

The Lowcountry Trestleboard

Brethren,

Another weekly heads-up from the Semi-official Charleston Masonic Town Crier on what's coming up in The Lowcountry that I know about. Thank you to the brothers who sent me word of upcoming events, and thanks for the help and encouraging words I've received from so many of you on this project over the years, as well as everyone's patience with my typos.

The SC Masonic Research Society is ALWAYS soliciting research papers for publication in our Transactions. If you have a paper or article on a Masonic subject, send it to me (thlwm2010@gmail.com) and I will get it into the right hands. We will be at Grand Lodge with the latest edition of Transactions - Come by and get yours!

York Rite General Grand Chapter Magazine

The York Rite General Grand Chapter has urged all Grand Chapters to get their body at 100% electronic subscription rate, as this is the most inexpensive way to get the magazine. They have urged everyone to sign up for the Electronic Version by going on the following Web Site: www.yorkrite.org, Click on the General Grand Chapter logo (under the state grand bodies links) and then sign up by typing your email address. It is that easy and it is free. They run through Mail Chimp like the Trestleboard does, so if for some reason you want to stop getting it, it's easy to opt out. If I figured out how to sign up, anyone should be able to. FYI: The Blue Lodge in SC IS a York Rite Body!

Sick & Distressed:

RWB Earnest Jenkins of Union Kilwinning #4 is in NHC in West Ashley. Ashley Hall Road, behind the Kohls). He is in room 216D. Needs visitors to help pass the time of day for him. He is wanting to go home, but not possible in his condition. Please speak loudly and identify yourself when you visit.

Br John Carter of Orange CharlesTowne has advanced stage cancer and his prognosis is approx 2 months to live. He is in NHC in West Ashley.

Rev.Br.Frank Shealy has been fighting lung cancer and type 2 diabetes while recovering from a major heart attack. He has lost 60lb.

Br Teddy Driggers of Orange CharlesTown has been diagnosed with Stage 4 Chronic Kidney Disease. He is now awaiting a kidney transplant and will be beginning dialysis soon. A fundraising site has been established to help with expenses:

<https://helpholive.org/campaign/9111>

MWB William B Rogers MWGM is still healing from a broken leg.

RWB William R Logan RWDGM is fighting bone cancer.

Br Stephen Pilling of MacArthur 427 was injured in a tractor accident last Thanksgiving. His tractor rolled over on top of him. He is in rehab at Heartland in West Ashley with multiple injuries including severe head injuries, broken neck, broken back, broken pelvis and sundry other broken bones and internal injuries.

WB Mike Hillery PM Dorchester #369 is in Neurorestorative in Augusta, GA. He is at the Center West location. 706-737-9300. He was in a bad motorcycle accident the last weekend of Sept. There is a gofundme account to go towards his medical expenses.

<https://www.gofundme.com/rm6a9x5s>

These are who I am aware of at this time, if there are others the brethren need to be made aware of please email/let me know and I will pass the word. Brethren, these brothers have all been workers in the quarries of Masonry and deserve to be lifted up in prayer to the Grand Architect of the Universe by each of us. "The prayers of good men availeth much." Please call/visit these brothers as you are able.

Here's your assignment this month:

- 1) Go to Your Lodge's Stated Meeting this month,
- 2) Visit another lodge this month (times & places are all in the Trestleboard).
- 3) Attend the Masters & Wardens Club Meeting this month.

If everyone who actually reads this would actually do this we'd have attendance back up like it was 4-5 years ago, and we would all be enjoying it! Try it, you'll like it!

Quote of the Week:

"You must pay the price if you wish to secure the blessings." – MWB Andrew Jackson

Here's this week's scoop:

(2nd)Wednesday 13Apr2016 - The Masters & Wardens Club of the 1st and 2nd Masonic Districts will be meeting at Omar Shrine 176 Patriots Point Rd, Mt Pleasant, SC. OMAR Shriners will host April's Masters and Wardens with a Shrine Mason Night. Doors open at 5:30 Come check out what the Shrine has to offer. Dinner at 6:30 Shrine Mason to start at 7:30. Bring a friend to learn about Freemasonry and Shriners. Meeting will be purged after Shrine portion is complete the Masters and Wardens will conduct their meeting. POC RWB Keith Stika 843-200-0866 OMARChairman@aol.com Dinner @18:30, meeting @19:30.

