

Jackson County Historical Society News

VOLUME TWENTY, NUMBER THREE

MAY 2013



Unity Masonic Lodge #36, F. & A.M. Jefferson, GA



Hudson Masonic Lodge #294, F. & A.M. Commerce, GA



Johnnie's Hill Masonic Lodge #748, F.&A.M. Talmo, GA



Rockwell Masonic Lodge #191, F.&A.M. Hoschton, GA

The Jackson County Historical Society will meet at the Rockwell Masonic Lodge on May 19, 2013 at 2:30 p.m. Rockwell Lodge secretary, Doug Easter, will welcome us and tell about the Mason's history and contributions. All Jackson County Masons are welcome to attend.

Directions: 111 Hall Street (Broad & Hall) in Hoschton, 1.5 miles East of I-85 on SR 53; turn right on Broad Street at Larry's Garage in the middle of town at City Hall Square and we are at the second stop sign on the left.

Jackson County Historical Society P.O. Box 1234, Commerce, Georgia 30529 (706) 207-6889

Newsletter

The Historical Society's collection of books, files and research materials are housed in the Heritage Room of the Commerce Public Library. An index of the collection can be viewed on the library website:

<http://prlib.org/our-libraries/commerce-public-library/>

For information call Tina: 706-207-6889

Dues run from July to July and can be mailed to:

Jackson County Historical Society

P. O. Box 1234, Commerce, GA 30529:

Individual –\$15, Family –\$25, LIFE members –\$100

JCHS Officers 2013-2014

President: Shirley Wilson

Vice-President: Marie Parks

Recording Secretary: Boniface McDaniel

Treasurer: Tommy Benton

Directors: James Mathis

Jerry Legg

Past Presidents: the late, Joyce Ethridge

the late, Ann A. Jarrett

the late, Richard Chambers

the late, Jean H. Booth

Betty Ann Mathis

James Mathis

Ralph Freeman

Carol Tanner

Marie Parks

Tina Harris

Charlotte Mealor

Caine Campbell

Mary Lynn Bell

The Jackson County Historical Society would like to thank Mr. Richard Katz for his very generous donation of a bevy of documents dating back to the late 1700s and relating to the Holder Plantation in Jefferson. The documents were archived by Linda Aaron, a retired archivist with the University of Georgia Library. These documents will be made available to the public, along with historic court documents, when renovations on the Jackson County Historic Courthouse are completed.

We grieve the recent loss of two Historical Society friends and members: Ann Jarrett (Charter Member) and L. C. (Boney) Bell, both of whom volunteered many hours of their time to the Document Recovery Project. We also want to sincerely thank those of you who have made contributions to the Project in memory of Boney and Ann.

Freemasons History

excerpts from The Freemason, the Illustrated Book of an Ancient Brotherhood by Michael Johnstone

Freemasonry claims that it's origins date back thousands of years to pre-biblical times. There are many interesting stories, one in 900 B.C. during the building of the Tower of Babylon, another is from 600 B.C. with Greek philosopher, Pythagoras, one is from 7000 B.C. from writings in the Dead Sea Scrolls, another from the 1118 A.D. with the Knights Templar.

As centuries unfolded, in cities all over Europe generations of men toiled to design and build magnificent cathedrals and ornate churches. It took decades and centuries even, to transform architects plans into finished buildings. The architects plans had to be turned to stone building to construct the walls, the pillars, the steeples and dreaming spires that led the eye heavenwards. The mason-stonecutters and builders translated the abstract of the architects plans into the reality of the buildings. These men had to have somewhere to arrange and store their tools; a place where master builders could give orders to more junior craftsmen and apprentices. They needed somewhere to shelter when bad weather made work impossible, and a place where, if work was suspended for any length of time, the mason's skills could be taught to apprentices. These were known as lodges and almost every cathedral building site in medieval Europe had one. Built of wood or stone, the lodges came to be seen as a place in which the techniques and secrets of the masons' craft were passed on. This training could not be given where it could be seen or heard by non-lodge members and began to assume a sacred character.

