

RESOLUTION OF ACACIA LODGE NO. 16 A.F. & A.M.

WHEREAS, Oscar Scott Woody, a resident of the Town of Clifton, Virginia, was a member of Acacia Lodge No. 16, A.F. & A.M. and was employed by the United States Postal Service in April 1912 to work on the White Star Line's vessel Titanic; and

WHEREAS, on April 15, 1912, the Titanic hit an iceberg and sank, becoming one of the greatest peacetime maritime disasters of that time, which claimed the lives of 1,517 people; and

WHEREAS, five sea post clerks were on board the ship, two of whom were American and three British; and

WHEREAS, Brother Woody celebrated his 44th birthday on April 15, 1912 with colleagues at the stern of the ship; and

WHEREAS, Brother Woody was among those five clerks who spent their last moments of life struggling to save 3,423 sacks of registered mail by dragging them to the upper decks for safety, although the Titanic crew urged them to leave their work; and

WHEREAS, Brother Woody's 1912 dues card from Acacia Lodge was recovered and now is displayed at the Grand Lodge of Virginia museum, and his body was buried at sea; and

WHEREAS, the heroism of Brother Woody has been commemorated by the United States Congress, the Governor of North Carolina and various municipalities, including the proclamation by the Town of Clifton, Virginia of each April 15 as "OSCAR SCOTT WOODY DAY"; and

WHEREAS, Acacia Lodge No. 16, A.F.& A.M. wishes to commemorate Brother Woody;

NOW, THEREFORE, the members of Acacia Lodge No. 16, A.F.& A.M. do hereby declare their intent to honor Brother Woody each April by inviting a representative of the Post Office serving the Town of Clifton, Virginia to attend dinner prior to the stated meeting and offering a prayer for the peaceful repose of Brother Woody at such meal.

Adopted August 6, 2009