

GRAND MASTER’S MESSAGE

Brethren, this article may be somewhat lengthy since our Grand Secretary decided to delay the Masonic Light last quarter due to the local, state, national, and global uncertainties. We pray that the Grand Architect has kept you and your loved ones safe during the current global COVID-19 pandemic.

We encourage you to view our Facebook pages for updates, Masonic Educational questions/answers, and current events being reported in different areas of our state. We will continue to keep you up to date concerning Masonic Meetings as things change. Our Grand Lodge has to get the facts from local state, and federal sources before devising a plan for us. So, please be patient. If any rescheduling occurs, you will be given sufficient notice for changes. Please refer to our Website, both Facebook pages, and your Grandview email messages for any updates.

I would like to thank our thirty Grand Lodge District Deputies, the Grand Lodge Subordinate Officers, and all Grand Lodge Committeemen and Appointees that have served our Grand Lodge during the past year. They will continue in their office until further notice or until we decide on a Grand Lodge Annual Communication date. We are attempting to set a timeline, but restrictions must ease before we can make arrangements. Thank you for your extended service to the Craft.

I continue to be amazed by the selfless efforts of many Masons that as individuals have chosen to do great things to help those in need during this time. Laura and I say “Thank You” from the bottom of our hearts for your devoted service. Our nation is being challenged like it hasn’t been in many years or at least in any of our lifetimes.

Let us remember our charge to do good unto all. We are not to demand a certain religious or political stance as an organization, but the freedom to have our own individual right to do so. At times, we do not share the same political or religious views, but respect every Brother’s individual right.

Due to current events, my left brain reminded me of an article I once read by Vasco Patricio entitled “ The 5 Traits The Modern Man Is Missing.” Our fraternity, through its teachings, has the ability to cultivate such missing traits in men today.

It spoke of how society has evolved at an incredible pace over the past decades and while it has been amazing in terms of making our lives easier through technology and tools, for many it has caused them to loose their identity as an individual.

Over the past few decades, the top five traits that many men have lost were: Courage, Loyalty, Culture, Centeredness, and Ambition.

Courage-Many men today have no confidence and seem to be stifled by fear. Many just expect things to come to them. They seem to either act too entitled or have no confidence at all. To have courage, you need confidence. Confidence is only gained through experience, and experience is only gained through making decisions that sometimes mean learning from your mistakes. Courage is what you have when something goes wrong, or conditions are tough and you need to step up.

Loyalty-Many men today don’t know how to work hard, how to give back to the people who gave to them, or how to fight for something. Loyalty is key. Companies like Virgin and Starbucks have recently changed their mindset or culture to promote doing excellent work, giving back, and being loyal. Many companies still retain the cutthroat environment, but it is our duty as men to be loyal, not only in business, but also in life. Be loyal to those who are loyal to you. Seek first to understand, then to be understood.

Centeredness-As husbands, fathers and leaders, we’re expected to be centered. We’re supposed to be the pillars of certainty for many. However, many men don’t take the time to have the life experiences necessary to obtain that centeredness. We must take time to know ourselves. Going camping, fishing, hunting or other activities help build confidence and gain centeredness. It is amazing how much God speaks to us during these special times.

Culture-Many men have lost touch with culture. Their appearance is sloppy, by not doing a good job. They just don’t care about the quality of their work when speaking or when in public. We’re supposed to have a purpose or a passion. After the essentials of your life are accounted for and in order, take care of the rest; deliberately brush up on culture.

Ambition-Because they don’t know who they are, many men can’t identify something they love, something they could spend countless hours doing, perfecting their craft. Whether it is an area of work or an activity, they just wander through life. Men should be reminded of the importance of being ambitious and having passion. Find something you love to do and spend time doing it. It builds confidence, allows your troubles to be eased, and creates ambition through passion, because you get to see your designs completed and accomplished.

“There are no easy answers, but there are simple answers. We must have the courage to do what we know is morally right.” – Ronald Reagan

“Courage is not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.”- Nelson Mandela

Brethren, our first step is: Courage. We must CHOOSE to have courage, to act, to stand. We must be vigilant and refuse to be paralyzed by fear.

During times of prosperity, our Craft displays who we are and what we do as a group for mankind through Disaster Relief, Scottish Rite Learning Centers, York Rite Medical Research, Shriners Hospitals and many other great causes. Freemasonry and its principles shine the brightest though times of famine, disease, disaster and war. Brethren, during this time we have the opportunity as INDIVIDUALS to display what Freemasonry is and who we are to the masses. Take the time NOW to leave an indelible mark on society. Let them know that our teachings and tenants can be utilized as a group and as an INDIVIDUAL. The Masonic memories we cherish the most, the ones that make their mark on the minds and hearts of people, the ones that show the world how tightly knit we are as a Brotherhood were made at places like: Bunker Hill, Gettysburg, Pearl Harbor, Normandy, Auschwitz, Saigon, Bahgdad, the moon and on 9/11.

Laura and I continue to pray for the protection of your families, our communities, our state, our nation and our world at large. Please remember and assist your Brethren and mankind during this time, if possible and ... take your place in history!

Live with passion and courage in the face of fear. May our Grand Architect Bless and Keep you until we meet again.