In 1459, stonemasons from all over Europe gathered in the city of Ratisbon (Regensburg) Germany. Their aim was to standardize the statutes of their lodges. The lodges of the English and Scottish masons were not affected by the Statutes of Ratisbon. They had their own rules, formulated at a meeting around 900 A.D. and contained in a royal charter.

The Old Charges 1723

The preamble states that what follows is the worthy and godly oath of the masons and that everyman that is a mason must take heed of this charge

The first charge is that you shall be true unto God and the Holy Church, and that you use no heresy or error by your understanding or by teaching of indiscreet men.

Also you shall be true liegemen to the King without treason or falsehood and that you know no treason but that you amend it if you may or else warn the King or his Council thereof.

Also you shall be true to one another, that is to say to every member and fellow of The Craft of masonry that be masons allowed and that you do to them as they would do to you.

That every mason keep counsel of lodge and chamber and all other counsel that ought to be kept by the way of masonry. Also that no member be thief in Company so far forth that you shall know.

That you shall be true unto the lord and master that you serve and truly to see for his profit and advantage.

Do no villainy in the house where The Craft be slandered.

These by the Charges in General which every mason should hold, both masters and fellows.

Follows other Charges in particular for masters and fellows. First that no master take upon him any lord's work nor other work but that he know himself unable to perform the same so that The Craft have no disworship but that the lord may be served truly.

Also that no master take any work that he take it reasonably so that the lord may be truly served with his own goods and that the master live honesty and truly pay his fellows their pay as the manners of The Craft does require.

Also that no master or fellow supplant other of their work if they have taken a work or stand master of a lord's work you shall not put him out unless he be unable to end the work. Also that no master or fellow take any apprentice to be allowed his apprentice but for seven years and that he be able of birth and limbs as he ought to be.

Also that no master or fellow take allowance to be made mason without the assent of his fellows at the least five or six.

That is to be made freeborn of good kindred and no bondsmen and that he have his right limbs, as a man ought to have.

Also that no master put a lord's work to task that was used to go to journey.

Also that every mason give pay to his fellows but as he may deserve so that he be not deceived by false workmen.

Also that no fellows slander another falsely behind his back

to make him lose his good name or his worldly goods.

Also that no fellow withhold his lodge or without answer another ungodly without reasonable cause.

That every mason prefers his elder and put him to worship.

Also that no mason shall play cards hazards of any other unlawful game whereby they may be slandered.

Also that no mason commit ribaldry or lechery to make The Craft slandered and that no fellow go into the town where there is a lodge of masons without a fellow to bear him witness that he was in honest company.

Also that every master and fellow come to the assembly if he be within fifty miles and he have warning and to stand to the award of masters and fellows.

Also that every master and fellow if he have trespassed shall stand to the award of masters and fellows to make them accord and if they cannot to go to the Common law.

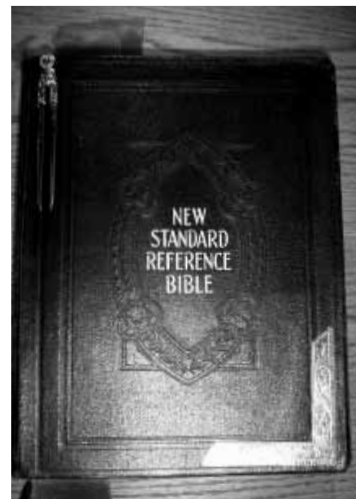
No mason make moulds 'sware' or rule to any rough layers.

Also that no mason set layers within a lodge or without to have moulded stones with a mould of his own making.

Also that every mason shall receive and cherish strange masons when they came over the country and set them on work as the manner is, if they have moulded stones in place he shall set him a fortnight on work at the least and give him his hire and there be no stones for him then to refresh him with some money to bring him to the next lodge, and also to every mason shall serve truly the works and truly make an end of the work be it task or Journey if he has pay as he ought to have.

