

MORE LIGHT

From

Manteo Lodge #521

A. F. & A. M.

Chartered April 18, 1962

March & April, 2008

TRESTLE BOARD

April 14, 2008 6:30 PM

Covered dish @ the Lodge; Bring some food and join the fun.

April 14, 2008 7:30 PM

Regular Stated Communication
Fellowcraft Degree for eligible candidates

April 28, 2008 7:30 PM

Regular Stated Communication
E.A. Degree for eligible candidates

MAY 10, 2008 7:00—10:00 AM

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AT THE LODGE \$6

May 12, 2008 6:30 PM

Covered dish @ the Lodge, Bring some grub

May 12, 2008 7:30 PM

Regular Stated Communication

May 26, 2008 Regular Stated Communication

CALLED OFF for Memorial Day.

YORK RITE MEETINGS 8:00 PM

Eureka Lodge—Elizabeth City, NC
1st & 3rd Thursday of Each Month
Except Summer

SHRINE CLUB 7:30 PM

First Wednesday of Each Month
Shrine Club, Manteo, NC

FROM THE EAST

Dear Brethren,

Easter has arrived, and on many levels, this special day marks a renewal of life and spirit. It seemed almost appropriate that the Saturday before Easter Sunday was marked by 70 degree weather, a sunny day, and the recognition that the plants are turning green once again and Nature is coming back to life.

So it goes with your Lodge. We haven't missed a beat since last year, when we raised 6 new Master Mason's. Right now, we have 3 Fellowcraft moving towards the Master Mason's degree, three new Entered Apprentice degree scheduled, and four petitions working their way through the system. There is a lot of degree work to do, and we can definitely use some help!

We have a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser scheduled for May 10th and we will have a Past Master's Night in JUNE where we will recognize a number of 60, 50 and 25 year Mason's.

As you can see, there is lot's to do and much to be excited about. Bring yourself and another Brother to Lodge and join in the fun.

Russ Lay, Master

FROM THE WEST

The activity level in the West has been very good. As previously reported one Fellowcraft Degree was conferred on Brother Bruce Ferrier in late February and Brother Bill Daughtry found more light in early March. Great degree work by the officers with the support of the Brethren. Congratulations to Brother Chris East who completed the first leg of his journey through Wilkerson College in March. A quick note

from the budget committee. We have some decisions to make so be a part of the solution. See you in lodge.

See you in lodge,

Doug Langford SW

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The date is set, May 10th at the Lodge from 7AM to 11AM. Pancakes, sausage and juice. Orders can be "to go" or you are welcome to join us in the dining room.

This is one of our major fundraisers for the Masonic Home for Children and the Masonic Eastern Star Home.

We need a GREAT turnout from the membership to make this a success. It's the Saturday before Mother's Day, so its an excellent reason to give Mom two days off in a row from the rigors of cooking breakfast.

\$6 per person is the price. You've had plenty of notice, so we fully expect to see YOU THERE!

We have a covered dish dinner before the FIRST stated of each month. Bring some grub and join the fun at 6:30 PM.

DEGREE WORK

April 14th: Fellowcraft Degree

April 28: Entered Apprentice Degrees

Be there and help make our new and advancing Brother's aware of what a great FRATERNITY they have joined!

GRAND MASTER VISITATION

MARCH 10, 2008

Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons, Rev. David R. Cash visited Manteo 521 on March 10. We kicked off the night with a fine dinner featuring shrimp, fried flounder, baked ham and all the fixings, provided by Bro. Vic Cox, a dual member of our Lodge and purveyor of Hook's Restaurant in Bellhaven. What a meal. Missy McPherson and her crew came through with the desserts and drinks.

We then journeyed upstairs for one of the most rousing addresses I have ever heard as a Mason. That MW Cash is also the Rev. Cash was much in evidence as he expressed the spirit of F.U.N. in a style many of us who grew up in Southern churches would recognize. I think everyone involved would agree that his talk was both impressive and inspiring and made one proud and excited to be a Mason.

We were most pleased by the turnout; some 50 Brother's from Manteo, Hatteras, Ocracoke, Atlantic, Bellhaven, Columbia., Virginia, and Orphan's Lodge were in attendance. We were also treated to a talk by Bro. Allen Hughes, Administrator of the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford, and Bro. Ric Carter, Assistant Secretary of the Grand Lodge.

MW Cash has sent along a number of lapel pins to commemorate his year as Grand Master; a few are still left, so come to Lodge and get one while supplies last!!!

CARLISLE DAVIS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Be on the lookout for a fundraising letter for our Scholarship Fund. We are working hard to get the total to \$10,000 so that the fund can be self-sufficient. Letter's will be going out soon, its been 5 years since we've last asked for some help! Thanks!

ELEVATOR & CHAIR LIFT

Its been a long time coming, but I hope by the first stated in April, we will have a chairlift in place at the Lodge. Both Amaranth and the Eastern Star have donated over \$5000 to help make this a reality.

We have agreed to purchase and install a 2-chair system. The lower chair will take occupants to the first landing on the staircase, where it will be necessary for them to make a short walk to the next chair, which will complete the transport from the first landing to the top of the stairs.

AND, we are still working on an elevator also. Bro. Mo Utley, a friend of WB Lary Sawyer, PM, gets our newsletter. A non-member, he still jumped into the fray! He is a former Otis Elevator employee and is working with the State to determine what kind of elevator they will approve for the Lodge. He has also pledged a matching grant, and has indicated he thinks he can raise enough money to pay for the entire elevator *if we match the remainder!* This part of the project is far from certain, but with Bro. Utley and help from WB Jim Hughes, PM and Bro. Jay Hart, we have a good chance of success. Don't count it a done deal, but keep your fingers crossed, and we may ask for some matching funds to help make this a reality. We thank Bro. Utley for taking on this project.

The company that is selling us the chair lift has said if we succeed in the elevator, they think they can resell the chair lift and recover some of our money. Or, it can be left in the Lodge as a backup means of accessing the top floor.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Senior Warden, Bro. Doug Langford, gave the Finance & Budget Committee report at the March 24th

Stated Communication. The short version is that based upon our present budget and expected membership dues, we will come up \$2000 short in 2008 relative to dues collected and our normal expenses (utilities, per capita, supplies) .

One way to alleviate the pressure is to make our joint venture Fish Fry (with the Outer Banks Shrine Club) a success in the Fall.

The Finance & Budget Committee did make two recommendations which **I would like to discuss and vote on at the JUNE 23rd stated communication**. The first was to raise the initiation fee to \$150, commencing January 1, 2009. The second was to raise dues by at least \$10 per year, commencing with the 2010 Lodge year (earlier if we can be in compliance with Grand Lodge).

This is an important issue and while it may raise some concerns, we need to discuss it in the spirit of Masonry and then decide on our course of action.

SUMMER DARK PERIOD TO SWITCH IN 2008

As a reminder, this year we are going to experiment with our summer "dark" meeting. Typically, we go dark the second stated communication in June, July and August. This year, we are going dark the FIRST stated in June, July and August. This will allow our members to attend Currituck Lodge in the summer, which meets on the 2nd Monday of each month. More and more of our members live in Currituck and would like to visit that Lodge. In addition, while this Lodge is actually closer to us than Hatteras and Ocrocoke, we seldom visit one another since we are in different Masonic districts and meet on the same night.

2008 OFFICERS

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Junior Deacon
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Randell E. Holmes, PM.....473-5119

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