Respectfully and Fraternaly,
Walter C. Disher II
Grand Master

MASONIC EDUCATION CORNER

Greetings from the West, Brothers, since we have not had the chance to meet in our Lodges or any other meetings because of the events connected to the current pandemic of Coronavirus, we have missed seeing each other. I pray that the Grand Architect of the Universe has kept you and your loved ones safe. We have had the chance to reflect on things that a busy schedule would have otherwise kept us from. Each of us have so much to be thankful for, namely our families, friends, homes and many other things that we sometimes take for granted. While we have been away from our Lodges, travelling and doing our social distancing, I have had the chance to do some things with my family that as a child growing up, we did such as just riding around in the country and seeing the countryside and talking with each other. During this down time, I thought of the verse in the Holy Scriptures Psalm 133-1 “Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” Brothers, even though we are not meeting at the time of my typing this, how good and pleasant it is to dwell together in unity. Brothers, our Masonic ties that unites us are greater than any virus that keeps us from seeing each other. As we act as peaceable subjects and true to our government, be patient in well doing because this too will pass. May we ever dwell in unity both spiritually and physically.

Brothers, we have not met since March of this year and our Grand Master asked me, as MEC Chairman, that we put together some Masonic questions that we could use to engage the Craft while we are apart. Your MEC put together questions which we are posting on SCGrandLodgeAFM Official Facebook Page under the title “Question of the Day,” please go to the page and participate with us. You will be able to find the answers to each question in your 2019 Ahiman Rezon. This is a great opportunity to refresh and even learn something that we may have missed in the past. Additionally, there were ground rules posted and I am thankful that each Brother has followed these ground rules. We also stated that each week, we would randomly select from all the correct answers submitted, a Brother to receive a piece of Masonic Education Material. We have had, as of today, five brothers selected and the piece of educational material selected was the South Carolina History Book signed by each Grand Lodge Elected-Line Officers. We will continue this on a daily basis as long as we are not having our meetings and who knows, we may continue this longer.

Quote for the month: “Continuous effort-not strength or intelligence- is the key to unlocking our potential.” ----William Churchill

“Our Best Is the Least We Owe Each Other”

Steven D. Hames, Senior Grand Warden
Chairman, Masonic Education Committee

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Brethren, we sincerely apologize for having to stop the mailing of the April/May Issue of the Masonic Light. The April/May Issue of the Masonic Light was printed and ready to be mailed when the events covered in the April/May Issue were cancelled due to the Covid-19 Virus. Those events included our Grand Lodge Annual Communication scheduled for April 23rd-24th, the Grand Lodge Golf Tournament and the Grand Lodge Organizational Meetings. Please make sure you are logged onto the Grand Lodge Membership System (Grandview). Many important communications are emailed to the Brethren through the system.

May God bless you and keep your family and you safe. We look forward to seeing and being with you. Please call the Grand Lodge Office if we can assist you in any way.

**PRESENTATION OF
ALBERT GALLATIN
MACKEY MEDAL**



On February 1, 2020, MW Brother Walter C. Disher, II, Grand Master, presented Right Worshipful William Harold “Bill” Salley, Past District Deputy Grand Master of the Sixth Masonic District with the highest South Carolina Masonic Award, the Albert Gallatin Mackey Medal, pin and patten for Eminent Service reflecting credit upon the institution of Freemasonry. The award was presented at RWB Bill Salley’s home with many family members, friends, Brethren, Past Grand Masters and Grand Lodge Officers present. Congratulations Right Worshipful Brother Salley and thank you for your dedication to your Lodge, your District, our Grand Jurisdiction and Freemasonry.

IN MEMORIAM

JAMES CARROLL MOORE
PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
August 2, 1944 Woodruff, SC
January 7, 2020 Greenville, SC

ROY JASPER BALLARD
PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
June 25, 1928 Due West, SC
March 20, 2020 Donalds, SC

TOMMIE SMITH EPTING
PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
March 26, 1932 Newberry, SC
April 25, 2020 Charleston, SC

ALBERT TIMOTHY MCKENZIE
PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
September 13, 1959 Florence, SC
May 5, 2020 Timmonsville, SC

Worshipful Brother William Eugene Doan, Past Secretary of Taylors Lodge No. 345, AFM, from 2008-2019, passed away on January 20, 2020 in Greenville, SC.

Hunter Anthony Randall, 17-year old grandson of WB Jacob A. Anthony, III, Worshipful Master of Aiken Lodge No. 156, passed away on April 22, 2020 in a tragic drowning accident.

Harriett Davis Albert, mother of RWB Bobby Joe Albert, DDGM-23rd District, passed away May 4, 2020 in Winnsboro, SC.

We wish to express our deepest sympathies, to the family, friends and Lodge Brethren.

**SIXTY-YEAR AWARD
PRESENTATION**



Right Worshipful Brother Kenny Teuton, DDGM of the 6th Masonic District, presented a 60-Year Award to Worshipful Brother Samuel Alton Templeton, who was raised February 19, 1960 in Acacia Lodge No. 315, AFM. We congratulate Brother Templeton for reaching this Masonic Milestone. Pictured left to right are: RWB Kenny Teuton, DDGM and Brother Templeton.

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