These charges are here rehearsed and all other that belong to masonry you shall keep to the uttermost of your knowledge

So help you God and by the contents of this Book



Bible at the Rockwell Masonic Lodge



Rockwell Lodge was the 2nd floor of the Hoschton School in 1902

Rockmart Lodge #191, F. & A. M. chartered in Mulberry
November 2, 1852; moved to Hoschton 1883

Robert White, Worshipful Master
Abner Monroe Reynolds, Senior Warden
James A. Patillo, Junior Warden
John S. Hunter
James S. Thompson
Robert Thompson
Samuel G. Hunter

W. H. Hill	S. G. Arnold	James Guffin
F. M. Kerbow	D. J. Maddox	A. J. Lyle
Asa M. Jackson	L. C. Maudin	J. S. Galvrows?
H. C. Morris	S.W. Mahaffey	G.W. M. Chandler
Geo G. S...?	W. W. Parks	W. Fulcher
A. J. McKeever	M. Beritt?	S. Murphy
		Cante King

brethern names found in an early ledger

Robert White, W. M.	W. G. Steell?
Abner Monroe Reynolds, S. W.	J. P. Hunter
Jasper T. Thompson J. W.	J. L. Arnold
John L. Hunter, Treasurer	Gideon Edwards Jr
M. A. Patman, Senior Deacon	Richardson Lay
Carter Hill, Pres	John B. Palmer
Jas M. Saunders	M. J. P. Pentecost
D. J. Moon, Junior Deacon	Varnol Mahaffey
D. T. J. Chandler	Silvester Roman
F. G. Segars	J.A. B. Mahaffey
J. J. Harvill	I. M. Hammond
G. W. Arnold	L.Y. Bradberry



Robert White, Worshipful Master



Harmony Grove Lodge #294 met upstairs in the Hood Building on North Elm Street, Commerce until 1925, then moved to the Hardman Building over the drug store on South Broad Street.

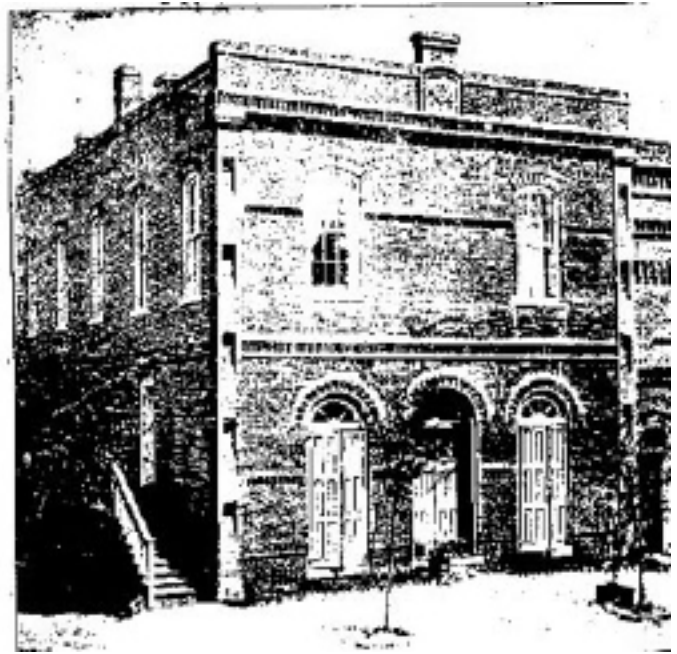
Harmony Grove Lodge # 294, chartered 1874

James P. Hudson, Worshipful Master
 D. M. Nix, Senior Warden
 Joseph Brewer, Junior Warden
 C.T. Nash
 J. C. Wade
 J. P. Hudson
 W. F. Lord
 J. P. Wood
 J. N. Wood
 V. H. Deadwyler

