

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America

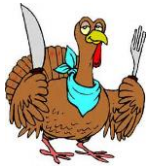
Orient of Georgia, Valley of Augusta

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**NOVEMBER 3RD, 2016: TRESTLEBOARD (#126)
LADIES & GUESTS INVITED**



1. **NOVEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:** The Executive Committee will **NOT** meet on the last Thursday of November because of the Thanksgiving Day Holiday. The meeting will begin promptly at 6:00P.M. (Not 6:30 as usual) on Thursday, December 1, 2016 just prior to our regular Lodge of Perfection Meeting in December. If you cannot attend please call or email the Secretary. (706-829-1665, email: goblak@comcast.net.



2. **NOVEMBER LODGE OF PERFECTION DINNER AND PROGRAM:** Dinner will promptly begin at 7:00 pm with the program beginning at 8:00 pm. We will have a guest speaker from Safe Homes of Augusta. Safe homes is committed to ending domestic violence through advocacy, awareness and education.

**STOP
WOMEN & CHILDREN
ABUSE**

3. **DUES NOTICES FOR 2017:** Brethren: I will be sending out dues notices for 2017 in the next several weeks. Anyone who would like to pay for 2017 may do so prior to receiving their 2017 notice. You will receive a new laminated dues cards this year (2017) instead of the year stickers which you have received the past few years. If you cannot make a payment please advise this office in writing and we will evaluate each individual situation and act accordingly. Thank you to those who pay in a timely manner.

PAYMENT DUE



4. **10th DISTRICT THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER CELEBRATION AND PROGRAM:** Webb Lodge #166 will again be hosting the 4th annual 10th Masonic District Thanksgiving Day Celebration at the Scottish Rite Center on Wednesday, November 16, 2016. Dinner will begin at 7:00 pm and the program will begin at 8:00 pm. Masons, Spouses, Children and guests are invited. The cost is \$25 per lodge (help with cleanup etc fees) and \$10.00 per person. We would like for everyone to go through your lodge secretary for lodge reservations and payment and then the lodge would submit one check to cover all who are participating from your lodge. Reservations and

questions may be made through the Secretary of Webb Lodge, Greg Oblak (706-829-1665) or Steven Fishman (706-829-1155) and mailed to Webb Lodge #166, 3201 Wrightsboro Road, Augusta, GA 30909. **DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 11, 2016.**

5. **VALLEY OF AUGUSTA SCOTTISH LOSES TWO OF IT'S OUTSTANDING MEMBERS:** The Augusta Scottish Rite has lost two outstanding 33° Scottish Rite Masons; Illustrious Brother Eric Fleishner died on September 30, 2016 and Illustrious Brother Bill Bush died on October 17, 2016.

Illustrious Brother Eric Fleishner was the oldest member of Webb Lodge #166 and the Valley of Augusta Scottish Rite. Eric was born in Vienna, Austria on December 26, 1920. He went to school there until he was 18. In 1938 he first went to Cuba for several months, waiting for a sponsor in the United States. After he was sponsored he came through Ellis Island and went to work on a farm in New Jersey. He then had an opportunity to serve in the US Army and did so with distinction for 4 years. After the war he found work in the garment industry, where he eventually achieved the position of Vice President of Sales for the Southeast, working for the Big Yank company distributing work clothes, uniforms and jeans. He was a member of the Men's Apparel Association and became the president of that organization which was based in Atlanta, Ga. Eric received his Entered Apprentice Degree on June 23, 1955, was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on August 23, 1955 and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on September 27, 1955. He was a financial trustee for Webb Lodge for over 20 years and was also a member of the Charity Committee for over 10 years. Webb Lodge renamed the Webb Lodge Mason of the Year Award to the Eric Fleishner Mason of the Year Award earlier this year to honor Brother Eric. 13 years after being raised Eric decided to become a member of the Valley of Augusta Scottish Rite. He received his 32° on June 1, 1968, he was invested with the Knight Commander Court of Honour (KCCH) on October 18, 1993 and received his 33° degree on November 15, 2003. Illustrious Brother Fleishner was instrumental in raising funds for the Scottish Rite for many years, especially in the area of "Master's Parking." His Father, Erwin Fleishner, was very active in the Augusta Scottish Rite for many years and Eric followed in his father's footsteps. When Eric's Father passed away our now Personal Representative to the SGIG in the Valley of Augusta, Illustrious Brother Ronny Lanham, performed Masonic Services. At that time the family gave Brother Lanham his 33° ring. Brother Lanham kept it until Eric received his 33° and then presented his father's ring to him. Brother Eric wore that ring every day of his life. I was fortunate enough to receive the same ring from his family at his passing. I am wearing that ring now. Brother Lanham again performed Masonic services for brother Eric as he did for his father. Eric was always helping other people, always looking for ways to put others first. He also was very active when his Rabi asked him to speak to the children of the religious



