

THE SPRIG

APRIL 2012

ACACIA LODGE 94 ANCIENT FREE MASONS COLUMBIA, SC

Volume 17 Issue 4

2012 OFFICERS

Jeffrey Hall WM
Richard Miner SW
Doug Hall JW
Art Ford Treas.
Jack Coker Sec.
Thomas Rotureau SD
John Rotureau JD
Wayne C Smith Jr Chaplain
Eric Crowe Stew
Art Nebiker Stew
Thomas Baker Tyler
Charles Marthers Organ

DATES TO REMEMBER

Regular Communication
4/5
Proposed EA Degree 4/12

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

William T. Rotureau, Jr.
Heath G. Greene
Issac Kozielek
Charles F. Hyatt
A. Pitts Turbeville, Jr.
Clyde W. Joines
William J. Eccles
Charles A. Marthers
Richard E. Johnson
Alton R. Blanks
Ivan M. Wells
Thomas L. Quinn
C. Douglas Green
William L. Chichester



FROM THE EAST By JEFF HALL, WM

Greetings from the East Brethren and welcome to the April issue of your Sprig of Acacia. I hope everyone made it through the time change without too much trauma. I heard an explanation of the mentality of changing the time recently that I want to share with you. It was explained by a Native American who said “only the government could cut a foot off the top of a blanket, sew it onto the bottom and expect to have a longer blanket.” I thought that was a great explanation as I am still trying to adjust my sleep schedule. I am very happy that spring is upon us however. It is the time for the flowers to bloom and for new beginnings.

Speaking of new beginnings, we read three peti-

tions at the March Business Meeting. Brother Eddie Hill has petitioned for affiliation and he is coming to us from Springdale Lodge here in Columbia. I have known Brother Eddie for a few years now and he will be a great addition to Acacia Lodge. We also read petitions for Al Jones and Olin Longino. Both of these young men are very excited about their new beginnings and are eager to start down the path of Freemasonry. We should hear back from the investigating committees on these two young men at our April Stated Communication. If all reports are favorable, we will have an Entered Apprentice Degree on April 12th. I would like to extend an invitation to all of you to come on out and assist us in bring-

ing these two men to their first light in our great Fraternity. We would love to see you and it will make a great impression on our newest members.

We have set the date and time for our 3rd Annual St. John the Baptist Fish Fry. It will be held on Saturday, June 16th from 11am to 2pm. This year, we are fortunate to have the assistance of Columbia Chapter #59 OES. This guarantees that we will have some good food and great fellowship. It is always such a pleasure to be with the ladies from Columbia #59. Tickets will be available soon. Mark your calendars and plan to come out and support this worthy cause. I hope to see you there. Have a Blessed month Brethren. I hope to see you in Lodge soon and often. Fraternally, Jeff Hall WM

FROM THE WEST By RICHARD MINER, PM

Greeting from the West. I want to thank all the brethren who emailed their email address and requested to receive their copy of the Sprig by email. If you would like to receive your copy via email and have not provided your email address just forward the information to rxminer@yahoo.com.

.And your next issue will come by email. While I am encouraging participation let me encourage you to become a active member by not only attending business meeting but attend the degree work as well. Offer to become a part of a degree. The past masters have for the last several years have done must of

the lectures and charges . In my opinion this is not the sign of a healthy lodge. We have over the last several years raised new brothers only to see them occasionally at lodge. If you would take one of these newer brothers aside and offer to continue coaching them in masonry you could make a difference

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK By Jack Coker, PM

THIS MONTH'S DONATIONS

Roger W. Doyon

Thank you Brother

SICK AND DISTRESS:

Nothing to report this month



Scenes from Ladies and Awards Night

Brethren

I received an e-mail from Bro Ron Thornton at Ft Bragg NC. He is 1SGT. of the 118th Military Police Company (airborne) and is planning on retirement in November. He said he missed the lodge and hopes to get down to see us soon.

While working on the annual return I came up with some facts and figures that I consider interesting. Perhaps you will find them of interest too.

Although we raised five, affiliated 1, reinstated 1, and had 0 NPD's we lost 14 members to the grim reaper. We ended the year with 156 members.

Acacia lodge is really represented around the country. We have 41 members who are out of state. We are represented in 16 states and Puerto Rico. AL 1, AK 1, AZ 1, CO 2, DE 1, FL 3, GA 5, IA 1, KY 2, MD 2, NC 7, PA 3, TN 5, TX 2, VA 2, WA 1, and PR 1. I believe that Bro Wise of Fairbanks Alaska still holds the far out record.

We have 48 members over the age of 80.

The average age of our membership is 68.

Our oldest member is 99 and our youngest member is 24.

Members in SC who are out of the Midlands area 12.

Not counting out of state, those who perhaps cannot drive at night or for health reasons cannot make lodge meetings we still have 55 supposedly hale and hearty members who should be in lodge on meeting nights.

For the year 2011 our average attendance on business meeting nights-----15. **THINK ABOUT IT BRETHREN**, are you one of the missing 40?

See you in lodge on April 5.

YOUR SPACE ARTICLE SUBMITTED BY The Brethren

This space has been reserved for you the brethren. Submit your articles to Richard Miner at RXMINER@YAHOO.COM

