

## GRAND MASTER’S MESSAGE

Behold, how swiftly the sands of time run through the hourglass of life! As of the writing of this article, thirty-three percent of my tenure as your Grand Master is committed to the pages of history. From a speculative standpoint, it could be interpreted as the cross from the first stage or infancy part of life followed by the second stage, that of adulthood. During the second phase of life, we are reminded this point in life should be our most productive stage. Bringing the education of youth and the strength of adulthood together to form prudent designs. At this point in life, such designs should be laid down and productive results obtained on the physical, mental, and spiritual planes.

We are seeing positive results from the training the District Deputy Grand Masters received last May. More Lodges are now incorporated, many questions concerning ritual, Lodge appearance, officer responsibilities, handling of forms, the Grandview System, and financial matters have been addressed. This is a work in progress, and you are commended for your work. I understand that we have had to somewhat leave our comfort zone, but Brethren, we must adopt some changes for our future. Many of these changes will make it easier for the Lodge Secretary and other officers.

I want to thank our Masonic Family for the hospitality that our Brethren and ladies have given our entire line during our travels across our great state. We value your friendship and your labors so that our Craft will not only remain, but thrive.

During the last few months, Laura and I, along with others in the Elected Grand Line, have had the pleasure to represent South Carolina at the Grand Lodges of Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, West Virginia, Virginia, Ohio, Arkansas, The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Supreme Council Southern Jurisdiction Biennial Session–Washington, DC, The Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas, Grande Loge Nationale Francaise (GLNF)-Paris, France, and The State of Israel-Tel Aviv. We are always amazed at the respect and hospitality our Grand Jurisdiction is given no matter where we travel.

Our Grand Lodge Officers are currently conducting and attending District Instructional Meetings in the thirty districts statewide. This is the opportunity for Lodge Officers to learn more about the technical/ritual part of their offices and to make new friendships with other Masons. The Grand Master’s Workshop for Worshipful Masters will be conducted on February 1st in Columbia, followed by our Wardens’ Workshops, one on February 22nd in Greenville, and one on March 7th in Charleston. Attendees should bring their Instructional Handouts, a pen/pencil and a notebook for any questions they may have during the meeting.

In February, our Elected Line will be representing the Craft of South Carolina at The Conference of Grand Masters of North America in Louisville, Kentucky. Please remember us in your daily devotions, and pray for our safe travels.

To our Worshipful Masters and District Deputies: I have

[2]

requested that each Lodge send a total number of projects in each District to the District Deputy for the calendar year of 2019 so we can determine the impact our Lodges are making across the Palmetto State. It can be as simple as - On November 5, 2019 Blank Lodge No. awarded 2-\$500.00 scholarships (\$1000.00 total) or donated \$100.00 at Christmas time to 5 families (\$500.00 total) needing assistance in our area. They should not mention recipient’s names. Each Lodge submission should be sent to the District Deputy Grand Master by the 2nd Monday in February. District Deputies should have a District-wide total turned into me by the 3rd week in February. This information is vital for reporting to the Craft at our Annual Communication in April. As of this writing, I only have one District submission from the 23rd District.

A reminder to Lodges and Districts that all submissions for the 2019 Community Service Award for the Lodge and District are to be mailed to our Grand Lodge Office Attn: R.W. O.B. Smith, D.G.M. NO LATER THAN March 1, 2020.

A reminder that all Lodge submissions for the 2019 H. Dwight McAlister Award for Journalism are to be mailed to our Grand Lodge Office Attn: R.W. Steve Hames, S.G.W. NO LATER THAN March 1, 2020.

These awards will be presented by our Deputy Grand Master and Senior Grand Warden at the Grand Lodge Banquet in Myrtle Beach.

May our Grand Architect Bless and Keep you until we meet again.

Respectfully,  
Walter C. Disher II  
Grand Master

## MASONIC EDUCATION CORNER

### *The Plumb*

The plumb or plumb rule is an instrument of antiquity. The earliest craftsmen used a weighted cord as a plumb. The Greeks formed a bob of lead on a cord and they gave it a name: MOLUBDOS, meaning lead. From this working tool evolved the name MOLYBDENUM, the name of a well-known metal. The Romans took the word and Latinized it to become PLUMBUM, the tool to measure perpendiculars of structures, walls, and fortifications in every corner of the Roman Empire. The Gauls adopted the tool, and their successors, the Normans, shortened the word to PLOMB. The Britons added the letter “a” to coin a new word APLOMB, meaning not easily upset- not off center. Later, Englishmen revised the spelling to PLUMB and it became a verb as well as a noun.

