

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America

Orient of Georgia, Valley of Augusta

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JUNE 1ST, 2017: TRESTLEBOARD (#133) LODGE OF PERFECTION DINNER AND PROGRAM

1. **JUNE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:** The June EC meeting will meet on the last Thursday (as usual) of June (June 29th) at 6:30 PM. If you cannot attend please call or email the Secretary. (706-829-1665), goblak@comcast.net.



2. **JUNE 1ST, LOP MEETING AND GUEST SPEAKER:** Dinner will be served at 7:00 PM with the program beginning at 8:00 PM.. We will have a short flag day presentation, a Musical presentation and our guest speaker for the evening will be Illustrious Brother Ted Collins, our Deputy to the Supreme Council. Ill. Brother Ted Collins was named Deputy of the Supreme Council in Georgia January 1st, 2017 by Grand Commander Ronald A.Seal. Ill. Brother Collins was born May 29th, 1950 in Unadilla, Georgia to Wendell and Christine Collins. He graduated from Unadilla High School in 1968 and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science from Georgia Southwestern University in 1972. Ill. Brother Collins is married to the former Charlene Greene of Oglethorpe, Georgia who is a retired Elementary School Teacher. Ill. Brother Collins retired from the Postal Service after 32 years of service in 2006. Ill. Brother Collins and Charlene are parents of one daughter Wendy Collins Chadwell and one granddaughter Weslynn Chadwell. Ill. Brother Collins has served Masonry in many capacities including Worshipful Master of Millwood Lodge 198 in Pinehurst, Georgia (1998), Grand Master of Masons in Georgia (2008) and Personal Representative of SGIG in the Valley of Macon, Georgia (2010-2016). Ill. Brother Collins has been a member of Unadilla Methodist Church for over 60 years and has held many leadership positions including service as Administrative Board Chairman. Ill. Brother Collins is also an active member of Al Sihah Shrine Center in Macon, Georgia. Join us for dinner, fellowship and an interesting program.



3. **SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION OF GEORGIA RAFFLE:** There is an Orient wide (State of Georgia) Scottish Rite Foundation of Georgia Raffle going on with the drawing on November 2, 2017. What is the Scottish Rite Foundation of Georgia? A non-profit 501c3 organization which raises moneys for Scholarships for those students who attend an undergraduate college in the state of Georgia and for Speech Therapy through our Rite Care Clinics for those children and families who cannot afford it. The foundation has awarded 50-100, \$1000.00 scholarships



each year for the last several years and has contributed tens of thousands of dollars each year in support of the 5 Rite Care Clinics in Georgia. The foundation is supported by Scottish Rite Valleys in Augusta, Albany, Atlanta, Macon, Savannah and Columbus. This is the first raffle and we will sell a maximum of 1000 tickets at a cost of \$100 per ticket. **First prize will be \$10,000.00, Second place will be \$3000.00 and Third Place will be \$2000.00.** The raffle is headquartered this year in the Valley of Augusta. We will hold the drawing at our regular LOP meeting on November 2, 2017 at the Scottish Rite Center on Washington Road. Please support this worthy cause if you can. If you would like more information on the Augusta Scottish Rite or how to become a member please visit our website: www.augustascottishrite.org.

4. **SPRING REUNION (The Eric Fleishner Class) 2017:** The Spring Reunion was held at the Scottish Rite



Center on May 19th and 20th. We had 6 candidates receive the degrees. (Brothers **Daniel Eaton, Michael Sauls, Clarence Jackson, Jerry Wood, Carl Douglas, Tom Davies III**) I especially would like to thank our Director of Work, Jack Goldenberg, 32° KCCH and our Class Director, Eric Milks, 33° for an outstanding job in organizing this reunion. I would also like to thank all of the cast for each of the conferred degrees (especially the Degree Masters and all who filled in for those absent), the stage crew who changed all the lighting and scenery for each degree and of course all the individuals who make up our kitchen staff who had breakfast, lunch and dinner prepared over the two day reunion. I would normally list all the names but this year we had many last minute changes to the cast and stage crew. It takes many bodies to make this reunion happen and I want to personally thank everyone who contributed.

