

## SELIGMAN RAISED

At the meeting on February 28 **Craig Ryan Seligman** was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Worshipful Master **Beaux Pettys** provided candles and dramatic lighting to enhance the presentation, and he and the officer corps did an outstanding job of raising our new brother.

Prior to the 7:30 opening there was a lasagna dinner at 6:30 in the dining room.

More degree work is coming up, with investigations scheduled for three new petitioners.

Post-meeting libations were at Smith's Old Bar.

## VALENTINE'S DAY MEETING

A "romantic" Lodge meeting on the day devoted to Cupid? Well, yes! Gate City served no food at the regular stated meeting on February 14 and only a few brothers were there at 7:30 to open in short form, conduct a brief business session, and close. Then everyone proceeded to the Warren, a members-only restaurant in the Virginia-Highland area, where WB **Dan Genson**, SW **Don Sawyer**, and JW **Doug Hrabe** and their wives were greeting members and their wives or girlfriends for a romantic evening in an up-scale environment. The Warren features a bistro-type menu and a great wine list. It is interesting to note, in this era where smoking is banned in most places, that cigars were on hand.

Who says Gate City isn't romantic?

## **Meeting Notice**

**The Annual Communication, a regular stated meeting of Gate City Lodge No. 2, F. & A. M., will be held on March 14, 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 March 28, 2006, at 7:30 p.m., in the Masonic Center.**

## GATE CITY TO SEE THE TRASHERS

JW **Doug Hrabe** has made arrangements to obtain twelve tickets to an up-coming Atlanta Thrashers hockey match. The available dates were March 20, March 23, and April 13. He was seeking responses from interested brethren no later than March 11, but you might check to see what night was chosen and if any tickets remain. You can contact Bro. Doug at [djhrabe@bellsouth.net](mailto:djhrabe@bellsouth.net).

## SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

WB **Harold Cox**, our esteemed Chaplain, is still laid up with gout. We are concerned about you, Brother Harold, and want you back in the saddle!

Away from sickness, but certainly distressful, our JW **Don Sawyer** is looking for employment. Brother Don, a graduate in Mechanical Engineering from Georgia Tech, is seeking work in the area of Manufacturing Engineering. He offers a lot to his next employer, with an MBA from Tech and ten years of industrial applications experience on his resume. Please contact Brother Don with any leads.

We note with sadness the passing of Joyce Brooks, the wife of our Immediate Past Master, Joe Brooks, on February 13. Joyce had been battling various illnesses for about a year and a half . The funeral was on Saturday, February 18, at Canton Hill Funeral Home, Marietta.

*Check out [www.gatecity2.com](http://www.gatecity2.com). We have a great website!*

“OUTSTANDING GEORGIA FREEMASONS”

One of the jewels of Georgia Freemasonry is the Georgia Lodge of Research, with a long history of documenting and providing insights into our fraternity within the state and globally. A number of Gate City men have played prominent roles in the organization over the years, but none have been more involved than our Bro. **Richard Sagar** – Bro. Dick is a Fellow of the Lodge, has twice been its Worshipful Master, was a Callaway Lecturer, and has been Editor of the annual Transactions for a number of years.

The Lodge of Research has just distributed a bonus book, a wonderful addition to Georgia Masonic history, a volume published by the Grand Lodge Educational and Historical Commission, “Outstanding Georgia Free-masons.” The entries were compiled by Past Grand Master Earl Douglas Harris, who died prior to publication, and were completed and edited by Bro. David L. Canaday and his wife. As soon as the book was received, your Editor turned immediately to the index to check for Gate City men – and we found that seven of our members have been included in this important book. In alphabetical order, with a mere snippet of the information, they are:

**Francis Raymund Daniel** –WM GCL 1912 and MWGM 1928 and 1929.

**Thomas H. Jeffries** - WM GCL 1892 and 1893 and MWGM 1908 and 1909.

**John A. “Jack” Morse** –WM GCL 1982 and IGM R&SM.

**Thomas S. Perry** –WM GCL 1948 and Grand Treasurer for seven years.

**Richard S. “Dick” Sagar** – involved in Masonic activities at all levels since 1948.

**Hoke Smith** – Gov. of Georgia 1907-09 and 1911, U.S. Senator 1911, U. S. Secretary Interior.

**Charles A. Wofford** - WM GCL 1957 and GL Distinguished Service Award 1997.

We have no argument whatsoever with these selections for Georgia’s Masonic elite, they all having earned the recognition through a life of achievement and dedication to the Craft. We do, however, have some thoughts about worthy Gate City men who deserve to be in a subsequent publication. (Let us be quick to note that the omission of some outstanding Gate City men in the current book may in some part be our own fault. Apparently there had been appeals to submit information on worthy Masons, but for some reason we did not see them.)

Some Gate City men we’d like to suggest:

**John S. Cohen** – raised GCL 1891; reporter for *Atlanta Journal* in Cuba Spanish-American War, then Major U.S. Army in that war; President, Editor, and Publisher *Atlanta Journal* 1917-35; US Senator 1932-33.

**Raleigh H. Daniel** – raised GCL 1909; Mayor Augusta, GA, brought aviation to Augusta with purchase of Daniel Field 1927.

**Royal Daniel** – WM GCL 1909; Publisher Quitman (Ga.) *Free Press*.

**Leroy Duncan** – WM GCL 1913; led the effort to adopt a uniform work for Georgia Masonry, served as Chairman GL Board of Custodians of the Uniform Work when it was adopted 1916-17.

