

## FROM THE SOUTH

### There's Plenty to Do

Brethren, we have been really busy this year and we have more activities planned for you. With all the events planned, we don't expect you to attend them all but do hope you will attend as many as you can. We usually have four breakfast fundraisers each year that I hope you will be able to either work or attend with your family.

At the last breakfast, I was very busy trying to find people some place to sit with a "clean chair." I also gave three tours upstairs. I think it's important for masonry that we open our lodge room to visitors as much as possible to show that we are simply good men trying to become better men. I want to encourage you to work a different job this time. If you were a egg scooper, try your hand at maintaining the drinks and condiments. Or even better, come swap with me.

We also have many events that your families can plug into this year with the unity nights and masonic bodies car show. I was able this year to assist with the valet parking at Columbian lodge during the Rainbow Girl's Assembly. Supporting our masonic kids and other lodges is something I feel we should do as often as possible.

The Scottish Rite and Shriners are planning a joint ceremonial this spring. I would encourage you to take advantage of this as the yearly dues is reduced considerably to increase participation. These organizations along with York Rite aid us in our quest to attain more light.

Lastly, let me thank you for the support at the Dinner Theater. Although a lot of work, this event is great fun and well received by the community. If you are interested in being an actor, just ask Dan, he might be able to get you a part in our next one.

**Tony McCool**  
Junior Warden



## FROM THE EAST

I recently read a story that impressed me and I would like to share it with you:

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer of his plans to leave the house building business to live a more leisurely life with his wife and enjoy his family. He would miss the paycheck, but he needed to retire. They could get by.

The employer was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he would build just one more house as a personal favor. The carpenter said yes, but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior materials. It was an unfortunate way to end his career.

When the carpenter finished his work, the employer came to inspect the house. He then handed the front door key to the carpenter saying, "This is your house, my gift to you."

What a shock! What a shame! If the carpenter had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it differently. Now he had to live in the home he had built none-too-well!

So it is with us. We build our lives in a distracted way, reacting rather than acting, willing to put up less than the best. At important points we do not give the job our best effort. Then with a shock, we look at the situation we have created and find that we are now living in the house we have built. If we had realized, we would have done it differently.

Think of yourself as the carpenter. Think about your house. Each day you hammer a nail, place a board or erect a wall. Build wisely. It is the only one you will ever build. Even if you live in it for only one day more, that day deserves to be lived graciously and with dignity. The plaque on the wall should say "Life is a do-it-yourself project."

Who could say it more clearly? Your life today is the result of your attitudes and choices of yesterday and your life tomorrow will be the result of your attitudes and choices you make today.

**Bill Miller**  
Worshipful Master



## FROM THE WEST

Midland Brethren:

Well, 2016 is definitely off and running with a bang! We've enjoyed two very successful fundraisers that required a large number of volunteers. We also purchased and installed a new stove and none of this would had been possible without the outstanding efforts of the brethren of Midland Lodge. So, I thank you, one and all - GREAT JOB!

As we continue to prosper, I look back on the growing pains we've had and appreciate all the hours we've worked together as brethren to make this lodge the place it is today. It didn't happen overnight and as we grew and prospered I was very proud of the direction we were going. Why have we prospered so well? Brethren, it is because of you! We are Midland Lodge: you, me, and all of our families. As your Senior Warden, I thank you for your continued support to our lodge and its many endeavors. Look well to the East.

**Keith Simmons PM**  
Senior Warden



**Breakfast  
Fundraiser  
April 2  
7am - 11am**

All you can eat for only \$5! Come join the fellowship and enjoy Midland's famous "Country Breakfast"! Eggs, grits, biscuits, sausage, sausage gravy (SOS), pancakes, orange juice, coffee.