1876 members

John W. Pruett, Master
 J. N. Wood, Secretary
 Joseph H. Brewer
 William C. Baugh
 V. H. Deadwyler
 W. S. Edwards
 William J. Goss
 Thomas H. Gober
 James P. Hudson
 Thomas P. Hudson
 J. N. Hudson
 C. W. Hood
 Z. W. Hood
 A. H. Hicks
 J. L. Harris
 W. J. Haynie

E. H. Ingram
 A. Jacobs
 W. F. Lord
 W. W. McLeroy
 D. J. Matthews
 C. T. Nash
 D. M. Nix
 W. S. Porter
 A. Ray
 J. S. Smith
 E. T. Strickland
 William Thurmond
 J. C. Wade
 Jesse White
 Thomas Willbanks
 Samuel B. Wilson
 died J. L. Park



Unity Lodge #36, F. & A. M. on Washington St, Jefferson, 1890

Unity Lodge # 36 chartered November 6, 1844

Augustus Aldren, Worshipful Master
 P. H. Overby, Senior Warden
 Rev. H. C. Carter, Junior Warden
 J. G. McLester, Treasurer
 J. A. Strange, Secretary
 J. H. Hayes, S. D.
 A. D. LaPerriere, J. D.
 John Venable, Tyler
 Russel Parks, Steward
 N. H. Pendergrass
 W. Gilleland
 Robert White
 S. P. Thurmond
 W. N. Barrett
 J. W. Peeples
 W. M. Duke
 W. D. Appleby
 J. M. Venable
 C. W. Long, F. C.
 J. C. Penson, E. A.
 P. A. Wilhite
 L. M. Craven'
 W. H. Thurmond
 dues \$27.81



Johnnie's Hill Lodge #99, F. & A. M. met on 2nd floor of Johnnie's Hill school

Johnnie's Hill Lodge # 99 charter issued Oct 30, 1885

- W. H. Bridges, Worshipful Master
- A. P. Martin, Senior Warden
- M. T. Sims, Junior Warden
- E. C. Hale, Treasurer
- C. T. Burges, Secretary
- W. N. Straynge, S. D.
- S. P. Higgins, J. D.
- L. B. Ervin, S. Steward
- S. L. Borders, J. Steward
- J. W. Wood

charter arrested September 6, 1937

renumbered #748, 1993

- Jewel L. Ivey, Worshipful Master
- Ellis Willard Baxter, Jr. Senior Warden
- Willie Celle Kinney, Junior Warden

What is a Mason?

excerpt from Masonic Messenger July 1993,
From Grand Chaplin, Dr. Gary D. Lemmons. P. M.

The Three Great Tenets of Freemasonry are Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. In Freemasonry, we seek the Truth through Masonic Education. By our efforts, we attempt to instruct the Bretheren in those principles that are so essentially necessary to our philosophy. We endeavor to inspire the mind with those ideas that transcend the natural and the earthly. We seek to encourage the Bretheren to think beyond the real towards the ideal. Through the fellowship of the Lodge, we put Brotherly Love into practice. We attempt to nourish the soul with that fraternal love craved by all good men. We attempt to meet the need of the brethren for that sense of belonging and being a part of something greater and far more lasting than themselves.

The volume of Sacred Law that rests upon every Masonic altar informs us that the greatest quality a man can

cultivate, the greatest characteristic that a man can exemplify is that of charity or love. By practice of Masonic Charity, we provide relief, through its application we attempt to animate the hearts of the Brethern to perform “deeds of more exalted usefulness”

We are correct when we say that freemasonry is a charitable institution. Many of our Bretheren are members of the York Rite, the Scottish Rite, the Shrine, the Order of the Eastern Star, the Amaranth, or any one of the other allied, concordant, or dependent bodies. It is estimated that through the auspice of these organizations, together with the Grand Lodges, about three million dollars each day is generated in the United States. As far reaching as these organizations are, and as important as the work provided is, these are not, in and of themselves, Masonic Charity.

