-10 ALL DAY**

Webb Lodge April Dinner – **April 18 7:00 PM**

Webb Lodge April Meeting – **April 18 8:00 PM**

Passover Begins – **April 22 SUNDOWN**

Life without a friend is death without a witness.

3. **DUES REMINDER:** Brethren: All dues notices have been sent. If you do not have a 2016 dues card please remit the sum of \$50.00 and if you do not have a 2015 dues card please remit the sum of \$100.00 before June of 2016 or risk being suspended for non-payment for two years. So Mote It Be.

4. **HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP?** This is a list of 10 core values from 202 lodges in the state of Virginia when they were asked to respond to the question: What should be a freemasons core values? Read the list and see how you measure up! 1. A Mason believes in a Supreme Being. 2. A Mason has an understanding of moral values. 3. A Mason exemplifies honor and integrity. 4. A Mason believes in the brotherhood of man. 5. A Mason is moved to fulfill his Masonic Obligations. 6. A Mason practices Charity in his daily living. 7. A Mason exercises Brotherly Love. 8. A Mason is committed to Family. 9. A Mason demonstrates Patriotism. 10. A Mason supports Widows and Orphans. How did you do??



5. **AGING: WE ALL HAVE TO GO THROUGH IT:** 1. The nice thing about being senile is you can hide your own Easter eggs. 2. I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour. But, by the time I got my leotards on the class was over. 3. My memory is not as sharp as it used to be. Also, my memory is not as sharp as it used to be. 4. Do you know how to prevent sagging? Eat until the wrinkles fill out. 5. I've tried to find a suitable exercise video for women my age, but they haven't made one called "Buns of Putty." 6. These days about half the stuff in my shopping cart says, "For Fast Relief." 7. Remember: You don't stop laughing because you grow old, You grow old because you stop laughing. 8. The Senility Prayer: Grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.

6. **THE BONE BOX:** In the early lectures of the last century, these questions were used as a test: Q - Have you any keys to the secrets of a Mason? A – Yes Q - Where do you keep them? A - In a bone box, that neither opens nor shuts but with Ivory Keys. The box is the mouth, the keys the teeth. The key to the secrets is the tongue.



7. **WHERE THE FAST LANE ENDS: (Fischer)** Members come to Masonry for many reasons. Because of a relative, because of a friend, because of fellowship, because of curiosity, or maybe because they think they will get ahead. The reason we join is irrelevant. After joining, we found men who treated us with brotherly love. This, in turn relieved the stress of the day. It also gave us a feeling of self-worth and helped us see the true meaning of Freemasonry. The fast movement of everyday life, causes a lot of changes in our life style. We move from one situation to another at such a speed, that most of the time, we seldom see the conclusion of one problem before another comes. Except if it doesn't turn out right, then we hear every detail of what went wrong. That is where Masonry comes in. We come to lodge to meet old and new friends that demand nothing from us. Thus we demand nothing from our Brethren. We teach



and are taught a more even way to live and cope with problems. We learn that, all that matters is within ourselves. We learn, through watching others, that a better way to do anything is through love, understanding and trust. As we speed on and on through this ever changing world, we come to lodge for a little bit of peace and understanding, we come to slowdown, we come because this is: **Where The Fast Lane Ends.**

