



2005 No. 2 ~ FEBRUARY 2005

OFFICERS FOR 2005

Worshipful Master	Joseph W. Brooks, PM	Senior Deacon	Douglas Hrabe
Senior Warden	Marc B. Bohn, PM	Junior Deacon	Michael Paller
Junior Warden	W. H. "Beaux" Pettys	Senior Steward	Walter R. Bishop
Secretary	Thomas E. Lawrence, PM	Junior Steward	Matthew Paller
Treasurer	C. David Johnston, PM	Tyler	Donald E. Sawyer
Chaplain	A. Harold Cox, PM	Director of Work	Jeff W. Hodges, PM

GRAND MASTER VISITS GATE CITY

**Albert F. Garner, Jr.**, Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, continuing a tradition of long standing, visited Gate City Lodge at our first meeting of the new year. He was received in the Lodge with appropriate honors and escorted to the East, where WM **Joe Brooks** yielded his station to the Grand Master. MWB Garner spoke briefly on his program for this year. His remarks, concise as they were, were filled with historical and fraternal allusions and very effective. He is urging the Masons of Georgia to support the Masonic Home in Macon and promoting the District Workshops. A new feature of the Workshops, he said, will be to have an open forum in the afternoon to answer questions about Grand Lodge or other concerns the membership may have. He also spoke to our tendency to be too concerned about numbers – instead, he observed, we should continue to emphasize the tenets of our order, which will carry us through whatever troubles we encounter.

The Grand Master greeted our Past Masters (see article below) and presented each of them with the commemorative coin of his year in the Grand East. He noted that the coin bears the themes of his term of office: A CHANGING WORLD WITH UNCHANGING PRINCIPLES and BROTHERLY LOVE, MORALITY, AND RELIEF.

**Meeting Notice**

There will be a regular stated meeting of Gate City Lodge No. 2, F. & A. M., on February 8, 2005, at 7:30 p.m., in the Masonic Center.

There will be a regular stated meeting of Gate City Lodge No. 2, F. & A. M., on February 22, 2005, at 7:30 p.m., in the Masonic Center.

PAST MASTERS' NIGHT

The January 11 meeting was designated as "Past Masters' Night", a tradition in Gate City of many years. It was very inspirational to see nine of our Past Masters – plus affiliated Past Master **Richard Sagar** - present. Most Worshipful Grand Master Garner called them to the altar to recognize and thank them for their many years of service to Gate City and to Freemasonry in general.

Present were Worshipful Brothers **Jeff Hodges** (1979), **Cecil Pacetti** (1986), **David Johnston** (1989), **Melvin Burton** (1995), **Marc Bohn** (1997), **Tom Lawrence** (1999), **Joe Brooks** (2000), **Larry Sullivan** (2002), and **Evan Richmond** (2003). Our affiliated PM, **Dick Sagar**, said he first became a Past Master in 1952. Our Lodge is very fortunate to continue to have the sage advice of these dedicated and knowledgeable Masons.

Noting that the ranks of the Past Masters, for the first time in 48 years, did not include **Charles A. Wofford**, WB **David Johnston** memorialized WB Wofford in a short but moving recollection of the "The Judge's" service to his beloved Gate City. The highlight, of course, was Brother Charlie's record of perfect attendance at every stated meeting of the Lodge, from initiation in 1947 until felled by illness last spring.

GATE CITY MEANS GOOD FOOD

At every meeting our Stewards make sure that a delicious meal is on hand for the brethren. The food is served about 6:30, so come early, eat well, and be ready in plenty of time for the 7:30 opening.

---

BROOKS RECOGNIZED FOR 50 YEARS OF  
SERVICE

On January 11, Grand Master **Albert F. Garner, Jr.**, presented our Worshipful Master **Joe Brooks**, PM, with the pin, apron, and certificate given by the Grand Lodge of Georgia to its fifty year members. The Most Worshipful Grand Master said it is always a pleasure to make that presentation, but that it was especially pleasing this time because WB Brooks' fifty years have been filled with service to Freemasonry and his community.

WB Brooks made a gracious and eloquent response to the Grand Master's remarks, noting the personal benefits and satisfactions he has received from his association with our brotherhood.

**Joseph Wilks Brooks**, PM, was raised in J. H. Gurley Lodge #337, Waco Texas, on February 1, 1955. He served Gate City as Worshipful Master for the first time in 2000 and is now back for a second term. He is a dual member of Gate City, Metro Daylight Lodge #743, and his mother lodge, J. J. Gurley.

Senior Steward **Walter Bishop** moved that the Lodge have WB Brooks' certificate framed, and the brethren enthusiastically voted to do so.

Other Fifty Year award recipients present were WBs **Richard Sagar** and **Jeff Hodges**.

---

BOHN REPORTS ON DeMOLAY

**Marc B. Bohn**, PM, our Senior Warden and the Executive Officer of the Order of DeMolay in Georgia, presented an encouraging report on youth organization activities. He said that the Grand Lodge Youth Council is active and working, that East Point Lodge, in Peachtree City, is establishing a new DeMolay Chapter, and that Panthersville Lodge, in Conyers, is moving to reestablish their DeMolay Chapter. He closed by saying that area DeMolays stand ready to present the third and fourth sections of the DeMolay Degree – the dramatic sections – whenever Gate City would like to have them.

---

*Theme for 2005*  
**Young Men, Fresh Ideas, New Leaders.**

---

*Just a reminder - if you haven't already paid your 2005 dues, do so now!*

---

SICKNESS & DISTRESS

At the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting it was reported that Chaplain **Harold Cox**, PM, was absent because of an ailing foot. There was lengthy discussion as to whether or not it was “foot-in-mouth” disease, with the narrow consensus among the brethren seemed to be that it ~~probably~~ possibly wasn't.

---

GATE CITY SCENE

WB **Evan Richmond** was at the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, just back from a winter vacation at Bro. **Jay Schleusener**'s home in Montezuma, Costa Rica. He reports that Costa Rica is wonderful and he hated to return.

We were pleased to have three visitors at the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, from Metro Daylight Lodge and Sandy Springs Lodge. They were there especially to see WB **Joe Brooks** receive the 50 Year award.

---

THE TRESTLE BOARD

This is the third issue of *The Trestle Board* in its renewed format: an occasional news magazine, distributed primarily via e-mail. The first issue was at the end of November 2004, and the second was on December 31, 2004. It is hoped that we can soon have electronic coverage for most of the membership, with a few hard copies handed out at meetings.

As covered in the “History of Gate City Lodge”, *The Trestle Board* was founded 90 years ago by Raymund Daniel, PM (Grand Master in 1928 and 1929). It was the first lodge publication in Georgia, and the second Masonic one in the state, older than the Grand Lodge's *Masonic Messenger*. We will endeavor to make it interesting and useful, following in the rich tradition of our Lodge and its newsletter.

**In order to make this work we need e-mail addresses! If you have the address of a member, pass it on to Don Sawyer or Fred Williams.**

---

OFFICERS' CALENDAR

WM **Joe Brooks** has said that every Tuesday evening is “Lodge night.” At first, non-meeting Tuesdays will be used for practice, but as proficiency increases they will be used for team building or other purposes. Sometimes, with sufficient notification, the gathering will not be at the Masonic Center.

Also, remember that Lodge of Instruction will be held in February on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.