

PETTYS TO LEAD LODGE IN 2006

At the Annual Communication, December 13, 2005, **William Howland “Beaux” Pettys, II**, was elected to be our Worshipful Master in 2006. WB Pettys served as Junior Warden in 2005 and, in the last part of the year, as Acting Senior Warden. He has earned the reputation as an outstanding ritualist and as an able speaker.

WB Pettys was born March 10, 1969, in Atlanta. He was raised in Gate City Lodge on September 23, 1997. He is the founder and owner of Inman Park Marble and Granite LLC, and an accomplished guitarist and songwriter.

Our new Worshipful Master has a strong Masonic pedigree. His father, a Mason, was not a member of Gate City Lodge, but his grandfather, Norman W. Pettys, Sr., was a Gate City man, raised in our Lodge in 1949. He was Editor of *The Trestle Board* in 1950 and '51 and active on several Gate City committees. He later dimitted in favor of Peachtree Lodge #732, where he served as Secretary. He was involved in many aspects of Freemasonry, but was perhaps best known for his devotion to the Order of DeMolay: he was a DeMolay Legion of Honor recipient and the Executive Officer of DeMolay in Georgia in the 1950's. He was Potentate of Yaarab Shrine Temple in 1961 and was made a 33° Mason in 1997. Norman W. Pettys, Sr., died in 1985 and a Scottish Rite Class was named for him in 1987. Our new Lodge Room floor is dedicated to his memory.

Norman W. Pettys, Jr., our Worshipful Master's uncle, is also a Gate City man. Before becoming a Mason he had been, in 1958, Master Councilor of Howard Geldert Chapter Order of DeMolay. (We note with some pride that Howard Geldert was also a Gate City member and the person who brought DeMolay to Georgia, in 1922.)

WALTER BISHOP

Within the span of about one month, Bro. Walter Bishop's daughter was in a serious car accident, his grandfather passed away, and his mother, Joyce Bishop, was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer.

Bro. Walter, our Senior Steward, better known as “Ski Bo”, has put aside all his other obligations to be at this mother's home in Savannah, caring for her to get her strong enough for another operation, her fourth.

We are pleased to be able to report that Bro. Walter's daughter is doing fine. And, even more, we are pleased to be able to report that we have such a wonderful and caring Brother in our Lodge.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Communication went very smoothly, thanks to the good work of WB Jeff Hodges. WB Jeff conducted the elections and served as Installing Officer. He was ably assisted in both functions by WB C. David Johnston.

The elected and appointed officers of the Lodge for 2006 are as given in the masthead.

The new Director of Work, WB Dan Genson, replaces WB Jeff Hodges, who had served in that capacity since at least 2000. (Our records are not clear as to that, however, and it is my believe that he was Director of Work since 1995.) Before that he had been Associate Director of Work for many years under WB Jack Burns.

Named Ambassador to the Masonic Home was Bro. Kenny Cresswell.

Meeting Notice

The Annual Communication, a regular stated meeting of Gate City Lodge No. 2, F. & A. M., will be held on January 10, 2006, 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 January 24, 2006, at 7:30 p.m., in the Masonic Center.

SAWYER AND HRABE ELECTED WARDENS

Elected to serve as Wardens under Worshipful Master Petty in 2006 are **Donald E. Sawyer** and **Douglas J. Hrabe**.

Bro. Don Sawyer served as Tyler last year. Prior to that, he had been inactive since 2000, when health and other problems had resulted in his having to withdraw from the Officer Corps after having worked his way up to Junior Warden. Bro. Sawyer was born in Orlando, Florida, on February 7, 1959, and was raised in Gate City on November 12, 1985. He has acted as Associate Editor of The Trestle Board since the electronic revival of our newsletter in November, 2004. He is a Shriner and a member of the Samala unit of Yaarab Temple. He is a financial consultant with the A. G. Edwards firm.

Bro. Doug Hrabe was the Lodge's Senior Deacon in 2005. He was born in Jefferson City, Missouri, on March 26, 1962, and was raised in Gate City on December 11, 2003. He is the Secondary Science Coordinator for DeKalb County schools.

MASONIC LODGE OF INSTRUCTION

The Lodge of Instruction will be held on the last three Wednesdays of January and the first of February, January 11, 18, and 25, and February 1, 2006.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

We understand that Bro. Ralph Burton had a slight disagreement with an eighteen-wheeler back in October and is bragging about how he won! His wife reports that his car is not in the best shape. But that he is doing fine.

Bro. Milton "Sonny" Childress was in the hospital with the flu, contracted soon after having a surgery for a double bypass and a valve job. He is out of the hospital and recovering splendidly.

As mentioned earlier in this issue, Bro. Walter Bishop is having a tough go of it.

Please keep Bros. Burton, Childress, and Bishop in your thoughts and prayers.