**Howard Geldert** – raised GCL 1917; brought DeMolay to Georgia and founded at least six Chapters in the state.

**Henry W. Grady** – raised GCL 1888; founded *Atlanta Herald*, then owner *Atlanta Constitution*; fought corruption and promoted the “new South”; bronze statue at Five Points, main Atlanta hospital, and a high school named for him, as well as a county in Georgia.

**Joseph C. Greenfield** – WM GCL 1898; GHP Grand Chapter of Georgia, Grand Master Grand Council of Georgia, General Grand Commander of the General Grand Council R&S Masters of U.S.; Grand Commander of Georgia; one of founders Atlanta

Consistory, General Secretary Scottish Rite Valley of Atlanta 1906-1920, one of the originators of the idea of a Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children 1914.

**George V. Gress** – affiliated with GCL 1889; Union Army drummer boy in Civil War; lumberman; legislator from Wilcox Co.; donated the Cyclorama painting to Atlanta 1897 and the first animals to Atlanta Zoo 1889.

**William B. Hartsfield** – raised GCL 1918, Secretary 1922; Mayor of Atlanta, 1937-1941 and 1942-1961; Atlanta’s airport named for him.

**Henry Heinz** – WM GCL 1915; Trustee of Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children many years, Potentate Yaarab Shrine Temple; banker; a founder of Atlanta Boys Club; President Kiwanis International.

**Michael Hoke** – raised GCL 1921; physician, head of Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children, later head of Warm Springs Foundation.

**E. P. King, Jr.** – raised GCL 1912, dimitted 1924 to be Charter WM Ft. Benning #579, Columbus, Ga.; Maj. Gen. US Army, commander Philippine-American forces on Bataan and the Death March 1942.

**Alphus and Urias LeFevre** – with Urias’ wife, the LeFevre Trio, one of the best-know gospel music groups from the 1920s through the 1970s; performers, publishers, recording artists, radio, television, the “Jacks of All Gospel Trades” (“Billboard”).

**John L. Westmoreland, Jr.** – raised GCL 1953; attorney, Chair Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children Board of Trustees many years.

And there are others we don’t have room for!

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**PRO TEM OFFICER APPOINTMENTS**

With Senior Steward Walter “Ski Bo” Bishop spending his time with his ill Mother in Savannah, WM Pettys has appointed Bro. Donald Hall to move up one step on an interim basis. In turn, Bro. Richard Turner has been appointed to fill Bro. Hall’s position as Junior Steward until the middle of March. The Worshipful Master was very pleased to see Bro. Turner show up dressed and ready to go at the first meeting of 2006.

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**100 YEARS AGO**

In February, 1906, sixty-seven members of Gate City Lodge No. 2 were among those petitioning to form Palestine Lodge No. 486, which became one of Atlanta’s outstanding Lodges.

Five men were raised on February 16, 1906, including John A. Brice, who became Worshipful Master in 1911. John Brice, born in 1876, was President of the Atlanta *Journal* from 1939 until his death in 1946. At least three other Masters of the Lodge – John Simmons (1899), Royal Daniel (1909), and Raymund Daniel (1912) - also helped “cover Dixie like the dew.” Another Gate City man, John S. Cohen, a U.S. senator in 1932-33, was President, Editor, and Publisher of the *Journal* from 1917 until 1935. (Henry Grady, another Gate City man, was owner of the rival *Constitution*.)

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**SICKNESS AND DISTRESS**

It is reported that Joyce Brooks, wife of our Immediate past master Joe, is gravely ill. She had been in and out of the hospital for the last year and a half due to knee trouble and mobility issues, but was back home and seemingly doing well. After a short time, however, she was readmitted to the hospital.

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#### DEGREE WORK AHEAD

Two candidates have been initiated and will soon be ready to be passed to the degree of a Fellowcraft. Another Brother has passed the examination on the Fellowcraft degree and is expected to be raised at the first meeting in February.

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#### WALTER BISHOP

Walter Bishop's mother, Joyce, passed away in Savannah in January. As we have previously reported, Bro. Walter, our Senior Steward, had been in Savannah for nearly two months taking care of her.

In addition, his grandfather, William Stuckey, whom Bro. Walter had recently taken to Solomon's Lodge No. 1 (for what was Bro. Stuckey's last meeting), also died during that time. Bro. Walter and his grandfather were pleased that at that meeting Solomon's Lodge conducted a raising with a full depiction of the Hiram Legend.

Bro. Walter's daughter, who was involved in a car wreck prior to his going to Savannah, is doing well.

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#### DUES INCREASE DISCUSSED

The second communication of 2006, on January 24, was one of considerable importance to the future of the Lodge. A discussion on the issue of Lodge finances and how to support the fraternal activities of the Lodge was begun. After hearing some of the pros and cons of increasing the dues it was agreed that there is a need for more talk and consideration as the year progresses.

There was also discussion about potential fund-raising activities that might be appropriate and gain the support of the Masonic community.

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#### BJELAJAC ON POLICE HONOR GUAARD

SD Mike Bjelajac is a member of the City of Atlanta Police Honor Guard and was in the funeral this week of Coretta Scott King. Very impressive, Brother Mike!

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#### 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.*

Let the Lodge come to Order! One of the beauties of Masonry is the order we maintain in our Lodge. Without it we are disorganized – with it we are united and can get a tremendous amount of work done, both within the Lodge and without.

1. Always stand to address the Worshipful Master – and continue to hold your salute until recognized by him.
2. Audible conversation about the Lodge – particularly on the floor among officers – is disorderly – and a sign of disrespect to your Worshipful Master, your brethren and your Lodge!

“May the Lodge humbly reflect that order and beauty which reign forever before God’s throne!”