## From the Secretary



Brethren,

Working in my 8<sup>th</sup> year as the secretary of your lodge I have attended many communications since February 19, 2004 when I was raised. It seems that I have always been an officer for some reason. I sat as junior steward almost right away (pro tem at first). That year 2004 was a hard one for our lodge because we lost several good masons who demitted. I remind the membership of that only because with good leadership that should never happen again at our lodge. From what I see we have one of the best leaders in the East this year and he is followed by a string of good future leaders in the Wardens and deacons.

Good lodges with good leaders attract more good members to it's roles. The proof is in what you see right now at our lodge. I can honestly say that I love and respect everyone of you for your commitment and dedication to our ideals and goals. You have proven that by your attendance, your volunteer spirit, and your friendship. In bringing new members to our fold I do caution you to be particularly attentive not to recommend anyone unless you are convinced he will conform to our rules, that the honor, glory and reputation of the institution may be firmly established and the world at large convinced of its good effects.

I know you've hear that before during the EA Degree but it needs repeating occasionally. We will excell in all of our future endeavors, of this I'm certain, because of the fine men that now hold dues cards with Midland Lodge printed on them. Masonry and life is a journey, not a destination, my friends. This knowledge will make my retirement from this office a few years from now much easier. You see, there's a lot of good men out there.

Danny L. Dawson PM  
Secretary  
(706) 681-0871

## 2016 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master.....William Joseph Miller  
Senior Warden.....William Keith Simmons PM  
Junior Warden..... Anthony Wayne McCool  
Treasurer.....Robert Brunswick Lyon III PM  
Secretary.....Danny Lloyd Dawson PM  
Senior Deacon.....Russell Eugene Ward  
Junior Deacon.....Van Hobert Segars  
Senior Steward..... Jon-Michael Roberts  
Junior Stewrd .....Charles William Rayburn  
Chaplain.....Michael Lloyd Phillips  
Tiler..... William George Hugar  
Director of Work.....William Keith Simmons, PM

### DATES TO REMEMBER

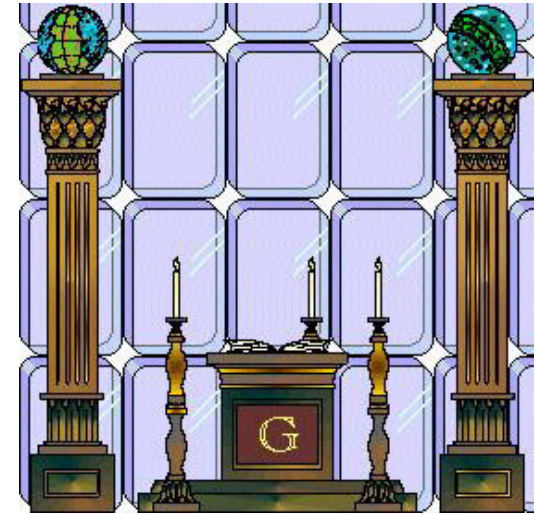
March 26.....Masonic Bodies Annual Picnic  
March 31.....Lodge of Research 6p - 730p  
April 2.....Breakfast Fundraiser 7a - 11a  
April 7.....Regular Communication 7p  
April 9 .....Masonic Home Workday  
April 21.....Regular Communication 7p  
April 23 .....Midland Spring Spectacular 11a  
May 7.....Demolay Hot Dog Sale  
May 7 .....KOSMC Dice Run 10a - 6p



MASONIC BODIES  
SPRING PICNIC  
MARCH 26  
11 AM to 4PM

The next Columbus Georgia Masons masonic bodies picnic will be at the Columbus Ft Benning Shrine Club on Saturday March 26 (Easter Weekend). If the last one is any indication of how good this one can be then make plans to be there! Area lodges have coordinated the food donations so there will be plenty to go around - bring an item if you can. There will be games and events planned for the entire time to include an Easter Egg hunt and the Easter Bunny will be there to entertain the kids! Bring your family and friends and enjoy the fun!

## TRESTLEBOARD



Chartered October 29, 1851

### MIDLAND WINTER TRESTLEBOARD

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