

# THE SPRIG

FEBRUARY 2014

ACACIA LODGE #94 ANCIENT FREE MASONS COLUMBIA, SC

Volume 19 Issue 2

From the East by WB Lyth B. Clark, Jr. Worshipful Master

## 2014 OFFICERS

**WB Lyth B. Clark Jr. WM**  
**WB David P Stuard Jr SW**  
**Jamle W. Sanders JW**  
**WB Art B Ford Treasurer**  
**WB Richard G. Milner**  
Secretary  
**Eddie Hill Sr Deacon**  
**Giff Carpenter Jr Deacon**  
**Eric Lloyd Steward**  
**WB Thomas A. Baker**  
Steward  
**WB Wayne C. Smith Jr.**  
Chaplain  
**Randy Edwards Tyler**  
**Charles A. Marthers**  
Organist

On the afternoon of the 11<sup>th</sup> of January, the Instructional Meeting for the Tenth Masonic District was held at the Scottish Rite Center. Eight members of Acacia were present, including me. Any meeting can be deemed a success if you learn something new or old memories are revived, and this meeting did both. Five days from today, I will be attending the Grand Master's Workshop for Worshipful Masters held at the Scottish Rite Center. The starting time will be 8:30 am. Since my longtime habit is to get downtown to the office by 9 am, I may be challenged.

My attendance at lodge may be easier than other members. You may ask why. I am usually still at work when the meal hour arrives. The meal, if you know how well we eat at Acacia #94, thanks to Sister Carol Coker, is a good reason to put work aside. The distance that I have to go is all of six blocks. Afterwards, the drive home is on an interstate, and is usually by then more lightly trafficked.

We have one candidate for the Entered Apprentice degree at the present time. Should all go well, we will have the EA degree the second Thursday in February. Do plan to attend the work. You can remember the path by which you started your Masonic journey.

See you in Lodge.



## DATES TO REMEMBER

**2/6**  
**Regular Communication**  
**Dinner and Fellowship**  
**at 6:30 PM**  
**Lodge opens at 7:30**

**2/13**  
**Proposed Entered**  
**Apprentice Degree**  
**Dinner and Fellowship**  
**At 6:30 PM**  
**Lodge opens at 7:30**

**Congratulations to Bro.**  
**Mike Coker and his wife**  
**Sharon, celebrating 25**  
**years of marriage on the**  
**4th of February. Sharon**  
**will also be celebrating**  
**another milestone this**  
**month as she has been**  
**named Volunteer of the**  
**Month by the Georgia**  
**Make-A-Wish Founda-**  
**tion for serving 9 years**  
**and granting 24 wishes**

THOSE THAT CAN, TEACH by WB David P. Stuard, Jr. Senior Warden

Those of you who know me, know that my main passion in Masonry is education. Years ago, my former mentor, Mr. Kim Loy Wong, admonished me to "always remain a student". At the time, I was tutoring undergrads at SAC and being quite full of myself, I mistook his meaning and so, simply settled in, making a career out of college for as many years as the old GI bill was willing to keep me there. Several years later, I found myself teaching elementary school in Pensacola. Watching those kids bound into my studio, so eager to learn, I came to realize that my love of teaching had been born of a love of learning, and only then recalled the rest of his words, "for everyone has something to teach you, if you are but willing to listen". My young students had reminded me of my own youthful exuberance, and in doing so, they had become my teachers.

This past month I have taken a step back, to my former station in the West, and towards my old self as well. I will be resuming my studies in Masonry, renewing my membership in the Masonic Research Society, and I am planning to attend every class and instructional available to me. It is my intention to share this knowledge with all of you. We will soon be re-instituting the Lodge System of Masonic Education at Acacia, along with our own education committee, and I shall eagerly take part in both, as well as continuing to coach new candidates, and anyone else who wishes. In this way I can give back some of what Masonry has given to me, and can continue to learn from each of you as well. I hope you will call on me.

Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever--Mahatma Gandhi

**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

**WB Don Michie**  
**WB Jim Neal**

And to the family of  
**WB Bill Grimes,**  
whose wife passed  
away on Jan. 20, our  
deepest sympathies  
and also our prayers

#### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Giff Brady Carpenter
- 2 Richard Mosley
- 3 Max L. Brandes, Sr.
- 6 Clyde Joines
- 7 Walter Turbyfill, Jr.
- 8 James W. Dugger
- 10 Lawrence Wilder
- 17 RW Jeffrey L. Hall
- 17 Ronald E. Thorton
- 17 Benjamin Brooks
- 19 WB Wayne Smith, Jr.
- 21 Ewell C. Black, Jr.
- 23 WB Hugh Bickley
- 25 William Pope

Since I always give a report on the state of the lodge after I get the annual return in, I will make this my last report.

During 2013 we started the year with 141 members.

We raised 6 new Master Masons and affiliated 1 new member for a gain of 7.

We lost 5 members to the grim reaper.

WE HAD "0" NPD'S.

We had a total gain of 2 members, which is the first time in several years that we have had a gain.

We had 143 members on December 31, 2013.

We have 64 forty-year life members.

Our per capita dues and fees to Grand Lodge were \$1,586.75.

Including supplies and bonds we paid Grand Lodge \$1869.90.

Our membership is still scattered all over the world at this time. We are pleased to announce that our member Bro. John Staser, who was in Puerto Rico is now in Ohio, and Bro David Beals, who was in WA, is now in GA. However Bro. Tony Smith is still in Germany and Bro. Loren Wise is still in Alaska, and we have many in different states in the continental USA. To all our brothers who are away from us, we miss you.

I would also like to say that I have enjoyed working with the Past Masters and all the brethren over the past 13 years. However, I feel that 13 years is long enough for one man to hold the secretary's job. I assure you that I am not going anywhere, and will be available to help wherever I can.

To W/B Richard Miner, our new Secretary, I wish you the best in your new position in the southeast corner, and if I can help let me know.

WB Thomas L. (Jack) Coker PM  
PAST Secretary

#### From the Secretary's Desk by WB Richard G. Miner, PM

The holidays have past and I hope each of you are enjoying the new year. I found this article in the Georgia Masonic Message inspiring as a New Year's thought. Hope you do as well.

What is putting some off until tomorrow costing? Procrastination almost always costs. We need dreamers in the Masonic fraternity. Men who ask "Why Not?" Men who plan for the future! If we don't make plans for the future, we'll never accomplish very much. If we do nothing but dream and plan, we will never succeed. Masonry is not a coffee break. Although great dreams and plans may be hatched over coffee, nothing will happen if we don't get up from the table and put those dreams and plans into action.

Putting our dreams into action may cost us something, but not putting them into action will cost us more.

I am convinced that each of us have dreams they would like to fulfill in our fraternity and working together we can find the skills to make those dreams a reality. Let's not let the future be a failure.

A reminder, if you have not paid your 2014 dues, they are now due. Don't be an NPD.

**Deliberation is the function of the many, action is the function of one--Charles de Gaulle**