
THE TRESTLE-BOARD

VOL 09 - NO 1

BOYLESTON LODGE #123 A.F.M.

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2009 IS OFF AND RUNNING

JANUARY BUSINESS MEETING

Our traditional New Year's dinner fare of collards, black eyed peas, with country ham and rice greeted us as a prelude to the January regular business meeting, and big thanks to Carl David and Albert Wayne for their preparation skills as it was enjoyed by all! In all there were 47 members at the first meeting conducted by our new slate of officers – 14 were past-masters.

W.B. Gene Swygert gave a report on the former Richland building and stated that Sports Gym had not received their earnest money back yet. Bro. Secretary was to get a voucher to Bro. Treasurer and take care of it. Last month W.B. Larry Bilka asked the lodge to consider donating some of our old chairs and the second degree mural which were still in the former Richland building to a lodge in need, and the lodge approved. Brothers came to get the folding chairs and mural and were very appreciative. At that time they noticed the deacon's chairs but since the lodge had not previously approved their donation the brothers didn't take them. W.B. Carl Sellers motioned for them to be donated, and it was seconded and passed. Again, good job brothers!

Bro. Carl also made mention that Parklane Seafood would be doing the catering for the Ladies Night dinner to be held Friday, January 30th at 7:00. Tickets are only \$5 so we hope to see everyone out at the lodge that night. Speaking of eating at the lodge, the Eastern Star chapter was having an inspection this month and solicited help from the craft. They were using the building on two consecutive weekends

to prepare for and then host an official visit. At that time it was mentioned that last month's OES dinner for our membership was very poorly attended – only 4 brothers and family were there for the free dinner and program. It was noted that if we don't get our act together and help out when needed, then it eventually might affect the volunteer help given to us by the widows and OES ladies for our Bar-b-Que dinners.

All and all, the officers did a good job conducting business at this first meeting of the New Year. Let's make plans to come on out to lodge and see for yourself the good things that are happening here at Boyleston Lodge #123 A.F.M., and support these men with your presence on Thursday nights!

HEALTH AND HAPPINESS

At this time, we would like to ask you to block out some time while reading this list – and thanks to Bro. Hal Curtis who keeps us all informed of what is going on with our lodge family. These are folks that need your thoughts and prayers to be with them at this time: Bro. Dutch VanBeek; W.B. Bobby Lockaby; W.B. and Mrs. Buster Platt – Bro. Buster is having a rough time with his knee; Bro. Hollis Petersen; W.B. Gene Swygert; W.B. Lindsey Koon and his wife; W.B. Gene Hutto who had another surgery and his wife Amelia; Judy Dry, wife of Bro. Jim Dry, who has begun a battle against cancer but has the right attitude;



Gary Wessinger, recently had some issues and outpatient surgery; Mrs. Eula Lowman, Bro.

MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN	TREASURER	SECRETARY	LODGE PHONE
Ken Peterson 749.3052	John Meetze 513.2102	Ken Burgess 917.7276	Todd Bedenbaugh 345.0623	John Daraban 732-4227	NUMBER 732.3408
SENIOR DEACON	JUNIOR DEACON	STEWARD	STEWARD	TILER	CHAPLAIN
Wil Hutchins 781-2456	Steve Spreeuwers 730.9545	Hal Boland TBD	Jamie Faircloth TBD	Jim Dry 781-9569	Ronnie Faircloth 345.2297

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Heyward Caulder and family on the unexpected loss of his sister-in-law Nola Caulder; W.B. Pappy Wren; Bro Bryce Wren; Bro. Bob Martin; Bro. Pookie Turner's father; W.B. Rufus Shealy; Bro. Bryce Wren's son Jimmy; W.B Ken West from Dentsville Lodge; W.B. Sellers' wife who had to have a second surgery – this one on the other foot; Bro. Dwight Derrick; Bro. Piney Bickley's mother-in-law Dorothey Harrell needs to be on your prayer list as she is recovering after suffering a stroke. She was in Health South. Bro. Piney also asks for prayers as he is having a hard time getting around and is on crutches;

Prayers are requested for W. B. David Easley's step-father Ray Williams who is now battling cancer; Bro. Charles Ray Shealy's wife Edie for comfort in her illness; Bro. Rick Lindler; Bro. Gene Sweat; Bro. Bobby Pittman who is still having a rough go of it and is doing his therapy; Bro. Chick Player and family; Bro. Jim Hamel from Fort Jackson Lodge; Lewis East, recently out of the hospital; Don Browning, in the hospital in Charleston battling hepatitis c;



Sympathies go out to the family of Past Grand Master Jesse Branham on his recent passing. The lodge altar and charter were draped in black as a lodge of mourning was dictated by our Grand Master in remembrance of M.W.B. Branham. Congratulations are in order for Bro. Ronnie Alcorn who is a granddaddy again! His daughter had a little girl they named Katelyn Ruth on December 23rd, 2008. The family, Wayne and Erin Ricottilli, is in Okinawa but will be transferring to South Carolina sometime in the next year or so which is just the ticket for the Alcorns. Just a reminder: except for sympathies and condolences we don't take off names unless we are asked to. So if you know of someone who can be removed then let us know. Thanks!

