



ATLANTA, GEORGIA
2006 No. 6 ~ JUNE 2006

OFFICERS FOR 2006

Worshipful Master	W. H. "Beaux" Pettys	Senior Deacon	Michael J. Bjelajac
Senior Warden	Donald E. Sawyer	Junior Deacon	Christopher W. Wilson
Junior Warden	Douglas J. Hrabe	Senior Steward	Walter R. Bishop
Secretary	Thomas E. Lawrence, PM	Junior Steward	Donald W. Hall
Treasurer	C. David Johnston, PM	Tyler	Nicholas A. Hayes
Chaplain	A. Harold Cox, PM	Director of Work	Daniel E. Genson, PM

ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE

It is often said that the Entered Apprentice Degree is the most important of the degrees of Freemasonry, because it is our first chance to make a favorable impression on the candidate. That is one reason why the First Degree has always been given a high priority in Gate City Lodge.

Our next opportunity to make a good initial impression will come on Tuesday, June 13, when we will be conferring the Entered Apprentice Degree on one of the largest classes in recent years. We expect to initiate five candidates, to begin their Masonic travels. Indeed, **Worshipful Master Beaux Pettys** informs us of the possibility of the class having six members, which would be outstanding.

WB Pettys says the conferral will be done strictly in candlelight and that all of the officers will be appropriately attired in Tuxedos. The setting will be impressive, and we are sure the degree work will also help get our new brethren off on the right foot (so to speak) in Freemasonry.

OFFICERS RETREAT SCHEDULED

The weekend of December the 8th has been decided as the date of our officers retreat. All brethren are invited, room permitting, but it is especially intended to perfect the floor work of the next year as brethren move through the line of officers. Last year's event was given high marks and the same is expected this year.

Check out Gate City's exciting web site, www.gatecity2.com. Thanks to the outstanding efforts of Bros. Britt and Richard Turner, Gate City has entered the Twenty-first Century!

REMEMBERING "TH' JUDGE"

Worshipful Master Beaux Pettys writes that it has been said that **WB Charles Augustus Wofford**, in addition to being in the Guinness Book of World Records for Lodge attendance, was the first-line signature on 10,000 petitions. *[Editorial note: 10,000 is WB Pettys' number and we would never be so bold as to differ with him. However, in the course of our investigations into the history of our Lodge I have been able to document a total of about 3,400 men, total, having been members of Gate City, 1887 to 2006. We cannot say how many may have had th' Judge as their sponsor – hundreds, we are sure, but probably not thousands. – FLW]*

At any rate, WB Beaux goes on to note that Judge Wofford, who was our Worhipful Master in 1957, died in May, 2004, only hours after missing his first meeting of Gate City since having been initiated in 1947. He was one of the true giants of Gate City Lodge and of Georgia Freemasonry. SW **Doug Hrabe** and WB **John Guest** have both noted the lack of a proper memorial to Judge Wofford in our Lodge room.

Meeting Notice

There will be a regular stated meeting of Gate City Lodge No. 2, F. & A. M., will be held on June 13, 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 July 25, 2006, at 7:30 p.m., in the Masonic Center.

MASONIC CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

We are pleased to report that the floors of the Museum, Hall, Foyer, and Preparation Room have now all been replaced, to match the impressive marble and granite floor of the South Lodge Room. It may be recalled that it was at the initiative of Gate City – and using the resources of the Lodge – that the Lodge Room’s old shag rug was removed and the beautiful new floor was installed.

Twelve-inch square tile, white venatino and black absolute, were used in a tessellated pattern for the Museum, while a checker board was used in the hallway. The Foyer is done in white, while the solemn Preparation Room is in black.

WB Beaux Pettys procured the stone, secured the labor, and managed the latest work. The floor was made possible through donations from **Bro. David Frohman**, of Buford Lodge, **WB Beaux Pettys** of Gate City, and Bros. **Joe** and **Richard Upshaw**, both of Palestine Lodge.

Bros. **Doug Ethridge**, Charity Daylight Lodge, and **Danny Wofford**, Buford Lodge, are planning a large, wood baseboard around the wall.

Bro. Ethridge has been providing the Masonic Center with improvements at or below cost for several years. The red walls in the museum were overseen by him, as was the carpet that we just took out and replaced with tile. His next projects, for Gate City, will be to oversee continuing the red paint of the Museum down the hall to the Lodge entrance, and perhaps to paint the preparation room black. We have it on good authority that many ancient preparation rooms were solid black, and that some of the older European lodges still have black preparation rooms.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

We understand that **WB Harold Cox** and **Bro. Charlie Wyndham** are both ill. We wish them a speedy recovery and a quick return to the activities of Gate City.

GATE CITY BLOOD DRIVE

Despite no recent news, we believe the planned Gate City Blood Drive, scheduled for the Masonic Center on September 21, 2006, is still seeking volunteers. Those who can help out should e-mail **WB Beaux** at beaux@inmanparkmarble.com.

BOWLING FOR BREAST CANCER

We have no recent news about the planned "Bowling For Breast Cancer," but we believe it is still planned for Wednesday, August 2, 2006, from 8:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Tickets, at \$20, include shoe rental and two hours of bowling. At last report, we had two hundred tickets to sell, with all proceeds to go to fight breast cancer.

GETTING AROUND

Bro. Richard Turner (see article, this issue, about raising money) will be putting together a benefit for the Scottish Rite Children's Hospital in the Dallas - Fort Worth area on July 21, 2006..Details will be forthcoming.

FIREARMS INSTRUCTION

The Dan Genson shooting instructional will be held on Saturday, June 24, 2006. The group will meet at the Masonic Center at 9:00 a.m. and travel to a site about an hour north. **WB Dan**, a City of Atlanta police officer, will provide basic marksmanship and self defense instruction. We understand that other officers and ex-military personnel will also be along to assist Bro. Dan. It is expected that the group will be back by 3:00 p.m.. If you are interested call Bro. **Chris Wilson** at chris.wilson@suntrust.com.

GATE CITY RAISES \$3,000 FOR POLICEMEN

After the death a few months ago of Policeman Mark Cross, Peachtree Presbyterian Church initiated an effort to procure \$100,000 life insurance policies, free of charge, for Atlanta City Police Officers out of funds raised through charitable contributions. Gate City members **Kenny Cresswell** and **Mike Bjelajac** felt that this was definitely a worthy cause, and with the aid of Bros. **Richard** and **Brit Turner**, got Gate City to put together First Annual Crime Fighters Ball - an awesome evening of music with talent including Roman Candle, Ed Roland of Collective Soul, and Rick Richards of The Georgia Satellites, - not to mention Richard and Brit Turner’s spectacular band, Blackberry Smoke. The event, at Smith’s Olde Bar, was a great success and we raised more than \$3,000. Well done, brethren!