NEW FLOOR INSTALLED IN LODGE ROOM

After forty-five years of having a black-and-white shag carpet in the South Meeting Room of the Peachtree Road Masonic Center, Gate City Lodge has taken the lead to install a floor more suitable for Masonic purposes.

The new floor, elegant and beautiful, consists of about 800 alternating 18-inch squares of Black Zimbabwe granite tile and White Carrera tile. It was laid from December 28, 2005, to January 2, 2006, by Javier Javier Guerra, owner of J&W Flooring, and his crew, along with Kevin Shay, an industry journeyman, working 13 hours each day except on Saturday.

Cracks in the concrete underflooring were repaired with a rubber membrane. Seventy bags of the best mortar on the market were used, as were sixty pounds of hand-blended grout (using a ratio of 4 portions of white to one portion of black to mimic the color of the Carrera).

There are four planned imperfections on the floor, one each in the East, West, South, and North. The East, West, and South imperfections are to remind the holders of those seats that they are fallible and that in all of their Masonic endeavors the interests of the Lodge should come before personal glory or aggrandizement. As there is no symbolic light in the north and it is, Masonically, a place of darkness, the imperfection is placed there as a reminder that our imperfections can be made known, even when hidden, through our actions and words.

Two 8-inch temporary wooden thresholds have been installed, to be replaced within a month with sandblasted inscriptions of a dedication at the outer door and a warning, in Latin, at the inner door.

Our in-coming Worshipful Master, Beaux Pettys, conceived of the project, took the lead in organizing it, and made sure it was done right. All members of Gate City are urged to turn out at the stated meetings on January 10 and 17 and behold another of the wondrous things your Lodge is doing!

MORE IMPROVEMENTS AHEAD?

Your Editor is told that WB David Johnston is investigating obtaining new staffs for the Deacons.

We also understand that WB John Guest is looking into a new ceiling for the South Lodge Room.

MASONIC MANNERS

Our esteemed Treasurer, WB C. David Johnston, has been presenting short talks in Lodge that he calls "Masonic Minutes." With his permission and assistance, we will present some of the series from time to time.

Wear Your Apron With Pride! "It is the distinguished Badge of a Mason."

1. Always wear your Apron over (outside, on top of) any clothing you have on. DO NOT wear it under your suit or sport jacket.
2. Do not stand in the Lodge at "reverse parade rest" – that is with your hands clasped in front, which covers your Apron. If you have to put your hands somewhere clasp them in back – military parade rest.

Remember: "If you never give it offense, it never will give you shame!"

100 YEARS AGO

In January, 1909, the Lodge held its two stated meetings, on the 9th and the 23rd. Both meetings were largely devoted to degree work, with four candidates being entered on the 9th and then passed at the next meeting. This marked a bit of a lull in the work, inasmuch as three called meetings had been held the previous month specifically to do degree work.

The downtown Lodges were at that time meeting in the Clarke Building, at the corner of Mitchell and Forsythe Streets. The facilities were inadequate, so a new Temple was being contemplated. At the meeting on the 23rd Gate City was one of the first Lodges to pledge finances toward the new Temple, subscribing \$4,000 at \$800 a year. The new Temple, at Peachtree & Cain, was finally dedicated in January, 1909, with Grand Master Tom Jeffries (WM of Gate City in 1892 and '93) presiding.

The Worshipful Master in 1906 was Robert A. Henderson, a native of Burford, Ontario, born there in 1847. He was raised in Gate City on September 9, 1902. He later became one of the throng of Gate City men to move to California. He died in 1925.

GATE CITY ON LINE

Have you checked out www.gatecity2.com recently? It's terrific and worth your time.

LODGE OFFICERS ATTEND RETREAT

This report was submitted by WB David Johnston.

"To the mountains!" That was the cry the weekend of December 9-11, 2005, as the officers of Gate City held a Retreat at Big Canoe. Claire Pettys, getting a head start on fulfilling her role as a most supportive First Lady of the Lodge, found excellent accommodations, a six-bedroom house high atop a mountain complete with its own Lodge Room. The purpose of the Retreat was to improve floor work, plan for the future, and build camaraderie – all were accomplished in due and ample form!

The floor work at our Annual Meeting, including the balloting process and the Installation of Officers, showed the fruits of some of those labors. After the floor work rehearsals, the smoking lamp was lit, drinks were poured for toasting, and steaks were put on the grill. After dinner there were other activities and diversions, including a pool table and indoor Jacuzzi.

Chefs Hrabe and Sawyer provided kosher meals – even Beaux fell in love with the pasta Saturday night – although the muffin plate each morning kept us going.

Those in attendance - Beaux Pettys, Don Sawyer, Doug Hrabe, Mike Bjelajec, Tom Lawrence, David Johnston, Jeff Hodges, and Joe Brooks - had a most excellent adventure. All agreed the Retreat was such a great success that we should make it an annual event – and that it might include all the Brethren of the Lodge! Stay tuned (and read *The Trestle Board*) for more info throughout the year.

