

The Lowcountry Trestleboard

Brethren,

Today is Pearl Harbor Day - the worst Naval disaster in American history. Please have a thankful thought today for those service members who paid in blood 75 years ago for the freedoms we enjoy today.

Another weekly heads-up from the Semi-official Charleston Masonic Town Crier on what's coming up in The Lowcountry that I know about. Thank you to the brothers who sent me word of upcoming events, and thanks for the help and encouraging words I've received from so many of you on this project over the years, as well as everyone's patience with my typos.

Thursday 26Jan2017– 1st & 2nd District Instructional Meeting to be held at the CCMA Center (1285 Orange Grove Road). All 1st & 2nd District Lodge Officers are Expected to Attend. from the Master to the Tyler. Meal at 6:30 PM, meeting to follow.

Saturday 28Jan2017 – Annual Worshipful Masters Meeting.

0900 – 15:00 @The Columbia Scottish Rite (7230 Garners Ferry Road Columbia, SC). **Please be advised All Worshipful Masters are Expected to Attend** this meeting whether this is your 1st time in the East, or your 10th. Begin making plans to attend now. Lunch Provided Should you have any questions in regard to this matter, please read the Masonic Light or give RWB Dale Schumann DDGM, 2nd District (M) 843-795-8239 or RWB Lloyd F. Christopher 1st District (M) 843-475-2217a call at any time.

RWB Joe Wells, PDDGM of the 7th Masonic District was honored as the **South Carolina Health Care Association Volunteer of the Year** for 2016 for his efforts at the Veterans Victory House in Walterboro, SC. The presentation was held in Columbia on 1Dec 2016. Visit your website for details at:

<http://lowcountrymastersandwardensclub.org/page75.php>

Knights of Saint Andrew:

The City of Charleston Holiday Parade and Masonic March was a great success raising approximately \$1500.00 for the Rite Care Center, if anyone has any pictures or video please email them to Tom Moran at tommyboy5686@gmail.com as the MWGM and other participants would like to see them.

The **SC Masonic Research Society** will hold their last meeting of the year **10Dec at 11:00AM** at the SC Grand Lodge Building **1445 Pisgah Church Rd (Exit 51 on I-20) Lexington, SC** The **SC Masonic Research Society** is ALWAYS soliciting research papers for publication in our Transactions. If you have a paper or article on a Masonic-related subject, **send it to me** (thlw2010@gmail.com) and I will get it into the right hands.

Charleston Assembly #1, International Order of Rainbow for Girls, is sponsoring a canned food/instant mashed potatoes **food drive**. A box will be placed in the back door area of CCMA for donations. Thank you for supporting the Rainbow Girls with this service project.

WORD TO THE WISE

If you're getting sworn in as an officer in your lodge/body you **MUST** have paid your 2017 dues **PRIOR** to being sworn in. Take due notice thereof and etc, etc...

Sick & Distressed:

I just got word that **WB Al Couch's** mom passed this morning.

WB Willis Godwin of Mariner is home from MUSC hospital recovering from pneumonia.

WB Joe Dorning of MacArthur #427 was admitted to Summerville Medical Center ER Sunday 20 Nov. His initial diagnosis was a stroke, but turned out to be Bell's Palsy. He is presently at home recovering.

WB Dale Usery of Solomon #1 underwent emergency hiatal hernia surgery at Summerville Medical Center Friday (11Nov) night. This after shoulder surgery a couple of weeks ago. He is now at home recovering. And probably feeling like a used cadaver.

Rev.Br.Frank Shealy has been fighting lung cancer and type 2 diabetes while recovering from a major heart attack. He says he's slowly getting better, is still pretty weak. To date he has lost over 60lb.

Br Teddy Driggers of Orange CharlesTown #14 has been diagnosed with Stage 4 Chronic Kidney Disease. He is now awaiting a kidney transplant and will be beginning dialysis soon. A fundraising site has been established to help with expenses: <https://helphopelive.org/campaign/9111>

These are who I am aware of at this time, if there are others the brethren need to be made aware of please email/let me know and I will pass the word. Brethren, these brothers have all been workers in the quarries of Masonry and deserve to be lifted up in prayer to the Grand Architect of the Universe by each of us. "The prayers of good men availeth much." Please call/visit these brothers as you are able.

Here's your assignment this month:

- 1) Go to Your Lodge's Stated Meeting this month - SERIOUSLY! Please do it.
- 2) Visit another lodge this month (times & places are all in the Trestleboard).
- 3) Attend the Masters & Wardens Club Meeting.

If everyone who actually reads this would actually do this we'd have attendance back up like it was 4-5 years ago, and we would all be enjoying it! Try it, you'll like it!