While originally a simple lead weight on a string, the plumb, when required by expert craftsmen, evolved into the shape of the Junior Warden’s Jewel, and specifically adapted for operative stonemasons. It is interesting to note that the jewel or tool is sometimes found to be richly embellished with symbols (sun, moon, all seeing eye, etc.) and at other times, very plain.

[3]

Reference to the plumb arises throughout Masonic Rituals and books.

We have often heard quoted Amos 7: 7-8: Thus he showed me: and “Behold, the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumb-line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said unto me, “Amos, what seest thou?” And I said “A plumb line.” Then said the Lord, “Behold, I will set a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel: and I will not again pass by them anymore.”

To the operative Mason, the plumb line teaches us to be upright. As we help each other to become upright through and during the course of the building of our true perpendicular life, let us not deviate from the upright line in conduct. It is truly a wonderful jewel, an indispensable working tool, and when applied to the work with the square and level, it allows us to become better men tomorrow than we were today.

**Words of the month:** Mercy- an act of kindness, compassion or favor.

“Our Best Is the Least We Owe Each Other”

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

## WARDENS WORKSHOPS

**Saturday, February 22, 2020** for Districts 11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24, the Wardens’ Workshop will be held at the Greenville Scottish Rite Center located at 817 Cleveland Street, Greenville, SC 29605. Registration will begin at 8:00 am with the meeting starting at 9:00 am until noon.

**Saturday, March 7, 2020** for Districts 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-25-26-27-28-29-30, the Wardens’ Workshop will be held at the Charleston Scottish Rite Center located at 1051 Sam Rittenburg Boulevard, Charleston, SC 29407. Registration beginning at 8:00 am with meeting starting at 9:00 am until noon.

## GRAND LODGE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

The 283rd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina will be held on April 23rd & 24th, in the Myrtle Beach Convention Center which adjoins the Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel located at 2101 Oak Street, Myrtle Beach SC 29577. Those desiring to stay at the Sheraton, which is the Headquarters Hotel, are encouraged to make reservations as soon as possible since there is a limited number of rooms available. Elected Grand Lodge Officers, Appointed Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, and Committeemen are requested to stay at the Headquarters Hotel and to make their reservations promptly. Each person, including Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, and Committeemen, are responsible for making their own reservations. Reservations may be made by calling the Sheraton at **843-918-5000**. When calling, you must use the prompt for reservations and identify yourself as being with the Grand Lodge AFM. The special Grand Lodge Rate is \$143.00 plus tax. Those not staying at the Sheraton will be required to park in the Convention Center parking lot for \$5.00 per day.

The Religious Service will commence on Thursday, April 23rd at 9:00 AM and will be conducted by Reverend and Right Worshipful A. Robert Nix, Grand Chaplain. Following the Religious Service, the Grand Lodge will be officially opened at 10:00 AM by Most Worshipful Walter C. Disher, II, Grand Master, with the assistance of the Grand Lodge Officers and Brethren. The Annual Banquet will be held on Thursday, April 23rd at 7:00 PM in the Convention Center Ball Rooms.

### 2020 GRAND LODGE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION LOCAL COMMITTEE Members and Mobile Numbers

RW Ronald T. Elvis Sr.,  
PDDGM  
Chairman  
843-283-8085

RW Richard A. Wesner,  
PDDGM & Franza  
843-340-2174

RW Billy R. Carroll,  
DDGM 29th District  
843-421-3974

RW Myron Creel,  
PDDGM & Pat  
843-997-1436

RW W. Eldred Johnson,  
PDDGM & Susan  
843-756-4574

W. Kenneth R. Brackens,  
PGT & Betty  
843-446-0871

RW David E. Harrell,  
PDDGM  
& Joetta  
843-458-8078

W. Benjamin D. Robbins,  
WM, Myrtle Beach No.  
353 & Kristen  
843-340-2087

[4]

[5]

IN MEMORIAM

RHODAN DAYTON BATSON  
PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER  
July 3, 1935 Greenville County, SC  
December 4, 2019 Greenville, SC

KENNETH RAY COOK  
PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER  
March 13, 1935 Ninety-Six, SC  
December 17, 2019 Charleston, SC

WILLIAM STEWART POWELL, JR.  
PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER  
February 25, 1940 Berkeley County, SC  
January 6, 2020 Saint Stephen, SC

EDWARD JOSEPH PARENT  
PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER  
January 24, 1933 Syracuse, NY  
January 13, 2020 Charleston, SC

Worshipful Brother Victor Ronald Dubose, Jr.,  
Past Grand Steward in 1977, passed away on  
December 25, 2019 in Charleston, SC.

