



2005 No. 6 ~ JUNE 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

FOUR INITIATED IN MAY

Four new members were initiated into Gate City Lodge in the two May meetings. Bro. Junior Warden Beaux Petty did himself proud, conferring the degree on both occasions. He was ably assisted by Bro. Senior Deacon Doug Hrabe, other regular officers, and some excellent stand-ins.

It is expected that at east three of the Entered Apprentice brethren will be ready to stand their examination, and if found worthy, the Fellowcraft Degree at the stated meeting on June 14.

GATE CITY CONTINUES TO PLAN LODGE ROOM IMPROVEMENTS

Gate City members are continuing to plan for an "extreme make-over" of our meeting room. As previously reported, the major improvement will be to replace the existing shag carpet with a beautiful tessalated marble floor, greatly enhancing the air of solemnity which should be the centerpiece of our degrees and rituals. Other ideas are also be floated, to further render our meeting chamber as a place of contemplation and reflection.

Young Men, Fresh Ideas, New Leaders

Gate City Lodge in 2005!

Meeting Notice

There will be a regular stated meeting of Gate City Lodge No. 2, F. & A. M., on June 14, 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 July 26, 2005, at 7:30 p.m., in the Masonic Center.

BENEFIT FOR OFFICER MARK CROSS

If you have been paying attention to the local news you may recall that on April 23rd, Officer Mark Cross and three fellow Red Dog Atlanta Policemen were making a routine drug stop when it went fatally wrong. One of the suspected perpetrators in the car fired a shot at Officer Cross, striking him in the head, fatally wounding him. He is survived by his wife and two children, Thai, a 4-year-old boy, and Aida, a 2 year old girl.

Officer Cross' friends of Gate City Lodge #2, the Traveling Men (a Masonic motorcycle club), and the Motor Corps have arranged a live concert at Smiths Old Bar to raise funds for his family. Smith's is located at the corner of Piedmont and Monroe, across from Ansley Mall in Midtown, Atlanta. They are being very generous by donating their facilities and Avatar Events Group is being equally as generous by donating all sound equipment. The concert will be on the evening of Sunday, June 26th, with a \$ 10 admission charge. Many local business and friends are donating items to raffle, hoping to raise additional monies.

100% of all funds collected at the door and raffle will go directly to the family. Please help by supporting these fine officers with your attendance, raffle items, or direct donations. If you cannot be present, please make your check out to Mark Cross Memorial Fund and deliver it to any Bank of America or mail it to Evan Richmond, 912 St. Charles Ave, Atlanta, GA 30306.

OFFICERS' CALENDAR

Every Tuesday evening is "Lodge night" for the officer line. When there is no meeting the time will be used for practice or other team activities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

May committee reports included:

Attendance – Worshipful Master **Joe Brooks** reports that he has obtained a CD of or membership from Grand Lodge, which he is using to compile a data base to be used in contacting members and other actions. One problem was that his computer hard drive crashed, causing him to lose everything on it. He says he's slowly getting back to fighting condition.

History – Bro. **Fred Williams** reported that he is preparing yearly synopses from the minutes to help the PMs make input to the up-dated History of the Lodge.

History – Bro. Fred Williams reports that his job in Florida is soaking up much more of his time than anticipated, and the work on the planned up-date to the Lodge history has lagged.

The Trestle Board – Bro. Williams reports that the reporting of Lodge activities has been slow, but he has been able to get enough to keep the Lodge publication going. He continues to be unable to attend meetings because of employment in Florida and beseeches his Brethren to report news and items of interest.

GATE CITY SCENE

Bro. **Dimitri Masselos** has returned from Greece where he attended his father's funeral.

MASONIC DEFINITIONS

Realizing that we often use archaic terms in Freemasonry, SW "**Beaux**" **Pettys** offers definitions from "A Dictionary of Freemasonry," by Robert McCoy (1815-1895). They are being run as space permits.

Due Form When a Lodge is constituted, and it's officers installed, or any Masonic service is performed, such as laying cornerstones, consecrating halls, by the Grand Master and his officers, it is said to be done in ample form; if by deputies of the Grand Master, it is said to be done in due form.

SICKNESS & DISTRESS

WB **Harold Cox** returned to the Chaplain's station at the May 10th meeting after a prolonged bout with the gout. WB Harold said that he's feeling much better, although he still has a touch of the problem in his right hand.

"THE MASONIC TEMPLE"

Nowadays, Gate City Lodge makes its home in what is called The Masonic Center, the name reflective of the many Masonic bodies that meet there. To the members of "Old Number Two" of my father's generation, however, the term "The Masonic Temple" referred to a beautiful building at the corner of Peachtree and Cain.

From a cornerstone laid by Grand Master Max Meyerhardt on May 8, 1907, a magnificent structure arose eight stories tall, built of manganese brick with terra cotta and Bedford stone. The vestibules were of Georgia marble and all the exposed wood was mahogany. From what I have heard it must have been a wonderful Temple.

It was dedicated to Masonic use on February 22, 1909, by Grand Master Thomas H. Jeffries, one of Gate City Lodge's most notable sons, and Gate City was the first Lodge to meet there, the very next day. It was our Lodge's sixth meeting place, and recognized as the ninth meeting place for the down-town Lodges.

Many memorable gatherings were held there, and during the 'teens and 'twenties several hundred Masons would attend special meetings of Gate City and other Lodges.

Repair work was being carried out on the afternoon of September 7, 1950, when a workman's acetylene torch sparked a blaze. Despite the efforts of thirteen fire companies, with thirty-six streams of water concentrated on the building, it was gutted. The loss in terms of dollars was put at \$345,000. (It must be recalled that such an amount then was much more than it is today).

Gate City was offered a meeting hall by Oglethorpe Lodge No. 655, on Seminole Avenue, near the intersection of Ponce de Leon and Highland, and we met there for ten years, until the present building was completed. (Your Editor was raised there in 1959, by his father, who was Worshipful Master that year.)

The cornerstone of the new Temple, on Peachtree at Brookwood Station, was laid September 17, 1959, and the building was dedicated September 9, 1960. The first degree work done in the new building was by Gate City, four days after the dedication.

We had occupied the Peachtree and Cain Temple for 41 years, 6 months, and 16 days, the longest we had occupied any of our homes. We have now, however, been in the present Masonic Center for over forty-four years, so we can say that this has been our home longer than any other meeting place we have had.