Quote of the Week:

"However many holy words you read, however many you speak, what good will they do you if you do not act on upon them?" - Gautama Buddha

Here's this week's scoop:

(1st)Wednesday 07Dec2016

- Landmark Lodge #76 will hold their monthly Stated Communication. For location info contact WB Scott Moore (smoore@hagemeyerna.com). Coat, tie and white gloves are required. **Meeting at 6:00PM.**

- The Low Country Past Masters Unit will hold their monthly meeting in the CCMA Center ([1285 Orange Grove Road](#)). The Past Masters Unit is open to all Blue Lodge Past Masters and exists to assist the Lodges in the Low Country as needed to put on their degrees. If your Lodge has a need for assistance on a degree, or to put on the entire degree, contact the Past Masters Unit for the assistance you need.

(2nd)Thursday 08Dec2016

- Mariner Lodge #2 ([1285 Orange Grove Road](#)) will hold their **Annual Stated Communication** followed by a **Past Master Degree** for the WM-Elect Charles "Mac" McSwain. All Past Masters cordially invited to attend & bring their hats. Collation at **6:30PM**, Meeting begins at **7:00**.

- Blackville Lodge #63 ([10920 Solomon Blatt Avenue Blackville](#)) will hold their Regular Stated Communication **Collation at 7:15, Meeting at 8:00PM.**
- **Etiwan Lodge #95** ([438 Whilden Street](#) Mount Pleasant, SC) will be raising three brothers to the **Sublime Degree of Master Mason** Thursday. The proficiency will be held at 7:30 and, assuming the candidates are found proficient the degree will be conferred immediately thereafter. Collation at **6:45 PM**, Meeting at 7:30PM.
- Vance Lodge # 230 (1316 Camden Rd, Hwy 310, Vance) will have their Regular Communication. Collation at 7:00 pm, meeting begins at 8:00.
- Berkeley Lodge #269 ([101 California Avenue](#) Moncks Corner) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 7:30 PM, Meeting at 8:00.
- Ridgeville Lodge #361 ([119 Academy Street](#) Ridgeville) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 6:45 PM, Meeting at 7:30.
- Dorchester Lodge #369 ([3567 Dorchester Road East](#) North Charleston) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM.
- MacArthur Lodge #427 ([145 St. James Avenue](#) Goose Creek) will hold their **Annual Banquet. A lodge of MM will be opened @ 6:00PM** for an **Open Installation** with the banquet to follow.

Saturday 10Dec2016

- **The SC Masonic Research Society** will hold their last meeting of the year at **11:00AM.** at the SC Grand Lodge Building **1445 Pisgah Church Rd (Exit 51 on I-20) Lexington, SC.** The **SC Masonic Research Society** is ALWAYS soliciting research papers for publication in our Transactions. If you have a paper or article on a Masonic-related subject, send it to (thlwm2010@gmail.com) and I will get it into the right hands.
- **Mariner Lodge #2** ([1285 Orange Grove Road](#)) will hold their **Annual Open Installation of Officers & Ladies Night Dinner.** The speaker will be the Grand Chaplain Rev Br Robert Nix. **Open Installation at 6:00PM, the meal to follow.**

- **Goose Creek Lodge #401** ([145 St. James Avenue Goose Creek](#)) will hold their **Annual Ladies Night Banquet**. Come visit with our Brothers and join us as we thank our Ladies for all their support. Speaker will be RWB Lloyd Christopher DDGM. **Get together and visit at 6:00PM, the meal will start at 7:00PM.**

(2nd)Monday 12Dec2016

- **Orange - CharlesTowne Lodge #14** ([1285 Orange Grove Road](#)) will have their **Annual Communication & Closed Installation of Officers at 7:00PM. PM Degree** will be conferred by WB Robert L Carter Jr, PM/SEC'Y. All Past Masters cordially invited to attend & bring their hats. No meal served.

- Mt Hope Lodge #128 (110 Brick Church Cl - St Stephens) will hold their Regular Stated Meeting. Collation at 7:00 PM, meeting at 8:00PM.

- **Jacksonboro Lodge #206** ([6085 Hwy 165 Ravenel](#)) will have their Annual Stated Communication followed by **Installation of Officers. Banquet at 6:00PM** and meeting/installation at 7:30pm.

- Fellowship Lodge #400 ([3567 Dorchester Road East](#) North Charleston) will have their regular Stated Communication Dinner at 6:30 and meeting at 7:30pm.