5. **CHOICES///ATTITUDE:** John is the kind of guy you love to hate. He is always in a good mood and always has something positive to say. When someone would ask him how

he was doing, he would reply, "If I were any better, I would be twins!" He was a natural motivator. If an employee was having a bad day, John was there telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation. Seeing this style really made me curious, so one day I went up and asked him, "I don't get it! You can't be a positive person all of the time. How do you do it? He replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, you have



two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or you can choose to be in a bad mood. I choose to be in a good mood." Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it. Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or I can point out the positive side of life. I choose the positive side of life. "Yeah, right, it's not that easy," I protested. "Yes, it is," he said. Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people affect your mood. You choose to be in a good mood or bad mood. The bottom line: It's **YOUR CHOICE** how you live your life. Several years later, I heard that John was involved in a serious accident, falling some 60 feet from a communications tower. After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care he was released from the hospital with rods placed in his back. I saw him about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was, he replied, "If I were any better, I'd be twins...Wanna see my scars?" I declined to see his wounds but asked him what had gone through his mind as the accident took place. "The first thing that went through my mind was the well being of my soon to be born daughter," he replied. "Then as I lay on the ground I remembered that I had two choices; I could choose to live or die. I chose to live." Weren't you scared? I asked. He continued, "the paramedics were great, they kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the ER and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, I read, he is a dead man. I knew I needed to take action. "What did you do?" I asked. "Well, there was a big burly nurse shouting questions at me," said John. She asked if I was allergic to anything. "Yes, I replied. The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply. I took a deep breath and yelled, **GRAVITY.**" Over their laughter, I told them, "I am choosing to live. Operate on me as if I am alive, not dead." He lived, thanks to the skill of his doctors, but also because of his amazing **ATTITUDE**. I learned from him that every day we have the choice to live fully. Attitude, after all, is everything. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (Matthew 6:34) After all



today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday. **Brethren: Its your choice, what's your attitude????????????????**

- 6. **THE LAWS OF ULTIMATE REALITY:** 1. LAW OF MECHANICAL REPAIR: After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you will have to pee. 2. LAW OF GRAVITY; Any tool, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner. 3. LAW OF PROBABILITY; The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act. 4. VARIATION LAW; If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are now in (works every time). 5. LAW OF BIOMECHANICS; The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach. 6. LAW OF LOGICAL ARGUMENT; Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about. 7. LAW OF CLOSE ENCOUNTERS; The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY (JUNE 18TH, 2017) FROM THE OFFICERS OF THE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES OF AUGUSTA.

- 7. **GEORGIA / SOUTH CAROLINA EXCHANGE NIGHT:** The Scottish Rite Center will be the host for the 2017 Georgia/South Carolina Exchange Night on June 9, 2017, beginning at 6:00 P.M. This is the annual gathering of Masons from Georgia and South Carolina to include all of the Grand Lodge Line Officers from both states. Over 250 Masons are expected to attend. Please join us for dinner and enjoy the fellowship. This is one of the largest gatherings of Masons in the area so plan to be a part of it this year if you can. Let get out and support a life member of this valley and Grand Master Gary Leazer this year. We would like to out number those attending from South Carolina. The Grand Master's are planning a great program this year so join us for a night of fellowship. Dinner will be served by the 10th District Officers promptly at 6:00 PM with the program to follow.

**Grand Master of South Carolina
William B. Rogers**



**Grand Master of Georgia
Gary H. Leazer**



Nothing is worse than that moment during an argument when you realize you're wrong.

The doors we open and close each day decide the lives we live.

I disagree with Kay Jewelers. I would bet on any given Friday or Saturday night more kisses begin with Miller Lite than Kay.

EDITOR AND SECRETARY

T. GREGORY OBLAK, 33°

PERSONAL REP. TO THE S.G.I.G. IN GA.

RONNY D. LANHAM, 33°