During the correspondence portion of the meeting, a number of 'Thank You' cards were read. Lake Murray Elementary sent a card thanking the brothers for the donation in memory of Bro. Ted Hayne's wife Penny. Christgate Family Shelter sent a thank you note for the donation and work done there by the

brothers. At least four of our widows sent 'Thank You' notes for the fruit baskets as well, a couple of which were read in lodge.

REMINDER REGARDING MASONIC PLATES!

Although it was in the last newsletter as well, we just wanted to remind you of this important announcement from Grand Lodge: It has been determined that other non-recognized Masonic Organizations have obtained approval for a license plate with the square + compasses – letter G on it and the designation AF & AM rather than AFM.

Please note that if you purchase the wrong plate, the funds raised will go to a non-recognized Grand Lodge. Be sure to apply for the Ancient Free Masons license plate. DMV is supposed to be checking dues cards, but it is the brother's responsibility to be sure and apply for the correct license plate with HA and AFM on it.

ADVERTISEMENTS' RATE NOW SET

At the last business meeting, we got some guidance on how much business card sized advertisements on the newsletter would cost -- \$100 for the year. If you want to advertise your company or business, give me a current advertisement or a business card and we'll scan it in to the newsletter. It will run on the back side of the mail out.

MASONIC EDUCATION

We left off last month learning (or re-learning) some key concepts as found throughout the MM degree using the Ahiman Rezon as our reference. We now touch upon three of them in depth.

"There are in this degree two classes of emblems or symbols, the first of which is

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monitorial, and consists of *the Three Steps, the Pot of Incense, the Bee-Hive, the Book of Constitutions, guarded by the Tiler's Sword, the Sword, pointing to a Naked Heart, the All-seeing Eye, the Anchor and Ark, the Forty-seventh Problem of Euclid, the Hour-Glass, and the Scythe*. They are thus explained:


The Three Steps – Usually delineated upon the Master's carpet, are emblematical of the three principal stages of human life, viz: *Youth, Manhood, and Age*. In *Youth*, as Entered Apprentices, we ought industriously to occupy our minds in the attainment of useful knowledge; in *Manhood*, as Fellow Craft, we should apply our knowledge to the discharge of our respective duties to God, our neighbor, and ourselves; so that in *Age*, as Master Masons, we may enjoy the happy reflections consequent on a well-spent life, and die in the hope of a glorious immortality.



The Pot of Incense – Is an emblem of a pure heart, which is always an acceptable sacrifice to the Deity; and as this glows with fervent heat, so should our hearts continually glow with gratitude to the great beneficent Author of our existence, for the manifold blessings and comforts we enjoy.

The Bee Hive – Is an emblem of industry, and recommends the practice of that virtue to all created beings, from the highest seraph in heaven to the lowest reptile of the dust. It teaches us that as we came into the world rational and intelligent beings, so we should ever be industrious ones; never sitting down contented while our fellow creatures around us are in want, when it is in our power to relive them without inconvenience to ourselves.



 **The Book of Constitutions, Guarded by the Tiler's Sword** – Remind us that we should be ever watchful and guarded in our words and actions, particularly when before the enemies of Masonry; ever bearing in remembrance those truly Masonic virtues, *silence* and *circumspection*.

Next issue, we continue with an explanation of the symbols found in Masonry.

SETTING THE WORK

M.M. Degree January 21st, 7:30 p.m.
(practice on 20th)..... supper at 6:45 p.m.

February Business Mtg. February 5th, 7:30 p.m.
supper at 6:45 p.m.

There's a good chance for two degrees to take place in February. Dates will be posted once the Master sets work at the business meeting on Thursday, February 5th.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Square and Compass Mtg. January 23, 6:00 p.m.
at Scottish Rite Temple prior to Instr. Mtg.

10th Dist. Instructional Mtg. January 23, 6:30 p.m.
at Scottish Rite Temple

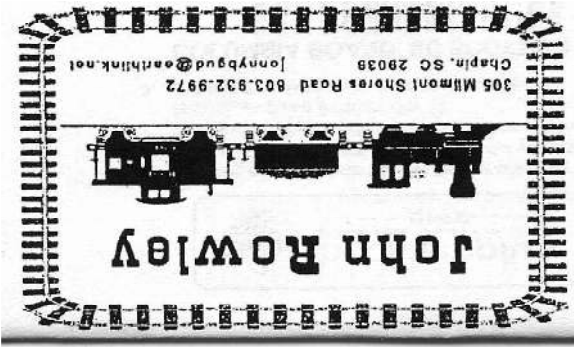
Ladies Night January 30, 7:00 p.m.

Master's Workshop January 31, 9:30 a.m.
at Scottish Rite Temple

Wood Cutting for BBQ..... February 7, 7:00 a.m.
Breakfast at Boyleston Lodge

2009's first Bar-B-Que March 14th





Boyleston Lodge #123 AFM
PO Box 502
Ballentine, SC 29002-0502

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