Tuesday 13Dec2016

- **Charleston York Rite Bodies** ([1285 Orange Grove Road](#)) will confer the **Order of the Red Cross, Order of Malta and Order of the Temple.** Collation 6:00PM, Meeting 7:00

(2nd)Tuesday13Dec2016

- Pythagoran Lodge #21 ([3567 Dorchester Road East](#) North Charleston) will hold their **Annual Communication and Installation of Officers.** Collation at 6:30 PM, **Meeting at 7:00PM.**

- **St. Andrews Lodge #367** ([945 Wappoo Road](#) Charleston) will hold their December Monthly Stated Communication. **Collation at 7:00 PM, Meeting at 8:00.**

- Ornan Lodge #38 ([50 Ornan Street Bamberg](#)) will hold their Regular Stated Communication Collation at 6:45, Meeting at 7:30PM.

- Unity Lodge #55 (35 Trevor Dr, Walterboro,) will have their regular Stated Communication. Dinner at 6:30 and meeting at 7:30pm

- Hope Lodge #126 ([13088 West Main Street Williston](#)) will hold their Regular Stated Communication. **Collation at 7:15, Meeting at 8:00PM.**

- **Summerville Lodge #234** ([111 North Main Street](#) Summerville) will hold their monthly Stated Communication in addition to **ELECTION AND INSTALLATION of officers**. This one meeting of the year begins at **7:30PM** and no collation will be served.

- Fidelity Lodge #304 ([2827 Maybank Highway](#) Johns Island) will have their regular Stated Communication. Dinner at 6:30 and meeting at 7:30pm.

- **Carolina Lodge #375** ([5929 Murray Drive](#) Hanahan) will hold their monthly Stated Communication followed by their **Annual Open Installation of Officers**. MWB David J. Dechant, PGM, will install Br Andy Albright as Worshipful Master. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30

- Orangeburg York Rite (Shibboleth Lodge #28 AFM - 1201 Five Chop Rd. Orangeburg, SC 29115 [Google Map](#)) will be having their monthly Stated Meeting. Collation starts at 7:00 and meeting at 7:30 PM. We do not go dark in summer. We rotate which body does the opening. Chapter, Council, Commandery is the annual sequence. With us opening/closing in full form, the meeting is usually over by 9pm. Come Fellowship with us.

Wednesday, 14Dec2016

- The Charleston Scottish Rite Bodies ([1051 Sam Rittenburg Blvd](#)) will hold their Stated Communication. Dinner at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30.

Knights of St. Andrew will hold their monthly meeting at **6:00pm** in the auditorium. **Membership in the Knights of St. Andrew is open to all 32° Masons.**

(3rd)Thursday 15Dec2016

- Union-Kilwinning Lodge #4 ([945 Wappoo Road](#) Charleston) will have their regular Stated Communication. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM

- Fort Moultrie Lodge #428 ([338 Whilden Street](#) Mount Pleasant) will have their regular Stated Communication. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM

- Hudson Lodge #373 (14385 Sniders Hwy Islandton, SC) will have their regular Stated Communication. Collation at 7:00 PM, Meeting at 8:00PM

Friday 16Dec2016

- **Summerville Lodge #234** ([111 North Main Street Summerville](#)) will hold their annual **Ladies Night Banquet**. MWB Gerald Carver will be our guest speaker and all members, friends and spouses are invited. Meeting at 7:00PM.

Saturday 17Dec2016

- **Franklin Lodge #96** ([145 St. James Avenue](#) Goose Creek) will confer a **Master Mason** degree on Saturday, Dec 17 on two candidates. Craft is fraternally invited to attend. **Collation at 5:00 PM**, Meeting at 6:00PM.

Sunday 18Dec2016

- **Charleston York Rite Bodies** ([1285 Orange Grove Road](#)) will hold **their Annual Knight Templar Christmas Observance**. Meeting @ 2:00PM

(3rd)Tuesday 20Dec2016

- **Charleston York Rite Bodies** ([1285 Orange Grove Road](#)) will have their regular Stated Communication followed by **Installation** of the 2017 slate of Officers. **Commandery** will preside. Meeting 7:00PM Dinner following

- Egeria Lodge #71 ([150 Judge Street](#) Harleyville) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Dinner at 7:30 PM, meeting at 8:00.

- Round Lodge #270 ([10761 Cottageville Highway](#), Cottageville) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 7:00, meeting at 8:00

- Hilda Lodge #426 ([51 Railroad Avenue](#) Hilda SC) will hold their Regular Stated Communication Collation at 7:15, Meeting at 8:00PM.

Tuesday 27Dec2016

- **All Installed 2017 Officers of All Lodges Officially Take Office at High Twelve**

- **Summerville Lodge #234** ([111 North Main Street Summerville](#)) at 7PM we will hold a celebration of St. John the Evangelist Day. Brother Jim Harmon will bring a program. This is open to all Master Masons. No collation will be served.