Worshipful Brother Charles Kenneth Brandt, Jr.,  
Past Senior Grand Deacon in 1985, passed away  
December 21, 2019 in Charleston, SC.

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

LODGE AND DISTRICT  
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

As soon as possible but no later than March 1st, the write-ups with pictures, if available, of the 2019 Community Service Projects conducted by your Lodge and District should be mailed to the Attention of Right Worshipful Brother O. Bruce Smith, III, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lodge of AFM of SC, PO Box 2185, Lexington SC 29071-2185. Right Worshipful Brother O.B. is in the process of evaluating the 2019 Community Service Project submissions from our Districts and Lodges that will determine the District and Lodge that will receive the Annual Grand Lodge Community Service Award at the 283rd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in Myrtle Beach in April.

H. DWIGHT MCALISTER AWARD  
FOR EXCELLENCE IN  
MASONIC JOURNALISM

As soon as possible, but no later than March 1st, copies of your Lodge's 2019 Newsletter Issues should be mailed to the Attention of Right Worshipful Brother Steven D. Hames, Senior Grand Warden, Grand Lodge of AFM of SC, PO Box 2185, Lexington SC 29071-2185. Right Worshipful Brother Steve is in the process of evaluating the 2019 Lodge Newsletter submissions from our Lodges which will determine the Lodge that will receive the Annual "H. Dwight McAlister Award at the 283rd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in Myrtle Beach in April.

SEVENTY-YEAR AWARD  
PRESENTATION



In August, 2019, Right Worshipful Brother Edward E. Smith, Jr., DDGM, Eighth District, presented a Seventy-Year Service Award to Brother Don O'Cain Daniels at his home. Brother Daniels is a member of Blythewood Lodge No. 395, AFM. Congratulations to Brother Daniels on reaching this milestone. Pictured above from left to right are: RWB Rawl J. Scheibler, PDDGM, Brother Don O'Cain Daniels (recipient), RWB Edward E. Smith, Jr, DDGM and Brother Cliff Howard, SW (2019).

SIXTY-YEAR AWARD  
PRESENTATION



Right Worshipful Brother Steven R. Gassen, DDGM of the 26th Masonic District, presented a 60-Year Award to Worshipful Brother James Donald Pigate, a member of Benton Lodge No. 26, AFM. We congratulate this Brother for reaching this Masonic Milestone. Pictured left to right are: Past Worthy Matron, OES, Betty Lou Burrows; Past Worthy Matron, OES, Eleanor Janice Pigate (wife of Brother Pigate); Brother James Donald Pigate; WB John Thomas, Benton Lodge and RWB Steven R. Gassen.

SIXTY-YEAR AWARD  
PRESENTATION



Right Worshipful Brother Kenny Teuton, DDGM of the 6th Masonic District, presented a 60-Year Award to Worshipful Brother Henry T. Holley, a member of Acacia Lodge No. 315, AFM. We congratulate Brother Holley for reaching this Masonic Milestone. Pictured left to right are: Brother Henry T. Holley and RWB Kenny Teuton, DDGM.

(USPS 332-760) Official bulletin of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina issued bimonthly from the Grand Lodge Building, 1445 Pisgah Church Rd., Lexington, S.C. 29072-7107  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Masonic Light, Gerald L. Carver, Editor, P.O. Box 2185, Lexington, S.C. 29071-2185.  
Telephone 803-808-4377  
E-mail: grandsecretary@segrandlodgeafm.org



Since 1928

Periodicals postage paid at Lexington, S.C. 29073-9998  
Subscription Rate: One Year, \$20.00; Life, \$100.00  
AUTO  
Vol. 93 February/March 2020 No. 6