

## LODGE RAISES \$6670 FOR OFFICER'S FAMILY

Mark Cross, 31, an officer of the Red Dog Squad in the City of Atlanta, was shot and killed on April 23, 2005, leaving behind a wife and two daughters. **Mike Bjelajac**, a Gate City member and an Atlanta police officer and a pallbearer at Officer Cross' funeral, felt compelled to plan an event to help the fallen officer's family, and he contacted his Lodge brothers for help. Fortunately, there are several musicians and others affiliated with the music industry in our Lodge, and they generously agreed to an evening of music, featuring five bands.

320 people came out on June 26, a rainy Sunday night, to support Officer Cross' family. Among them were Atlanta Police Officers, Red Dog Squad members, DeKalb County's finest, and a host of other officers from metro area departments. Door receipts were \$5,770, and tee shirt sales totaled \$900. All proceeds went directly to the family.

Many people, both inside and outside the Lodge, stepped forward to make this great evening happen. **Kenny Cresswell** supplied all of the amplifiers, secured the venue free of charge, and served as the impromptu master of ceremonies and auctioneer extraordinaire. (Brother Kenny created an excitement that made people want to give more money - WM **Joe Brooks** commented, "Every time I saw Kenny it cost me twenty dollars.") **Brit** and **Richard Turner** provided graphic design and printing services for posters and cards. **Doug Hrabe** worked the door prizes all night long. **Mike Paller** donated some great door prizes which helped create more interest and boost the bottom line; he even gave back a \$50 gift certificate he'd won so that it could raise more money (**Kenny Cresswell** sold it for \$100!). **Walter "Ski-Bo" Bishop** showed up ready to work the door. Other Gate City men there included WB **Dan Genson**, **Ken Oaks**, **Don Sawyer**, and WB **Tom Lawrence**, who brought his son. **Brit Turner** took a donation bucket to the people who worked the show and made sure that they did not go un-harassed (they were happy to give). **Chris Wilson's** wife gave him a choice between being at the benefit or helping to prepare the donation buckets and door prize signs; he chose the latter and subsequently couldn't make it to the show. Outside the Lodge, Onyx Consulting created a banner at 11p.m. the night before and donated a 20GB i-Pod. Other donations came from MTP Enterprises (a \$500 coupon for a door prize!), Moe's and Joe's, Smith's Old Bar, Braves Radio WGST 640, and AMC Theaters - all deserve thanks.

Three of the five bands that played at the benefit featured members of Gate City. **Kenny Cresswell**, **Beaux Pettys**, and **Mac Carter** worked together for this event to form "Albert Pike and the Masonic Shock" (an assist to **Brit Turner** for coming up with the cool name!); they were assisted by non-members Tim Nielsen and Ted Duncan, on bass and keyboard. **Mac Carter** worked double duty, and brought his band "Swiss Army" in for an impressive set of original music.

Special thanks go to "Blackberry Smoke", a professional touring band which features **Brit** and **Richard Turner** on drums and bass. They arrived in Atlanta at 7 a.m. the day of the show and played the benefit with little or no rest, doing an incredible job as our headline act. Two other bands, "Stoval" and "Arm" also earned the heartfelt thanks of Gate City Lodge No. 2.

Great job, **Mike Bjelajac** and Gate City!

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### PETTYS & SAWYER ADVANCING

With the completion of the first half of the year, as planned from the beginning, two of our officers will step up in their stations for the remainder of the year. Bro. **Beaux Pettys** will move from Junior Warden to Senior Warden and Bro. **Don Sawyer** will move from Tyler to Junior Warden. They will occupy these stations pro tem through the rest of the year. This action will put us on track for the advancement of all officers to the next higher station at our annual election of officers, if it be the will of the Lodge. Our motto -- Young Men, Fresh Ideas, New Leaders -- is being put into action.

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# Young Men, Fresh Ideas, New Leaders

*Gate City Lodge in 2005!*

FROM THE EAST

*From Worshipful Master Joe Brooks –*

On behalf of the Lodge, I want to extend heartfelt thanks to WB **Marc Bohn**, our regularly elected Senior Warden, for surrendering his station to Bro. **Beaux Pettys**. WB Bohn serves Gate City so well, in so many ways. He accepted the West with our current plan in mind. He will continue, of course, to work in the Lodge and make his persuasive contribution.