(4th)Tuesday 27Dec2016

- Allendale Lodge #109 ([500 Barnwell Highway](#) Allendale) will hold their Regular Stated Communication. Collation at 7:00, Meeting at 8:00PM

January

1st)Monday 02Jan2017

- Solomon Lodge # 1 ([1285 Orange Grove Road](#)) will be holding their Regular Communication. Collation 6:45PM, Meeting 7:30
- Harmony Lodge #61 ([5355 East Jim Bilton Boulevard](#) St. George) will hold their monthly Stated Meeting. Collation 7:30PM, Meeting 8:00.
- James Island Lodge #396 ([1613 Fort Johnson Road](#) James Island) will hold their Regular Stated Communication. No collation served. Meeting @ 7:30PM
- Goose Creek Lodge #401 ([145 St. James Avenue](#) Goose Creek) will hold their regular Stated Meeting. No Collation, Meeting at 7:30PM

(1st)Tuesday 03Jan2017

- Denmark Lodge #246 ([308 Carolina Highway](#) Denmark SC) will hold their Regular Stated Communication. Collation at 7:15, Meeting at 8:00PM
- Hammerton Lodge #332 ([1085 East Montague Avenue](#) North Charleston) will hold their monthly Stated Communication Collation at 6:45 PM, Meeting at 7:30.
- Old Fort Lodge #420 ([10935 Dorchester Road](#) Summerville) will hold their monthly Stated Communication Collation at 6:45 PM, Meeting at 7:30. <http://oldfortlodge.com/>

(1st)Wednesday 04Jan2017

- Landmark Lodge #76 will hold their monthly Stated Communication. For location info contact WB Scott Moore (smoore@hagemeyerna.com). Coat, tie and white gloves are required. **Meeting at 6:00PM**
- The Low Country Past Masters Unit will hold their monthly meeting in the CCMA Center ([1285 Orange Grove Road](#)). The Past Masters Unit is open to all Blue Lodge Past Masters and exists to assist the Lodges in the Low Country as needed to put on their degrees. If your Lodge has a need for assistance on a degree, or to put on the entire degree, contact the Past Masters Unit for the assistance you need.

(1st)Thursday 06Jan2017

- Harmony Lodge #17 ([30 Burr Street Barnwell](#)) will hold their Regular Stated Communication. Collation at 7:15, Meeting at 8:00PM
- Etiwan Lodge #95 ([438 Whilden Street](#) Mount Pleasant, SC) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM.
- Franklin Lodge #96 ([145 St. James Avenue](#) Goose Creek) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM.
- Bethlehem Lodge # 338 ([13819 Round O Road](#) Round O) will hold their Regular Stated Communication. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM.
- Dorchester Lodge #369 ([3567 Dorchester Road East](#) North Charleston) will hold their monthly Stated Communication. Agenda to include third reading and vote for or against proposed bylaws changes of increasing annual dues and increasing life memberships from 40 to 50 years. Collation at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30PM.

(1st) Friday 06Jan2017

- St. James Lodge #275 ([227 Scotia Street](#) McClellanville) will be holding their Regular Stated Communication. Collation at 6:30 PM and meeting at 7:30 PM

(1st) Saturday 07Jan2017

- CCMA Work Day at the CCMA Center ([1285 Orange Grove Road](#)). 08:00 AM until ...

- Summerville Lodge ([111 North Main Street](#) Summerville) Our Eastern Star chapter is having their monthly **breakfast from 7-10 AM**. Come hungry, leave happy. All you care to eat of a full buffet meal. Come support our sister organization in this effort. Remember, this is a fundraiser so don't be afraid to tip.

Looking Ahead

(2nd)Wednesday 11Jan2017

- **The Masters & Wardens Club** of the 1st and 2nd Masonic Districts will be meeting at **Carolina Lodge #375** (5929 North Murray Drive, Hanahan, SC). Dinner @**18:30**, meeting @**1930**. Masters and Wardens Club meetings are open to all Master Masons and per the bylaws must be over by 9:00PM.

Saturday 14Jan2017

- DeMolay Chevalier Investiture 5:00PM at Pacific Lodge #325, 719 Maryland St, Columbia. We will be holding our annual Chevalier Investiture after the Palmetto DeMolay Association quarterly meeting. This year's designees are our State Master Councilor Bro. Donovan Lam of Summerville Chapter; Bro. Brandon Strickland, PMC of Columbia Chapter; and Dad Chris Martin, PMC of Granby Chapter and advisor for Summerville Chapter.