Masters and Wardens Club meetings are open to all Master Masons and per the bylaws must be over by 9:00PM. Current Lodge of the Year Point Standings:

Franklin 229

MacArthur 173

Solomon 116

James Island 67

Fellowship 50

Wednesday 13Apr2016 James Island Lodge No. 396 will be offering Masonic and Veteran ball Caps to support fund raising for their annual Scholarship Fund. There are several styles and color combinations available. Full details and images of the ball caps are on the Masters and Wardens website at page <http://lowcountrymastersandwardensclub.org/page71.php> What could be better than getting a great-looking Masonic, Veteran or maybe one of each ball cap for you, your family and friends? Order some extra Masonic ball caps to give to that newly raised Master Mason or as appreciation for a job well done to a Brother. And remember that all profits will be helping a local high school student with their education through this Scholarship Fund Raiser.

Thursday 14Apr 2016 - Etiwan Lodge #95 (438 Whilden Street Mount Pleasant, SC) will hold a FellowCraft Degree. Collation at 6:45 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM.

(2nd)Thursday 14Apr 2016 - MacArthur Lodge #427 (145 St. James Avenue Goose Creek) will hold their monthly Stated Communication, followed by an EA Degree Collation at 6:45PM, Meeting at 7:30.

(2nd)Thursday 14Apr 2016 - Vance Lodge # 230 (1316 Camden Rd, Hwy 310, Vance) will have their Regular Communication. Collation at 7:00 pm, meeting begins at 8:00

(2nd)Thursday 14Apr2016 - Mariner Lodge #2 (1285 Orange Grove Road) will hold their Regular Stated Communication. Light Collation at 6:45PM, Meeting at 7:30.

(2nd)Thursday 14Apr2016 - Berkeley Lodge #269 (101 California Avenue Moncks Corner) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 7:30 PM, Meeting at 8:00.

(2nd)Thursday 14Apr2016 - Ridgeville Lodge #361 (119 Academy Street Ridgeville) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 6:45 PM, Meeting at 7:30.

Tuesday April 19, 2016 - Summerville Lodge #234 (111 North Main Street Summerville) will confer the FC Degree- Proficiency 6:30, 7:15 Collation and 8PM Degree

(3rd)Tuesday 19Apr2016 - Egeria Lodge #71 (150 Judge Street Harleyville) will hold their Monthly Stated Communication. Dinner at 7:30 PM, meeting at 8:00.

(3rd)Tuesday 19Apr2016 - Round Lodge #270 (10761 Cottageville Highway, Cottageville) will hold their monthly Stated Communication at 8:00 PM. Collation at 7:00, meeting at 8:00

(3rd)Tuesday 19Apr2016 - The Charleston York Rite Bodies will hold their regular monthly Stated Meeting. The Chapter will preside. The issue of whether or not to move the York Rite Bodies from the CCMA to the Scottish Rite Building will be discussed & voted on.

Wednesday April 20, 2016 - Summerville Lodge #234 (111 North Main Street Summerville) will confer the EA Degree- 7:15 Collation and 8PM Degree

Wednesday, 20Apr2016 - The Charleston Scottish Rite Bodies (1051 Sam Rittenburg Blvd) will hold their Stated Communication. Dinner at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30. Knights of St. Andrew will hold their monthly meeting at The Charleston Scottish Rite at 6:00pm in the auditorium. Membership in the Knights of St. Andrew is open to all 32° Masons.

(3rd) Thursday 21Apr2016 – Franklin Lodge #96 (145 St. James Avenue Goose Creek) will examine FC Degree proficiency on two candidates. Collation at 6 PM.

(3rd)Thursday 21Apr2016 - Union-Kilwinning Lodge #4 (945 Wappoo Road Charleston) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 6:45 PM, Meeting at 7:30.

(3rd)Thursday 21Apr2016 - Fort Moultrie Lodge #428 (338 Whilden Street Mount Pleasant) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Craft fraternally invited. Collation at 6:45 PM, Meeting at 7:30.

(3rd)Thursday 21Apr2016 - Hudson Lodge #373 (14385 Sniders Hwy Islandton, SC) will have their regular stated communication. Collation at 7:00 PM, Meeting at 8:00PM

(4th)Saturday 23Apr2015 – Jacksonboro #206 (6085 Hwy 165 Ravenel) will be having their monthly breakfast fundraiser. 07:00 – 09:00. Come hungry, leave happy!