"Let brotherly love prevail," is an oft-spoken phrase in Freemasonry, and indeed was the theme of MWB Joseph P. Suttles in his year as Grand Master. It is more than just a phrase, and should never be taken lightly. "Let brotherly love prevail," is a foundation stone of the fraternity and should ever be given priority when differences of opinion or personal disagreements arise, as they inevitably will. Brethren sitting in Lodge together should always find those hours a time of harmonious relationship. The Worshipful Master urges all Gate City brethren to come to Lodge, setting differences aside, and seeking to find unity of purpose through brotherly love.

Watch your *Trestle Board* for exciting new things happening in the Lodge. We have much to do, and every member is invited to come and join in the work.

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GATE CITY SCENE

... **Doug Hrabe**, working the door prizes at the Officer Cross benefit, in trouble with his wife for coming in at one a.m. ... **Don Sawyer** wearing a yamakuh at a rock-and-roll concert ... **Jay Schleusener** was in Costa Rica after spending thirty days on the road with a British rock band, taking care of their light show ... **Mike Bjelajac** traveled to Israel for a series of special training courses to assist his future endeavors in law enforcement ... **Dimitrios Masselos**'s wife and two daughters are abroad in Bosnia for a couple of months, visiting his in-laws ... **Richard Turner** is the proud father of a new baby boy, William Jennings Turner – congratulations!

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SICKNESS & DISTRESS

Adam, 19-year-old brother of our Fellocrafr Bro. **Frank Fowler**, was taken to the hospital by his parents to have a kidney stone removed. On the way home, their car was hit from the side and Adam was killed. Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to Bro. Fowler and his family.

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THANKS TO CAPITOL CITY LODGE

**Josh Potter**, one of Gate City's new Entered Apprentices, had to leave for military training before he could be examined in Gate City. WB **Joe Brooks** asked Capitol City Lodge No 642 to examine him by courtesy. They kindly allowed our JW **Beaux Pettys** to conduct the examination and readily approved of the work. Fraternal thanks to our brethren of Capitol City Lodge!

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BISHOP & PETTYS VISIT SOLOMON'S NO. 1

Brothers **Walter Bishop** and **Beaux Pettys** took a road trip to Savannah, where they assisted Walter Stuckey, Bishop's 93-year-old grandfather, in attending Solomon's Lodge No. 1, his home lodge. (Solomon's Lodge is an historic Lodge, the first Lodge in Georgia and the oldest continuously-meeting Lodge in North America.) They witnessed a raising in the ancient method and assisted, in a small way, in portraying the Hiram Legend.

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## HODGES ON THE ROAD, TOO

*From Worshipful Brother Jeff Hodges –*

Fred: just returned from Pigeon Forge, Tenn., where the Southeastern York Rite meeting was held, June 8-10. The heads of Georgia's York Rite bodies were present, along with other "grand officers".

In May, Lady Dot and I were in Louisville, Ky., for her meeting of the National Assn. of Railway Business Women. On checking into the hotel, I noticed a registration table for the Southeastern Shrine Greeters Assoc. It was "manned" by several ladies, one of whom was Mildred Roshto, wife of Gate City member, **David Roshto**, also a member of the "Salamala" unit of Yaarrab Temple, and a member of the Greeters Assn. We were received by the group royally, attended one of their sessions, and enjoyed their hospitality. But here is the "kicker" ...small world...two weeks later, Dot and I were on our way to Salt Lake City for the annual Red Cross of Constantine meeting. Boarding a flight in Houston, who should come down the aisle, but Mildred Roshto! She was on her way to Washington State for her company. The Roshto's have recently been transferred to Alexandria, La., and are building a home there.

Salt Lake City is an interesting place. I recommend it to all. While there, quite unexpectedly, I was appointed "Illustrious Grand Herald" of the Red Cross by the incoming Sovereign, Charles Baddour, from Memphis, Tenn., whom I have known for many years.

Best to you... Jeff

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## SCHUESSNER RECOGNIZED FOR DEGREE WORK

Bro. **Jay Schleusener**, one of our newer Master Masons, has really stepped up and helped make our EA initiations a meaningful experience. He was a bright spot in the recent initiations, delivering an impeccable question and answer phase at the inner door, where our new members get their all-important first impression of Freemasonry.

## **Meeting Notice**

**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.**