



THE TRESTLE BOARD • Fort Jackson Lodge No. 374, A.F.M. FEBRUARY 2012

Greeting from the East

Let me first start off by thanking all of the Brethren that were able to make it out for our January's business meeting and our Fellow Craft Degree. Brothers I would like to see as many as last month if not more for our February's meeting on the 2nd. We will also be having a Master Masons degree on the 9th of February 2012 and I have asked Right Worshipful Alex Roberts to put on the work for us. I would like to also take this time to apologize to all of our Brethren for not sending out my Birthday wishes to the ones that had a Birthday in the month of January. I have given the cards to RW Brother Roberts, our Secretary and asked him to ensure that no brother go the rest of the year without one from his lodge. I would also like to ask that each brother come and join us as we visit other lodges and join in the fellowship. If you need a ride give me or one of the officers a call and we will our very best in getting you there as well as back home.

I am having a great time so far being the Master of the Lodge, even though an I'm young in Masonry, I fell that I can always learn from those around me that have been here longer. I would like to welcome a new member to the cooking crew for the lodge his name is Earl Ballard and he does a very fine job in cutting and dicing the veggies, and what not. I think and believe that we have the best cooks in the south, bar none. So Brothers come on out to your Lodge and let have some Friendship and Brotherly Love. Our Lodges Family night will be on 15 February, 2012 at 6:30 PM hope to you all there. We will be having practices on 31 January at 5:45 PM and then on 7 Feb, 2012 for the upcoming business meeting and the Master Degree on the 9th of Feb, 2012. If you would like to have a part in the Working of the lodge by all means come on out and there are plenty of areas that will need assistance with.

Fraternally I am,

Walter T. Reed
Worshipful Master

LODGE CALENDAR

Feb 2, 2012

Regular Communication

6:30 PM eat

Feb 7, 2012

MM degree practice

5:45 PM

Feb 9, 2012

MM Degree eat @ 6:30 PM

Lodge opens at 7:30 PM

Feb 15, 2012

Family Night 6:30 PM

Feb 21, 2012

MM Degree Practice 6PM

Feb 23, 2012

MM Degree, eat @ 6:30

Degree at 7:30

Greetings from the West

600 years of Free Masonry by Harry Carr.

It all started in London, England, in the year 1356, a very important date, and it started as the result of a good old-fashioned row or argument going on in London between the mason hewers, the men who cut the stone, and the mason layers and setters, the men who actually built the walls. The exact details of the quarrel are not known, but, as a result of this row, 12 skilled master masons, with some famous men among them, came before the mayor and aldermen at Guildhall in London, and, with official permission, drew up a simple code of trade regulations. The opening words of that document, which still survives, say that these men had come together because their trade had never been regulated in such form as other trades were. So here, in this document, we have an official guarantee that this was the very first attempt at some sort of trade organization for the masons and, as we go through the document, the very first rule that they drew up gives a clue to the demarcation dispute that I was talking about. They ruled, 'That every man of the trade may work at any work touching the trade if he be perfectly skilled and knowing in the same. 'Brethren, that was the Wisdom of Solomon! If you knew the job, you could do the job, and nobody could stop you! If we only had that much common sense nowadays in England, how much better off we should be.

When I read these last words, I think of the work we do in our lodge. "Every man of our trade that does the work should be perfectly skilled and knowing the same. It is our duty to know the work as perfectly as possible so that we as Free Masons may teach our brethren to know and do the same. Let us be teachers of our craft or the best students we can be as we may one day be called upon to teach."

Thank you from the West,

Brother Michael Hozey

Tidings from the South

I have no new tidings in the South, except to express my continuing gratitude and honor for being given this opportunity to serve our lodge. On behalf of my stewards I look forward to an exceptional year for Fort Jackson Lodge, and I have little doubt that it will be productive, forward-looking, and harmonious. I would also like to take this opportunity to ask if any brothers wish to attend Grand Lodge this year but do not of yet have a place to stay. Please feel free to contact me about accommodations at 803-546-7336.

With Fraternal Regard,

Charles Alex Varn
Junior Warden

What Came You Here To Do?

Tell me now, my Brother,
What came you here to do?
When you joined our mystic
circle,
Had you a purpose in your heart
to be of service to your fellow
man
And perform your allotted part,
Or came you out of curiosity
Or motive personal in view?
Tell me, Brother of the square
What came you here to do?
Have you studied well the
meaning
Of the symbols on our chart?
And learned to subdue your
passions
And make improvements in your
art?
Do you uphold the trusts
On which we firmly stand,
Teaching the fatherhood of God
And the brotherhood of man?
Have you willingly aided the
brother
When life surges were fierce and
wild?
Have you offered cheer and
comfort
To the Mason's wife, widow and
child?
If you have done so, my brother,
You are a Mason good and true,
And can give a correct answer to
"What came you here to do?"