Many of our Symbolic Lodges have begun to do more in the way of charity at the local level. Our Lodges have discovered that it is important to give something back to the communities in which we reside. This has been achieved via scholarships, sponsorship of Little League teams, direct aid to needy individuals, and in and of itself, Masonic Charity.

The “heart of Georgia Masonry” is said to exist at the end of Nottingham Drive in the City of Macon. For there stands the Masonic Home of Georgia; the grand edifice erected to provide shelter to those children who, through no fault of their own, have lost their homes and have become our care and our responsibility.

Each of us, as Master Masons have taken certain obligations. These bind us to help those of our Brethern who are in need. Also, they bind us to look after the families of deceased Brethren if need be.

Masonic Charity begins in the heart; in the inner most recesses of the Mason’s soul. It is manifest in those unspoken obligations that are taken between a man and his God.

I am persuaded to believe that true Masonic Charity is alive and well in the hearts of the Brethern across this Grand Jurisdiction. This fact more than anything else will serve as our best weapon in the great war against ignorance, bigotry, and intolerance-”the unholy trinity” of our age.

So long as true Masonic Charity exists in the hearts of the Brethern, the world at-large will continue to be convinced of the good effects of the Fraternity.

Famous Freemasons

Many Freemasons were already well known when they were entered into the Craft. Others became famous after they became Lodge members-perhaps helped on the way by their fellows:

Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin
Santa Ana
Louis Armstrong
John Jacob Astor
John Audobon
Irving Berlin
Simon Bolivar
Robert Burns
Michael Caine
Winston Churchill
Nat King Cole
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Duke Ellington
Meriweather Lewis
Booker T. Washington
John Wayne

American Patriots

Benjamin Franklin
John Hancock
Paul Revere
John Paul Jones
Jim Bowie
Jefferson Davis
Davy Crockett

United States Presidents

George Washington
James Monroe
Andrew Jackson
James Polk
James Buchanan
Andrew Johnson
James Garfield
William McKinley
William Howard Taft
Theodore Roosevelt
Warren G. Harding
Franklin D. Roosevelt
Harry Truman
Gerald Ford

Georgians

George Walton
Richard Russell
Richard Russell, Jr
Herman Talmadge
Carl Sanders
Zell Miller
Sam Nunn
Maynard Jackson
Hosea Williams
Andrew Young

Jackson Countians

A. DeLaPerriere, legislator
Jesse C. Bennett, M.D.
Sumner Jewell Smith, M.D.
Crawford W. Long, M.D.,
discoverer of anesthesia
Gustavus N. Wilson, author
John Nolan Ross, editor of
the Jackson Herald
William I. Pike, legislator
Jerimiah Ayers, mayor
Robert L. J. Smith, legislator
Lemuel J. Sharp, M. D.
Ralph Freeman, M.D.
Ralph Freeman, Jr., mayor,
& 75 year Mason

Jackson County Historical Society

P.O. Box 1234 Commerce, Georgia 30529

Maysville Lodge #347 was in existence in 1892. Maysville is located in both Jackson and Banks county and the lodge had membership from both counties. The officers at that time were:

B.H. Green, Worshipful Master
W. C. J. Garrison, Senior Warden
H. Atkins, Junior Warden
E. B. Wood, Treasurer
J. D. Cox, Secretary
J. B. Hill, Senior Deacon
J. W. Wallace, Junior Deacon
H. J. David, Senior Steward
D. H. Cristler, Junior Steward

members in good standing:

Cristler, D. H.
David, H. J.
Garrison, W. C. J.
Garrison, Ed
Green, B. H.
Haulbrook, W. C.
Hill, J. B.
Mangum, W. B.
McGalliard, R. P.
Thompson, C. P.
Wallace, F. M.
Wood, E. B.
Atkins, Hugh
Ayers, F. M.
Bates, C. S.
Bates, W. W.
Burch, L. F.