TOYS FOR TOTS BENEFIT

Blackberry Smoke, the band of Bros. Brit and Richard Turner, played at a three-band benefit on behalf of Toys For Tots at Smith's Olde Bar on Friday, December 23, 2005, at 8PM. Gate City Lodge was one of the sponsors of this event.

Even though two days before Christmas is a tough time to hold any event, about 200 people attended and about \$2,400 and 400 cans of food were raised.

If you haven't had a chance to hear Blackberry Smoke you should be on the lookout for their next performance. Your Editor is told (by a reliable source) that no matter what your musical taste, you will be thoroughly impressed. Blackberry Smoke is a professional touring band that performs great original music intermingled with covers.

1887	Charles F. Malone
1888	John Z. Lawshe
1889	John S. Parks
1890	John S. Parks
1891	John S. Parks
1892	Thomas H. Jeffries
1893	Thomas H. Jeffries
1894	John R. Dickey
1895	J. Stovall Smith
1896	John R. Wilkinson
1897	Albert P. Wood
1898	Joseph C. Greenfield
1899	John D. Simmons
1900	Edward P. Wood
1901	James T. Wright
1902	Samuel E. Smith
1903	Talley B. Graves
1904	Cicero A. Peek
1905	Charles E. Hall
1906	Robert A. Henderson
1907	John H. Mullin
1908	Walter D. Waitt
1909	Royal Daniel
1910	John Gilmore
1911	John A. Brice
1912	Raymund Daniel
1913	J. LeRoy Duncan
1914	Joseph Gregg, Jr.
1915	Henry C. Heinz
1916	James B. McNelley

1917	John W. Bachman
1918	J. Albert Woolley
1919	William G. Hastings
1920	Arthur J. Stitt
1921	Morris M. Ewing
1922	Virgil E. Adams
1923	Theodore B. Fay
1924	J. M. B. Bloodworth
1925	Paul F. Greenfield
1926	Daniel I. MacIntyre, Jr.
1927	Dowse B. Donaldson
1928	Leo S. Gilbert
1929	H. Stacy Darrington
1930	Charles H. Wetmore
1931	Leon M. Gauvreau
1932	Rudolph L. Schneider
1933	Edgar B. McDougal
1934	George R. Trippe
1935	James W. Setze
1936	Larkin D. Cathcart
1937	Talley Kirkland
1938	Charles E. Hall, Jr.
1939	Wallace W. Rhodes
1940	Theodore J. Whitehead
1941	Herbert T. Briscoe
1942	C. Frederick Morgareidge
1943	Charles C. Edenfield
1944	J. Dial Lathem
1945	A. Nicholas Anderson
1946	Malcolm H. Shelton

1947	Charles P. Taylor
1948	Thomas S. Perry
1949	Tommy D. Davidson
1950	Albert W. Gordon
1951	Fletcher G. Rogers
1952	Glenn H. Burnett
1953	R. E. A. Sparks
1954	Walter W. Strobbert
1955	George J. Awtry
1956	David C. Holland
1957	Charles A. Wofford
1958	Jack J. Burns
1959	Fred L. Williams, Jr.
1960	William R. McGee
1961	James A. Futch
1962	George W. Pope
1963	Russell E. Suber
1963	J. Norwood Jones, Jr.
1964	James M. Drill
1965	Thomas H. Gilbert
1966	Carl W. Poss
1967	John W. Sanders, Jr.
1968	Karl G. Barbour
1969	Carlos G. Dick
1970	P. Elliott Kyle
1971	Thomas R. Hitz, Jr.
1972	George A. Wise
1973	C. B. Jones
1974	Kent C. Taylor
1975	Carl A. Herbig

1976	Eugene H. Musser
1977	V. Lee Waymire
1978	Paul A. King
1979	Jeff W. Hodges
1980	William D. Smith
1981	Kenneth J. Day
1982	John A. Morse
1983	Harry Hewey
1984	A. Harold Cox
1985	Sam J. Deavours
1986	Cecil G. Pacetti, Jr.
1987	William T. Hitz
1988	Daniel E. Gensen
1989	C. David Johnston
1990	J. Vann Johnson
1991	William C. Akins
1992	Gerald H. Kerr
1993	John F. Guest, Jr.
1994	Ronald M. Toms
1995	R. Melvin Burton
1996	David Wallace Gunn
1997	Marc B. Bohn
1998	Paul W. Hauck
1999	Thomas E. Lawrence, Jr.
2000	Joseph W. Brooks
2001	Daniel E. Gensen
2002	Robert L. Sullivan
2003	Evan L. Richmond
2004	Daniel E. Gensen
2005	Joseph W. Brooks