BIRTHDAY WISHES

BROTHER JAMES AMICK	2/26
BROTHER EUGENE BOWEN	2/28
BROTHER ROBERT DOZIER	2/26
BROTHER WILLIAM FAUST, JR	2/7
BROTHER GERARD GOODBOLD	2/16
BROTHER JAMES GRAHAM	2/22
BROTHER RUSSELL HENAGE	2/22
BROTHER JESSE HENAGE	2/6
BROTHER PERRY HOPKINS	2/3
BROTHER MICHAEL HOZEY	2/24
BROTHER ROBERT MARTIN	2/1
BROTHER JOSEPH McALISTER	2/22
BROTHER FELIPE PINERO	2/25
WB EARL SILLS	2/24
BROTHER JUNIUS SMITH, JR	2/19
BROTHER RONALD TAYLOR	2/2
BROTHER ALAN TOOMEY	2/11
BROTHER CHARLES WARNER	2/24

From the desk of the Secretary,

Brethren,

This year we will have 8 service awards to present and I plan on making two trips outside the Columbia area to present these on behalf of Fort Jackson Lodge and our Worshipful Master.

We will have 1 twenty five year pin, 5 forty year, 1 fifty year and 1 sixty year pin.

Brethren, I would like to remind everyone that there is a new version of the Ahiman Rezion out. It is the 2010 Edition and should be used and not the out of date 2007 edition. I have a few issues left and I can get them from the Grand Lodge.

I also remind everyone that the 275th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina will be held on April 25-27 at North Charleston, SC. Everyone is invited to attend. On Wednesday night, April 24 from 6-8PM at the Scottish Rite center there will be a free dinner to all masons and families.

Fraternally,

RW Alex Roberts
Secretary



THE WORKING TOOLS OF THE
6:30 DEGREE

COOKS CORNER

BRETHREN, I WISH TO THANK THE JUNIOR WARDEN FOR ALLOWING THE KITCHEN CREW TO CONTINUE ON THIS YEAR. WE THINK THAT A GOOD MEAL FOR BOTH OUR STATED COMMUNICATIONS AND DEGREE WORK IS CONDUCIVE TO GOOD MASONRY, IT ALSO ENCOURAGES VISITORS TO COME TO OUR LODGE AND CREATES LASTING FRIENDSHIPS AND HARMONY WITH OTHER LODGES. THIS MESSAGE ALSO THANKS THE STEWARDS FOR THE HARD WORK THAT THEY DO TO KEEP THE KITCHEN IN TOP NOTCH CONDITION.

RWB ALEX, WB HAL AND MYSELF. STRIVE TO PROVIDE THE LODGE WITH A VARIED AND DELICIOUS MENU. I WOULD ALSO REMIND YOU THAT THE KITCHEN FUND HAS DONE A LOT OF WONDERFUL THINGS FOR OUR LODGE IN MANY WAYS AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. FOR OUR UPCOMING STATED COMMUNICATION WE WILL BE SERVING COUNTRY VEGETABLE BEEF SOUP, CORNBREAD MUFFINS, GREEN SALAD, AND ASSORTED DESSERT INCLUDING RWB ALEX'S BREAD PUDDING, WHICH WAS WIPED OUT AT OUR LAST MEETING. FOR OUR UPCOMING MM DEGREE WE WILL SERVE GRILLED PORK CHOPS, MASHED POTATO S AND GRAVY, GREEN BEANS, GREEN SALAD, THAT WONDERFUL BREAD PUDDING WITH THE EXTRAS. I MIGHT ADD THAT IF AT ANY TIME YOU HAVE A SUGGESTION OR ADVICE TO MAKE THE MEALS BETTER OR THE KITCHEN MORE EFFICIENT PLEASE CONTACT ANY OF THE COOKS AND WE WILL TAKE IT UNDER CONSIDERATION

FRATERNALLY, JOE G RUSH, PM, HAL NOBLES, PM, EARL BALLARD, CHIEF SLICER,
ALEX ROBERTS, DDGM, PM.

Joe G. Rush PM
Head Cook

“I am Freemason”.

“I am freemasonry. I was born in antiquity, in the ancient days when man first dreamed of God. I have been tried through the ages, and found true. The crossroads of the world bear the imprint of my feet, and the cathedrals of all nations mark the skill of my hands. I strive for beauty and for symmetry. In my heart are wisdom and strength and courage for those who ask. Upon my altar is the Book of Holy Writ and my prayers are to the One Omnipotent God, my sons work and pray together without rank or discord, in public mart and in the inner chamber. By signs and symbols I teach the lessons of life and of death and the relationship of man with God and of man with man. My arms are widespread to receive those of lawful age and good report who seek me of their own free will. I will accept them and teach them to use my tools in the building of men, and thereafter, find direction in their own quest for perfection so much desired and so difficult to attain. I lift up the fallen and shelter the sick. I hark to the orphan’s cry, the widow’s tears, and the pain of the old and destitute. I am not church, nor party, nor school, yet my sons bear a full share of responsibility to God, to country, to neighbor and themselves. They are freemen, tenacious of their liberties, and alert to lurking danger. At the end I commit them as each one undertakes the journey beyond the vale into the glory of everlasting life. I ponder the sand within the glass and think how small a single life in the eternal universe is. Always have I taught immortality, and even as I raise men from darkness into light, I am a way of life.

I am A freemason.”