8. **PLEA TO THE “LOCAL MEMBERSHIP”:** Brethren, if you live in the area, I want to make a desperate plea to you to attend as often as you can. For the first time ever I am scared, frightened, afraid, terrified, petrified, worried that **“YOUR LODGE” (WEBB LODGE #166)** is dying a slow death. The Roster is down to 97 members. (337 when I became secretary in 1988) Yet at least 60 members are in the area. Where are you? Why do **YOU** not attend any of the regular communications? What have we done wrong? Have you forgotten the obligation you took during the degrees? I have spoken with many of you who promise to attend but I have not seen you. Why belong to any organization just to say you are a member. I have a saying that **“There are many members of Masonic Lodges but only a handful of Masons.”** Please try to be one of those Masons; Be **“One of the Faithful Few.”** So Mote It Be.
9. **GUARDIANS OF THE LODGE (Bro. Stoney):** I recently saw a movie titled *“Guardians Of The Galaxy”* and could not help but think of how we guard our lodges. Some of the characters in the movie reminded me of a few of the personalities we encounter in our walk down life’s path. So many different folks with a variety of ideas and goals all coalescing into a unified whole called Masonry. It then becomes our job as Master Masons to guard the West Gate from the unworthy who would come through via petitions and visitation. Let us look at the petition process first. The lodge receives a petition for membership and the Master appoints a committee of three to investigate. Do you count it a privilege and honor to be selected? The Master is in essence saying to you that he has confidence in your judgement and ability to discern fact from fiction. So, what do you do now? Well, there just happens to be a whole course on Masonic Investigation produced by the Masonic Education and Leadership Development committee. Unfortunately, you may not have had the opportunity to take the course. Could it could be you have not made the time to take the course? Whatever the case, you have been appointed to an investigating committee and the Master and lodge expect a report. By all means, make it a point to see the petitioner. Do not be satisfied with just interviewing friends, neighbors, employers and associates. Be sure to speak with any known enemies. That someone has an enemy is not grounds for rejection. Find as much as you can about the situation. Most importantly, do not be satisfied just because you do not find anything negative. It could be he just has not been caught and jailed yet. It is also not enough that he has no enemies, he should have friends, lots of them. It is vitally important that you determine the reason why he is applying for membership in our fraternity. There are many reason that would disqualify one for membership, such as a desire to enhance one’s business through Masonic membership, he simply want to satisfy his curiosity, or he hopes to make influential friends. These are not valid reasons for admission into the Craft. The petitioner should have a genuine desire to help others, a respect for the fraternity, a desire to follow in the footsteps of men such a George Washington, or fellowship with men of a like mind. Lastly, make up your own mind and then share your opinion with the other committee members. Doing your job well will not only guard the West Gate, but will result in “Master’s Wages”. OK, so we have some idea of what we should do when investigating a potential new member. What happens when the Master asks us to examine a visitor to the lodge? A couple of points to remember is that it is not an inquisition nor is it an opportunity for you to show off your proficiency with the catechism. First step is to examine his dues card and ascertain if the signature on the card matches the one on the lodge meeting book. Following that, we generally expect the visitor to recite the Tyler’s oath. A couple of things you should remember here. First, the visitor has every right to see your dues card and to look at the lodge charter. Second, the Tyler’s oath may be different in his jurisdiction. The object is to receive his oath that he is a regular Mason in good standing with his Grand Lodge and there is no reason known to him why he should not be allowed visitation privileges at your lodge. In conclusion, remember, charity of thought, toleration, kindness and courtesy are all Masonic virtues; and there is no better place where they can be practiced than at the door of your lodge for the benefit of the stranger who wishes admittance and to renew the Mystic Tie.



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



Worshipful Master
Richard T. Williamson

706-951-7068	SAM ARAZIE	MASONIC HOME AMBASSADOR
706-829-1665	T. GREGORY OBLAK, P.M.	CHARITY CHAIRMAN
706-855-1480	JAMES L. HUGGINS, SR., P.M.	DIRECTOR OF WORK
706-650-1807	DANIEL L. BURNFIELD	TYLER
706-533-3045	MIKELL T. STEWART	JUNIOR STEWARD
706-951-7068	SAM ARAZIE	SENIOR STEWARD
706-910-3060	DALLAS C. SIMON III	JUNIOR DEACON
706-831-2642	JONATHAN S. MINTZ	SENIOR DEACON
706-863-9459	TERRY M. DEWITT, P.M.	CHAPLAIN
706-829-1665	T. GREGORY OBLAK, P.M.	SECRETARY
706-863-8048	RICHARD T. PACHECO, P.M.	TREASURER
978-413-8545	JASON W. BUTLER	JUNIOR WARDEN
706-738-4278	JACK P. GOLDENBERG, P.M.	SENIOR WARDEN
706-829-0216	RICHARD T. WILLIAMSON, P.M.	WORSHIPFUL MASTER

WEBB LODGE #166 F. & A.M. 2016 OFFICERS

(Return Service Requested)
3201 Wrightsboro Road
Augusta, GA 30909
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