SATURDAY 23April2016 - Omar Shrine Cowboys Carl Mullins Memorial Golf Tournament. Miler Country Club Summerville, SC. Registration at 8:00 AM with Captain's Choice Shotgun Start at 9:00 AM. For registration and sponsorship forms contact Brett Strickland at rbstrickland@gmail.com or 843-693-0694

Monday 25April2016 - Mariner Lodge #2 (1285 Orange Grove Road) will confer an EA Degree. JW WB Tom Lewis will confer the degree. Collation at 6:45 and degree work at 7:30.

Monday, 25Apr2016 - Goose Creek Lodge #401 (145 St. James Avenue Goose Creek) will confer a Master Mason Degree. Collation at 6:45, the degree starts at 7:30pm.

Monday April 25, 2016 - Summerville Lodge #234 (111 North Main Street Summerville) will confer the MM Degree- Proficiency 6:30, 7:15 Collation and 8PM Degree

Tuesday 26Apr2016 - The Charleston York Rite Bodies will confer the Royal Master and Select Master Degrees. Collation at 6:45, the degrees start at 7:30pm.

(4th)Tuesday 26Apr2016 - St. Andrews Lodge #367 (945 Wappoo Road Charleston) will hold their Monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 7:00 PM, Meeting at 8:00

Wednesday April 27, 2016 - Summerville Lodge #234 (111 North Main Street Summerville) might confer (IOW Tentative) the FC Degree- Proficiency 6:30, 7:15 Collation and 8PM Degree

Wednesday 27Apr2016 - The Grand Lodge Annual Golf Tournament this year will be on April 27th at Bonnie Brae Golf Course, 1116 Ashmore Bridge Road, Greenville, SC.

Thurs & Fri April 28 - 29, 2016 - 279th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of SC – Embassy Suites, Greenville Golf Resort & Conference Center located at 670 Verdae Blvd, Greenville, SC 29607.

April 28th at 9:00 AM - The Religious Service will be conducted by Rev&RW A.Robert Nix, Grand Chaplain.

April 28th at 10:00 AM – Grand Lodge will be officially opened by MW William B. Rogers, Grand Master with the assistance of the Grand Lodge Officers and Brethren.

Thursday, April 28th at 7:00 PM - The Annual Banquet will be held in the Ball Room of the Embassy Suites, Greenville. The Embassy Suites, Greenville will be the Headquarters Hotel.

Those desiring to stay at the Headquarters hotel are encouraged to make reservations as soon as possible since there is a limited number of rooms available. Elected Grand Lodge Officers, Appointed Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, and Committeemen are requested to stay at the Headquarters hotel and to make their reservations promptly. Each person including Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, and Committeemen are responsible for making their own reservations.

Reservations may be made by calling the Embassy Suites, Greenville at 1-864-676-9090. When calling, you must ask for group reservations and identify yourself as being with The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina in order to obtain the special room rate of \$139.00 plus tax per night. Since the Headquarters hotel will be unable to accommodate everyone attending the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, the following is a list of nearby hotels for your convenience:

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

1036 Woodruff Road

Greenville, SC 29607

864-678-5555

La Quinta Inn & Suites

31 Old Country Rd.

Greenville, SC 29607

864-297-3500

MAY

(1st)Monday 02May2016 - Solomon Lodge # 1 (1285 Orange Grove Road) will hold their Monthly Stated Communication followed by a Master Mason Degree. Dinner will start at 6:30pm. The Lodge will open at 7:30pm

(1st)Monday 02May 2016 - James Island Lodge #396 (1613 Fort Johnson Road James Island) will Hold their monthly Stated Communication at 7:30. No meal served.

(1st)Monday 02May 2016 – Goose Creek Lodge #401 (145 St. James Avenue Goose Creek) will hold their monthly Stated Communication at 7:30PM. No collation served

(1st)Monday 02May 2016 - Harmony Lodge #61 (5355 East Jim Bilton Boulevard St. George) will hold their monthly Stated Meeting. Collation 7:30PM, Meeting 8:00.

(1st)Tuesday 03May2016 - Hammerton Lodge #332 (1085 East Montague Avenue North Charleston) will hold their monthly Stated Communication Collation at 6:45 PM, Meeting at 7:30

(1st)Tuesday 03May2016 - Old Fort Lodge #420 (10935 Dorchester Road Summerville) will hold their monthly Stated Communication Collation at 6:45 PM, Meeting at 7:30.

