



# The SCMRS Floor

A Publication of the South Carolina Masonic Research Society

Vol. 1, Issue 4 – November 2011

## ***A Message From Our President:***

Brothers in Masonic Research,

The next meeting - the last of the year for 2011 - of the South Carolina Masonic Research Society will be at the Charleston County Masonic Association (CCMA) building on 10 December 2011 at 11 AM. This is an important meeting in that it is when elections are conducted and appointments are made for the Society's officer positions for the ensuing year. I look forward to seeing many of you there. Much has been accomplished in your Research Society during this year. The first ever Symposium and Banquet was a huge success and we have had a significant influx of new members. I trust that the momentum will continue into 2012. I am grateful and honored to have been given the honor to serve as the President for this year but I can assure you that any and all successes this Society have accomplished are the work of the other officers, Past Presidents, various committee members, and other key members of the Research Society. I am humbled to be associated with such knowledgeable and energetic Masons.

Fraternally,

**Grayson W. Mayfield, III, PDDGM**

SCMRS President

## ***A Message From Our Secretary:***

Dues notices for next year, 2012, were mailed out on October 28th. Please pay it along with sending in your regular Lodge Dues. Our dues are still only \$15 for the U.S. and Canada. For members overseas we must raise the dues to \$25 just to cover the increase in postage and cost of special handling. I hope to get approval for this dues change at our next December meeting.

At Landmark Lodge # 76's October meeting, SW Brother Robert Baldwin, gave a 5 minute (educational) talk during our meeting on James Crockatt. He was the subject of the most recent issue of the South Carolina Historical Society's Journal, and was one the most influential Masons around 1740. He owned the wharfs at Charleston harbor and he promoted the trade in S.C.. Later he moved to London and particularly promoted the trade of S.C. Indigo. He was also the 4th Master of Solomon's Lodge #1.

On October 29 we celebrated the 275th Anniversary of the founding of Solomon Lodge #1, the Mother Lodge of all Lodges in S.C. and the first Lodge in the U.S. to be recorded in the annals of the Grand Lodge of England. GM J. Adam Person, DGM David Dechant, and Grand Secretary G. Ray Marsh, PGM along with the GM's party and with almost 200 others attended. The celebration included a play

on the Lodge founding, entitled "The Founding of a Lodge," a Luncheon Banquet, and the installation of a new Seal of Solomon Lodge #1, A.F.M. on the front of the Charleston County Masonic Association Center. Everyone who attended received a marvelous gift bag containing many unique gifts, including a History of the Lodge. I believe all who attended were edified

Our last meeting in Walterboro was wonderful. Our Floor Editor, Brother Joshua Bowers, gave a most interesting talk on the history of Walterboro Lodge and its ancient artifacts along with a discussion of Jacksonborough Lodge where the Masons met in 1781 during the conclusion of the Revolutionary War. We also gained great new members, among them were worthy Brother Dr. Auld, SW of Solomon Lodge #1 who wrote a wonderful history of Solomon Lodge #1 and whose direct ancestor was the Dr. Auld who was a friend of Dr. Dalcho and fellow Revolutionary War surgeon and one of the original founders of the Scottish Rite.

Our next meeting will be at the Charleston County Masonic Association Center, 1285 Orange Grove Road, Charleston, S.C., at 11 A.M. on the Second Saturday of December. Brothers, this is a unique way of helping a fellow Master Mason. Come and gain more mason knowledge; bring a masonic brother.

Best Wishes & Fraternal Prayers,  
**Edward J. Parent, PDDGM, FMR**  
SCMRS Secretary

## **2011 Officers**

***President:***

Grayson W. Mayfield, III, DDGM

***1st Vice President:***

Dale J. Simpson, MM

***2nd Vice President:***

Joshua Bowers, MM

***Secretary:***

Edward J. Parent, PDDGM, FMR

***Treasurer:***

Tommie S. Epting, PDDGM, FMR

***Chaplain:***

Dr. Robert Elsner, PM

***Tiler:***

Rick Ivey, WM

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

As we are Brothers in Masonic Research, it is imperative that we become operative in this field. WB Rick Ivey is calling for all or any papers that you may have done and/or may be working on. As you know, it takes research projects to put together a terrific *Transactions*, and we have our 25th anniversary approaching, which means a special publication. Also, it will be discussed at our next meeting a special request for our individual Lodge histories. These histories will become part of the Grand Lodge archive and this is a great project for the Society to work on.



## Masonic Food For Thought



Have you ever wondered how many people know you are a Mason? I imagine you were like most of us and soon after receiving the degrees of Masonry you put a square and compass emblem on your car. Many others ran out and bought a ring to wear, showing the world their pride in being a part of this great fraternity. All this would imply, a large number of people do in fact know you are a Mason.

Have you ever wondered, how many people know what being a Mason means to you, or what you being a Mason mean to others? These questions are much harder to answer because there is seldom a tangible way of calculating it. In an effort to find the answer, we might ask ourselves: When is the last time I shared information about Masonry and what it means to me, with others? When is the last time I went to a Lodge dinner, visited a sick brother or a widow, or handed out fruit baskets at Christmas?

As you reflect back in time, can you remember the last time someone saw you walking into the lodge building? I realize many brothers cannot attend lodge because of work commitments. I wonder: do those Masons ever invite a brother of the fraternity to lunch or even coffee for the sole purpose of discussing and sharing the importance of Masonry, or do they only talk about work or the big ballgame.

Let us now bring the question a little closer to home. What do you think “you” being a Mason means to your family? Have you told them you are a member of the oldest and greatest fraternity in the world? Do they know that in North America alone, the Masonic family gives nearly two million dollars a day to charities? That’s right, two million dollars each and every day of each and every year! Does your family see you as a contributor to these great charities or do they see you as a man who contributes “less than a dollar a week” by simply paying his dues each year. Does your family see you proudly telling others you are a Mason only to hear you tell your Brothers, “I’m too busy to attend Lodge functions anymore?”