school about the Holocaust which he did for many years in a row during Holocaust Remembrance Day. Eric was one of the four remaining WW II veterans in the Jewish community. Eric had work ethic and charisma and with that he was able to accomplish great things. Although Eric's schooling was limited, Education was one of the most important things to him. He taught his children and grandchildren how to save money and he set up college funds for all of them so that they would not have to worry about how their education would be paid for. Eric was more than just another brother to me. He was like my second father. We spent the last several years together on a weekly basis and the last year together on a daily basis. I am so fortunate to have known Eric. I learned many things about his family, his life, his work ethic and life in general. We shared many stories over a good "SCOTCH", of

course after 5 pm, at his home and then several times a week at Brandon Wilde. I was fortunate to be with him the day before his passing and he went to sleep that night and never woke up. Eric was Definitely "ONE OF THE FAITHFUL FEW". I will miss him. I already miss him.

Illustrious Brother William (Bill) Allen Bush: Bill was born July 7, 1928 in Winchester, Kentucky. He was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years, Christine Peach Bush. As a child Bill moved around the country due to his father's business career. He attended schools in Alabama, Indiana, Ohio and North Carolina. He graduated from high school in Winchester, Kentucky. After high school he joined the Army Air Force which then became the US Air Force for 3 years, was a member of the Army National Guard for 6 years. He was a member of First Christian Church in Augusta, Georgia for over 60 years where he served as Interim Pastor for several years as well as a Deacon, Elder, and Sunday School Teacher. He was ordained as a minister in "The Disciple of Christ" First Christian Church of Georgia and licensed to preach for several years. Bill was a guest speaker in the first "Masonic Sunday" at Salem United Methodist Church and on October 5, 2014 the service was dedicated in his honor for



distinguished service given to the Free and Accepted Masons in the state of Georgia. He was commissioned a Kentucky Colonel for distinguished Civic Services by the Governor of Kentucky on April 1, 2003. Bill became a Master Mason in 1964 in Fleming Lodge #718 here in Augusta and was Worshipful Master in 1970. He also served as Secretary for 3 years and also as the Treasurer. He also served as Vice Chairman of the Trial Commission. Bill became a 32° Scottish Rite Mason in May of 1964, received his KCCH (Knight Commander Court of Honour) on October 18, 1971 and then received his 33° on December 10, 1983. Bill served as General Secretary of Scottish Rite for just over 22 years. He was awarded his 50 year award from both his Blue Lodge and the Scottish Rite. He also was a member of several other appendant Masonic Bodies to include; Alice Warren Chapter No. 483, Order of the Eastern Star, Past Advisor of the Order of Demolay, Past Advisor of the Alice Warren Assembly No. 38 Rainbow Girls, a member of the YorkRite Bodies of Augusta, as well as a member of the Augusta Shrine Club. He was a past member of the

Red Cross of Constantine, a member of the National Sojourners and also of the American Legion. Bill was an avid golfer and played in a tournament with Arnold Palmer. He met his wife Christine while attending Electronics school in Tampa, Florida. He married Christine in Tampa and returned to Augusta in 1951 where he became an Electronics Instructor at the Signal School at Fort Gordon. He retired in 1979. Bill was an outstanding secretary for the Valley of Augusta Scottish Rite and was my mentor when I became the General Secretary in 2006. I had very little understanding of the duties and responsibilities of the position even though I had been the secretary of my blue lodge for over 20 years at the time. Bill took me under his wing and answered any and all questions that I had as the job progressed. He was my sole source of information and always either had the answer or knew where to find it. Bill was honored by having his portrait hung in the Executive Committee Board Room where it hangs to this day. He still is overseeing all of our meetings and will continue to do so. I called Bill and his second wife, Micki on a routine basis and visited them several times. In the last year or so Bill's health limited him and his travels but he still was dedicated and would attend as many LOP Scottish Rite meetings as he could until the last several months when his health degraded and kept him at home. I regret not seeing him more often than I did and will miss him and his expertise and friendship. Bill was an outstanding Mason, Man, Friend, Husband, Father, and most of all a fine Human Being. Bill was definitely "ONE OF THE FAITHFUL FEW." He will be missed by many including me.

Brethren: Please remember these two outstanding men and their families in your prayers.

EDITOR AND SECRETARY

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

T. GREGORY OBLAK, 33°

RONNY D. LANHAM, 33°