Thursday 26Jan2017

- 1st & 2nd District Instructional Meeting to be held at the CCMA Center (1285 Orange Grove Road). **All 1st & 2nd District Lodge Officers are Expected to Attend, from the Master to the Tyler.** Meal at 6:30 PM, meeting to follow.

Saturday 28Jan2017

- Annual Worshipful Masters Meeting. 0900 – 15:00 @ The Columbia Scottish Rite (7230 Garners Ferry Road Columbia, SC). **Please be advised All Worshipful Masters are Expected to Attend** this meeting whether this is your 1st time in the East, or your 10th. Begin making plans to attend now. Lunch Provided

A **State-wide Scottish Rite Spring Reunion** will be held at the Valley of Columbia Scottish Rite Temple on Garners Ferry Road, March 29-April 1. All of the degrees will be conferred. Degree teams from Charleston will be participating in this Reunion. If you would like to be a part of a degree team or form your own team, get in touch with Ill. Br Marvin Mitchum who can assist you.

That's all I know about for now, stay tuned for further developments...

Please forward this email as you see fit - it's cheaper and faster (and **usually** more accurate) than the newspapers. Everyone has a few email addresses that I don't have. If they get it twice it only takes a second for them to punch "delete".

This newsletter is only possible because of the Intel I get from all of you. Please let me know of any functions your Lodge/Chapter has going you want passed around and I'll put the word out - that's what this newsletter is for. Also let me know of any sickness or distress of which the craft needs to be appraised. **Please send all degree dates and special meetings you wish to be included to thlwm2010@gmail.com. Deadline for inclusion is 10:00AM Wednesday** so if you snooze you lose.

Brethren, the mailer tracks how often the sent emails get opened and will automatically purge addresses that never open the newsletter, so it's a good idea to open it once in a while so we know you're alive and still interested. If you suddenly stop getting the Trestleboard and still want to get it, shoot me an email and I'll try to add you back.

The **SC Masonic Research Society** is ALWAYS soliciting research papers for publication in our Transactions. If you have a paper or article on a Masonic-related subject, **send it to me** (thlwm2010@gmail.com) and I will get it into the right hands.

PLEASE check and make sure my email address thlwm2010@gmail.com is in your address book – this newsletter is so big and goes to so many people (over 600 directly from me, and over 1000 with forwards!) that some spam filters mis-identify it as spam. Email addresses that consistently bounce back Mail Chimp will automatically delete after a few weeks.

The Masonic Light is now available online in a downloadable format for anyone to read and keep up with what is going on in our Grand Jurisdiction. Look under the resources tab to find the page or just click [here](#). The Grand Lodge also has a **Lodge Locator** on the website that tells you where any Lodge in South Carolina is located and when they hold their Stated Meetings. Everything but what's for dinner. Here's the link: <http://www.scgrandlodgeafm.org>

The **Masters and Wardens website** for the First and Second Masonic Districts can be found at <http://lowcountrymastersandwardensclub.org/> . It has much useful Masonic and Veterans information; including the Veterans Victory House in Walterboro and the Charleston Veterans Administration Hospital with contacts and how you can help. The latest Sickness and Distressed gleaned from *The Trestleboard* is also available. Fundraiser information is on the website; support your Brothers when you are able. If you have questions or comments or if your Lodge/Masonic body desires to update their information, contact WB Ned Balzano (webmaster) at wurdsalid@gmail.com.

DeMolay is back on the Move Forward in South Carolina with their new Personal Rep Br Damon Lam!! Should your Lodge be interested in starting a Chapter or have a young man or group of young men between the ages of 12 and 21 please Contact **Bro.: Dick Mgrdechian at 843-903-6848.** <http://www.palmettodemolay.org> or Damon Lam at Damonlam1@gmail.com or (843)597-7113. **The DeMolays of today will be the Masons of tomorrow!**

This newsletter is produced by a Mason with the help of other Masons to promote Masonic cooperation and visitation for the benefit of Masons and Masonry in the Lowcountry of South Carolina. While publication of this newsletter has the approval of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, it is not to be construed that anything found in this newsletter is coming from or overseen by the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina. (<http://www.scgrandlodgeafm.org>) or any other Masonic body unless specifically stated to be so. Ultimate responsibility for content/opinions expressed lies with the editor alone.

"It's amazing how much good you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit."

- MWB Harry S. Truman - US President, PGM of Missouri.

Respectfully and Fraternaly

Tom Lewis, Jr PM 32° KT KY KRC
PM Mariner Lodge #2 Charleston, SC
Member MacArthur Lodge #427
Life Member Jackson Lodge #45, Jackson TN