A few of us have not even shared with our family’s the significance of the Masonic Funeral or Memorial Service and what it means to Masons everywhere. Each of us needs to share with our families as well as our friends what masonry is and what it means not only to us, but also to the world. At Lodge, you can always see Brothers sharing the joy of being a Mason. I am reminded of a story. I shall change it a little to fit our topic:

A Mason, we will call him John, was sitting alone in his back yard casually tending a small fire of sticks and limbs he had picked up after a windstorm. As he set peacefully watching the fire flickering in the breeze, the “Senior Warden” of his Lodge walked up and set down next to him not saying a word. Both felt the warmth of the fire as they set watching the coals glowing red-hot. John, knowing the Senior Warden was going to invite him to Lodge finally said: “Now look brother Senior Warden, I’m a good Mason. I pay my dues each year, other people know I’m a Mason and I don’t need to go to any lodge meetings or events to remain a good Mason”. About that time, a hot coal popped from the fire and landed about a foot away from the others. Both men sat quietly watching as this coal, now sitting all alone, quickly lost its glow and warmth and soon began to die out. The Senior Warden gently guided the coal back into the fire and it soon became red hot again as it shared in the warmth of the others. John, with a smile on his face, casually turned to the Senior Warden and said. “I’ll see you in Lodge this week my Brother”.

You’re friend and Brother,  
John N. Starkey  
Past Master  
Fairmount Lodge #635

*REPRINTED WITH AUTHOR'S PERMISSION*

## WORD SEARCH

C	E	D	A	R	S	A	T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E	R	L	T	R	O	P	S	S	A	P
S	E	C	R	E	T	A	R	Y	P	P	R	A	Y	E	R	E	R	Y	A	G	J	K	E	I
G	U	D	I	W	D	D	G	R	G	L	I	G	J	S	L	A	T	N	A	Z	I	R	O	H
J	O	P	P	A	E	A	Y	R	A	U	A	B	V	H	H	S	O	L	O	M	A	N	T	Y
U	B	Q	T	G	A	S	O	H	V	M	M	E	C	F	D	F	G	U	E	G	W	T	U	D
B	G	A	E	H	T	S	J	E	E	B	T	L	X	E	M	B	A	R	G	O	E	G	I	N
A	E	Q	D	I	H	F	N	T	L	O	I	O	J	O	B	U	A	G	E	U	E	N	D	T
B	R	U	A	E	V	S	R	O	T	O	R	R	A	S	A	L	L	Y	L	S	Y	I	W	Y
O	E	A	Q	V	U	R	E	R	W	R	E	E	A	S	T	E	R	N	S	T	A	R	G	G
U	J	T	M	I	O	E	W	I	O	E	D	S	B	G	U	Q	W	O	H	G	L	R	E	E
T	S	Y	J	A	P	L	Y	C	D	P	O	S	Q	U	A	R	E	S	F	E	W	W	T	U
Y	B	P	L	J	N	Y	B	U	I	O	F	A	T	E	U	W	U	A	D	T	G	H	G	T
O	N	I	T	W	I	T	I	T	W	P	L	C	U	E	J	T	J	M	A	S	T	E	R	D
R	M	G	M	B	I	R	H	R	T	E	E	N	T	T	T	U	R	G	J	U	J	A	Y	H
K	L	L	E	V	E	L	E	R	H	T	T	A	S	T	A	I	R	C	A	S	E	T	R	Y
E	T	Y	J	I	H	T	R	B	D	I	T	E	T	H	D	A	W	G	H	E	H	E	A	L
N	S	C	O	T	T	I	S	H	I	R	E	B	I	S	V	N	R	I	T	O	R	F	L	A
I	H	V	H	R	Y	H	E	M	F	O	R	N	W	O	B	C	O	L	U	M	N	J	O	I
T	R	O	N	O	G	C	F	J	I	U	S	E	Y	N	N	S	R	C	W	T	W	R	Y	R
D	I	T	R	U	R	I	C	I	R	C	L	E	T	T	T	W	E	E	A	P	R	T	G	O
P	N	T	R	I	T	Y	O	Y	R	O	R	R	G	I	M	E	T	F	W	E	G	U	W	M
K	E	L	C	R	I	C	N	E	D	L	O	G	R	F	R	R	A	I	E	R	D	D	J	E
R	R	T	U	O	E	Y	R	G	E	O	M	E	T	R	Y	U	H	R	E	T	T	H	T	M
A	S	T	R	O	N	O	M	Y	R	P	E	R	P	I	N	D	I	C	U	L	A	R	S	M
N	E	D	R	A	W	R	P	S	T	E	W	A	R	D	E	T	A	C	A	C	I	A	T	I

WARDEN  
 STEWARD  
 DEACON  
 MASTER  
 TYLER  
 COLUMN  
 STAIRCASE  
 WHEAT  
 ASTRONOMY  
 GEOMETRY  
 RHETORIC  
 GRAMMAR  
 JOPPA  
 SOLOMAN

PASSPORT  
 EMBARGO  
 ACACIA  
 IMMEMORIAL  
 SQUARE  
 PLUMB  
 LEVEL  
 PERPINDICULARS  
 CIRCLE  
 SECRETARY  
 TREASURER  
 WIDOW  
 SON  
 HORIZONTALS

DEATH  
 PRAYER  
 RING  
 MASON  
 SCOTTISH  
 RITE  
 YORK  
 CEDARS  
 SHRINERS  
 GOLDEN CIRCLE  
 EASTERN STAR  
 ARAMANTH  
 JOB  
 GREENBEAN CASSEROLE