

# THE SPRIG

NOVEMBER 2013

ACACIA LODGE #94 ANCIENT FREE MASONS COLUMBIA, SC

Volume 18 Issue 11

What, Me...Speechless? by David P Stuard, Jr. WM

## 2013 OFFICERS

David P. Stuard Jr. W M  
Douglas Hall S W  
RW Jeffery L. Hall J W  
WB Art Ford Treasurer  
WB Jack Coker Secretary  
Jason Eric Crowe S D  
Art Nebiker J D  
Eddie Hill Steward  
Howard Wood Steward  
Wayne C. Smith Jr.  
Chaplain  
Thomas Baker Tyler  
Charles Marthers Organist



## DATES TO REMEMBER

Regular Communication  
and election of Officers

11/7

Proposed Degree Work  
Masters 10/24  
Fellowcraft 11/21

And don't forget the  
Ladies Night and Awards  
Banquet on November 14.  
Dinner is at 6:30. Join us.

## NOVEMBER BRITHDAYS

2 Cardell Bunch  
14 Joseph Jenkins  
14 James A. Neal  
15 Osger Jordan, Jr.  
15 Johnson Leviner, Sr.  
16 John Staser  
18 Richard Miner  
19 David Jameson  
20 Carl Craig  
23 Levi Hardwick

I have often said that we learn by doing, and that being the case, I should think that, after spending this past year writing for the Sprig, I might be getting the hang of it, but curiously I find this is one of the hardest articles I've written thus far. In the beginning of my term I had much to say, as my many hopes and fears for the lodge's future, and my desire to restore Acacia to its former status as the Flagship of the 10th district provided so much fodder for discussion that I was never lacking in subject material. Indeed, I was sometimes criticized for being too long-winded, and that perhaps I might ease up a bit, but truth be told, once I had sunk my teeth in I was determined that I would not let go until I had had my say, and this led to an exuberance with which I'm sure you are all now quite familiar. Times however, have a way of changing, and nothing succeeds like success. Our efforts have begun to bear fruit, and it now appears that our beloved lodge is on track once more. It has been a very good year for membership, our efforts to restore the building are nearing completion and attendance, which was becoming problematic, seems at last to be rebounding, with our own members as well as visitors from all over the state re-discovering the Acacia that was. The downside of all of this: I find myself with less and less to write about.

OK, that's not really accurate. Those of you who know me know that I am seldom at a loss for words, and as things are going so very well for us, and as my year in the East nears its end, I'd like to express my gratitude to the entire Acacia family. Your efforts and assistance are what has brought about this remarkable turnaround. We are alive and kicking, thanks to all of you. That being said, there are a few other things that I feel I do need to mention. I have re-instituted a Masonic Education committee, and the use of the Lodge System of Masonic Education for new candidates, and it is my hope that my successor will continue these, as they are, in my opinion, crucial to our continued growth and success. I will continue to travel around the districts, representing Acacia as best I can, and I invite you all to do the same, for I truly believe that doing so will rekindle your passion for our fraternity, and at the same time, serve to remind us of those great tenants of our profession, Friendship and Brotherly love.

Let me also remind you all that this is an important time of year for us. Our Ladies Night and Awards Banquet will be held on the 14th of November, and I hope you all will make plans to attend this event, which is open to all, members and family alike. See the attached flyer for details. Also, in an effort to streamline the transition process, we have decided to hold our elections on the eve of our next business meeting (Nov 7), thus giving elected officers time to consider their appointments before the Installation Ceremony in December. All members in good standing are encouraged to attend, look well to the East and vote for the good of the order. I hope that you will come, see the new look of the Lodge and feeling the spirit that is beginning to awaken, be inspired to take your place once more among your brothers here at Acacia. We've been saving a seat for you.

Every accomplishment begins with a decision to try — Edward T. Kelly

**ACACIA LODGE #94**  
is located at  
1518 HAMPTON ST  
COLUMBIA, SC 29201  
OFFICE HOURS  
MON-THURS 9AM-2PM  
**(803) 256-2538**

Regular communications  
held every first Thursday  
at 7:30 (dinner at 6:30)



#### SICK AND DISTRESSED

**Bro. Roger W. Doyon**  
**WB Don Michie**  
**WB Jim Neal**  
**Bro. Clyde W. Joines**  
and the  
**Brother-in-Law of**  
**WB Hugh J. Bickley**  
**Passed away in Japan**

On Thurs. November  
14, Acacia Lodge will  
again hold its annual  
**Ladies and Awards**  
**Banquet**

in honor of our own  
Awardees as well as  
our ladies, who have  
supported us through  
the year. The event is  
free and open to all, so  
make plans to attend.  
Dinner starts at 6:30  
and will be served by  
Bro. Mike Morrow of  
Hilda Catering.

Brethren, I don't have much in the line of news this month. Our 2014 dues are coming in pretty good along with some nice contributions. I would like to remind everyone that our lodge elections will be held at our November meeting. Please be present to vote your convictions, as far as the elected officers go. Our installation will be held at the December meeting. If you take an office please be present for the installation so we will not have to have a special meeting to catch up. Also if you are elected to an office or are appointed to an office please plan to be at the meetings to fulfill your responsibilities.

Donations to the lodge since our last listing:

J. Wanzer Drane	Richard S. Smarr	Eric J. Lloyd
Thomas L. Coker	J. Smith Harrison	John E. Hill
Alfred G. James	Robert N. Milling	Lyth B Clark
John E. Benson	David R. Jameson	

See you in lodge.

#### MASONIC EDUCATION By Art Nebiker, 32nd Degree, Junior Deacon

#### WHAT IS A MASON ?

A Mason is a Man and a Brother whose trust is in God. He meets you on the Level and acts upon the Square. Truth is his compass and he is ever Plumb. He has a true Grip on all that is Rite. He is loyal to his Order and whatever his Degree, he is Master of himself. In the Lodge of Life he wears unstained the white Lamb Skin of Innocence. From his Initiation as an Entered Apprentice he travels ever East ward toward the Light of Wisdom until he receives the final Divine Password that admits him into the Ineffable Presence of the Eternal Supreme Grand Architect of the Universe.

In this Sprig we continue to recognize the noteworthy contributions of Brethren of our ancient fraternity - - - how many in the below list do you know or would like to have known personally - - - you are truly in the company of noble and worthy Masons - - - come and virtually meet with them in Lodge.

Franz List – Composer      John Paul Jones – Naval hero Revolutionary War  
Leopold I – King of Belgium      Bert Lahr – Cowardly Lion -The Wizard of Oz  
Al Jolson — Actor and singer      Lyndon B Johnson — 36th US President  
Rudyard Kipling – Author and poet      Thomas Lipton – Founder Lipton Tea  
Charles Lindbergh — Aviation Pioneer      Henry Lee III – Governor of Virginia  
General Douglas MacArthur — WW II Hero      Don King – Boxing promoter  
John Lejeune – Marine General – Camp Lejeune      Roy Rogers — Actor  
Henry Knox –General Revolutionary War – Fort Knox      Tom Mix — Actor  
Meriwether Lewis and William Clark — Explorers — Lewis & Clark Expedition

Their Light is shared with ours whenever Master Masons meet on the level in Acacia Lodge - - - First Thursdays - - - No Reservations Required

**If you don't know where you're going, you'll end up somewhere else — Yogi Berra**