<http://oldfortlodge.com/>

(1st)Wednesday 04May2016 – Landmark Lodge #76 will hold their monthly Stated Communication. For location info contact WB Scott Moore (smoore@hagemeyerna.com). Coat, tie and white gloves are required. Meeting at 6:00PM

1st)Wednesday 04May2016 - The Low Country Past Masters Unit will hold their monthly meeting in the CCMA Center (1285 Orange Grove Road). The Past Masters Unit is open to all Blue Lodge Past Masters and exists to assist the Lodges in the Low Country as needed to put on their degrees. If your Lodge has a need for assistance on a degree, or to put on the entire degree, contact the Past Masters Unit for the assistance you need. Contact : RWB.Dick Hughes <hughesr@mc-mc.com>.

(1st)Thursday 05May2016 – Franklin Lodge #96 (145 St. James Avenue Goose Creek) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 6:45 PM, Meeting at 7:30

(1st)Thursday 05May2016 - Etiwan Lodge #95 (438 Whilden Street Mount Pleasant, SC) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM.

(1st)Thursday 05May2016 - Dorchester Lodge #369 (3567 Dorchester Road East North Charleston) will hold their Regular Stated Communication at 7:30PM. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM.

(1st)Thursday 05May2016 - Bethlehem Lodge # 338 (13819 Round O Road Round O) will hold their Regular Stated Communication. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM.

(1st) Friday 06May2016 – St. James Lodge #275 (227 Scotia Street McClellanville) will be holding their Regular Stated Communication followed by an MM Degree. Collation at 6:30 PM and meeting at 7:30 PM

Saturday, 7 May2016 Franklin Lodge #96 (145 St. James Avenue Goose Creek) will confer the MM Degree on two candidates.. Collation at Noon (High 12).

(1st) Saturday 07May2016 – CCMA Work Day at the CCMA Center (1285 Orange Grove Road) 08:00 AM until ...

(2nd)Monday 09May2016 - Orange - CharlesTowne Lodge #14 (1285 Orange Grove Road) will have their regular Stated Communication at 7:30pm. No meal served.

(2nd)Monday 09May2016 - Fellowship Lodge #400 (3567 Dorchester Road East North Charleston) will have their regular Stated Communication Dinner at 6:30 and meeting at 7:30pm.

(2nd)Monday 09May2016 - Jacksonboro Lodge #206 (6085 Hwy 165 Ravenel) will have their Regular Stated Communication. Dinner at 6:30 and meeting at 7:30pm

(2nd)Tuesday 10May2016 - Pythagoran Lodge #21 (3567 Dorchester Road East North Charleston) will hold their monthly Stated Communication in the Dorchester Lodge Building. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM.

(2nd)Tuesday 10May2016 - Orangeburg York Rite will be having their monthly Stated Meeting. Collation starts at 7:00 and meeting at 7:30 PM. We do not go dark in summer. We rotate which body does the opening. Chapter, Council, Commandery is the annual sequence. With us opening/closing in full form, meeting is usually over by 9pm. Come Fellowship with us.

(2nd)Tuesday 10May2016 - Unity Lodge #55, AFM (35 Trevor Dr, Walterboro, SC) will have their regular Stated Communication. Dinner at 6:30 and meeting at 7:30pm

(2nd)Tuesday 10May2016 - Fidelity Lodge #304 (2827 Maybank Highway Johns Island) will have their regular Stated Communication. Collation at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30pm.

(2nd)Tuesday 10May2016 - Carolina Lodge #375 (5929 Murray Drive Hanahan) will hold their Monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 6:45 PM, Meeting at 7:30

2nd)Tuesday 10May2016 - Summerville Lodge #234 (111 North Main Street Summerville) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 7:00PM meeting at 8:00.

(2nd)Saturday 13May2016 - Scottish Rite (1051 Sam Rittenburg Blvd) will be having their monthly breakfast fund raiser from 07:00 to 10:00AM. \$6.00/person buffet style. All are welcome. Come hungry – leave happy! The KSA also meets at 9:00am

That's all I know about for now, stay tuned for further developments...

Please forward this email as you see fit - it's cheaper and faster (and usually more accurate) than the newspapers. Everyone has a few email addresses that I don't have. If they get it twice it only takes a second for them to punch "delete".

This newsletter is only possible because of the Intel I get from all of you. Please let me know of any functions your Lodge/Chapter has going you want passed around and I'll put the word out - that's what this newsletter is for. Also let me know of any sickness or distress of which the craft needs to be appraised. Please send all degree dates and special meetings you wish to be included to thlwm2010@gmail.com. Deadline for inclusion is NOON Wednesday so if you snooze you lose.

I have been asked by a few brothers not to send certain types of emails to them like obits, or sickness & distress, etc. Because I send the Trestleboard to so many brothers (around 600), I really can't change what I send for any one brother. If I did that, keeping up with the changes would be a logistical nightmare. So no content cherry-picking. If I send something you don't want to read, delete it - takes about a second.

You're receiving this newsletter because either you asked to be included, or one of your Lodge brothers asked for you to be. If you really don't ever want to receive this newsletter again, click "unsubscribe" and Mail Chimp will take you off.

PLEASE check and make sure my email address thlwm2010@gmail.com is in your address book – this newsletter is so big and goes to so many people (over 600 directly from me, and over 1000 with forwards!) that some spam filters mis-identify it as spam. Email addresses that consistently bounce back Mail Chimp will automatically delete after a few weeks.

The Masonic Light in the past has only been available if you picked up a copy at the Lodge or had an annual subscription. It is now available online in a downloadable format for anyone to read and keep up with what is going on in our Grand Jurisdiction. Look under the resources tab to find the page or just click here.

The Grand Lodge also has a Lodge Locator on the website that tells you where any Lodge in South Carolina is located and when they hold their Stated Meetings. Everything but what's for dinner. Here's the link: <http://www.scgrandlodgeafm.org>

The Masters and Wardens website for the First and Second Masonic Districts can be found at <http://lowcountrymastersandwardensclub.org/> . It has much useful Masonic and Veterans information; including the Veterans Victory House in Walterboro and the Charleston Veterans Administration Hospital with contacts and how you can help. The latest Sickness and Distressed gleaned from The Trestleboard is also available. Fundraiser information is on the website; support your Brothers when you are able. If you have questions or comments or if your Lodge/Masonic body desires to update their information, contact WB Ned Balzano (webmaster) at wurdsalid@gmail.com

DeMolay is back on the Move Forward in South Carolina with their new Personal Rep Br Damon Lam!! Should your Lodge be interested in starting a Chapter or have a young man or group of young men between the ages of 12 and 21 please Contact Bro.: Dick Mgrdechian at 843-903-6848.

For security concerns I was asked by the Rainbow/DeMolay Powers-That-Be to no longer include the regular meeting times/places of our young people's organizations in this newsletter. I will however include announcements of special events for both bodies as I am made aware of them as I do the other organizations in the Masonic family. Any questions you may have about these young people's organizations feel free to email me (I was a DeMolay back before electric lights and indoor plumbing) – thlwm2010@gmail.com. If I don't have the answer I will get it for you or put you in touch with someone who can answer it.

South Carolina DeMolay (Palmetto DeMolay Association) has instituted a new honorary degree, with the approval of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina. The Albert Pike

Honorary Senior DeMolay degree, in honor of one of the great men in Masonic History, Albert Pike. This honorary degree is open to conferral on any Master Mason in good standing in South Carolina who applies. The degree provides an opportunity for the South Carolina Masons to experience the ritual work of our young men and Senior DeMolays, to get a better understanding for the basic tenets that DeMolay is based on; regretfully there are still Masons who ask what DeMolay is. The goal of this degree is show the quality of the ritual work of our young men, and build a tighter bond with Freemasonry in South Carolina. The Albert Pike "members" would not meet, have no by-laws, dues, no office or position and are not obligated to any club or group in any way. Masons receiving this degree will receive a beautiful and unique oversize certificate suitable for framing, and an Albert Pike Degree pin. Those having questions or wishing to receive this honorary degree may apply at: <http://www.palmettodemolay.org> or may contact Damon Lam at Damonlam1@gmail.com or (843)597-7113. The DeMolays of today will be the Masons of tomorrow!

This newsletter is produced by a Mason with the help of other Masons to promote Masonic cooperation and visitation for the benefit of Masons and Masonry in the Lowcountry of South Carolina. While publication of this newsletter has the support and approval of the Grand Master of South Carolina, it is not to be construed that anything found in this newsletter is coming from or overseen by the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina (<http://www.scgrandlodgeafm.org>) or any other Masonic body unless specifically stated to be so. Ultimate responsibility for content/opinions expressed lies with the editor alone.

"It's amazing how much good you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit."

- MWB Harry S. Truman - US President, PGM of Missouri.

Respectfully and Fraternally

Tom Lewis, Jr PM 32° KT KY KRC

PM Mariner Lodge #2 Charleston, SC

Life Member Jackson Lodge #45, Jackson TN

Veritas Vos Liberabit