

MORE LIGHT

From

Manteo Lodge #521

A. F. & A. M.

Chartered April 18, 1962

November & December 2008

TRESTLE BOARD

November 10, 2008	7:30 PM
Regular Stated Communication Covered Dish at 6:30 FellowCraft Degree	
November 24, 2008	7:30 PM
Regular Stated Communication	
December 8, 2008	7:30 PM
Regular Stated Communication Covered Dish @ 6:30 ELECTION OF OFFICERS	
December 22, 2008	6:30 PM
Regular Stated Communication Master Mason's Degree	
January 10, 2009	3:00 PM
Officer Installation At Manteo 521 Public Invited	

www.Mante521.org

FROM THE EAST

Brethren:

This is my last "More Light" communication from the East. It has been a long year, and a productive one for our group. For the second year in a row, we have added eight new Master Masons through degree work, and we've added several through affiliation.

I want to thank everyone who helped make this year a success. The officers of the Lodge have all worked extremely hard and deserve our thanks. Our Shrine Brethren have been there for us every time we needed their help, from hosting our Fish Fry to showing up in force for our 3rd Degree work.

The ladies of the Lodge have also provided needed support throughout the year. Without their help, our fundraisers, dinners, and special meeting nights would not have been possible.

I can't thank all of you enough. It is an honor to be part of such a tremendous group of people, I know our new Worshipful Master will discover the same sense of family when he begins his term in January.

OFFICER ELECTION December 8, 2008

In accordance with *The Code* and the Bylaws of Manteo 521, the election of officers for the ensuing year will take place at our Regular Stated Communication on December 8, 2008. Please make plans to attend and show your support for the men who will lead Manteo 521 in the year 2009.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The notice of Officer elections provides a natural segue to the Installation Ceremony. Please make plans to attend on Saturday, January 10, 2009.

The ceremonies will begin at 3:00 PM at Manteo 521. As is our tradition, the Installation is open to the public and the Brethren are encouraged to bring friends and family to the event.

"MORE LIGHT" PUBLISHER

At the request of our Senior Warden, I have agreed to serve at least one more year as editor of "More Light". That said, the newsletter will require a new editor at some point before the end of 2009. I will be taking on additional duties with some of our Appendant bodies. In addition, I have numerous civic duties at night with other organizations that consume considerable amounts of my time. The long and short of all this is that "More Light" does not receive the attention to detail it deserves. In theory, the publication should be sent out monthly, especially with all the degree work performed by our Lodge. As often happens (this month is a good example), degrees are scheduled and do not make the Trestle Board in time for members to attend. Many times I have been forced to write the entire newsletter in one night in order to "beat" a deadline for important events or degree work. As a result, the newsletter goes out with little or no proofreading, and Masonic education has taken a back seat as well.

I know there are folks out there with the requisite Masonic knowledge, grammatical skills, and *time* to edit the newsletter. I know because I've heard from some of you. Producing the newsletter requires an average level of familiarity with either Microsoft Word or Publisher, and some ability to gather information on Masonry from other sources—books, the Internet, etc. Ideally, your officer line should also send enough information to consume three panels of information. If you are interested, please contact me. The absolute deadline will be Dec 31, 2009!

SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION-OCTOBER 4th, 2008

A good time was had by all who attended the October School of Instruction. DDGL Wayne Cox, PM put on an excellent class. Attendance from Manteo 521 was incredible, with a large number of our newest Master Masons present.

As always, we thoroughly enjoyed the company of our Brothers from Cape Hatteras and Ocracoke. The next School of Instruction is scheduled for February 28, 2009 at Cape Hatteras Lodge. The meeting will start at 10AM.

You have plenty of notice, so there's no excuse for you to miss the School! Run to calendar, PDA, Daytimer, or cell phone and write this down!

.HISTORY MADE AT GRAND LODGE

The delegation from Manteo 521 was honored to be a part of the 2008 Grand Communication in Winston-Salem. As you have probably seen in *The Tarheel Mason*, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina recognized the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of North Carolina. A Compact of Mutual Respect will be signed November 21, 2008 at 4 PM at the State Capital in Raleigh.

DUES NOTICES TO ARRIVE SHORTLY

Your 2009 dues notices will soon be coming your way. If you have not paid your 2008 dues, the time is fast approaching when you will considered NPD. We don't want to lose any members, so please "catch up" if you can. Dues are the major source of our operating funds, it how we pay our bills. Please help our cash flow by sending in your 2009 as soon as you can. Your Lodge can use the help.

The Philaethes Society

With close to 2 million Master Masons in the United States, one might think there would be a national Masonic magazine. The strange truth is that there is not such a publication. The most compelling reason is that unlike the Scottish and York Rites, there is no national Grand Lodge in the United States. Instead, each state is its own sovereign Grand Lodge. A “Google” search indicates that during the 20th Century, several attempts were made by individuals to launch a national magazine, but most of them appear to have run their course in less than a decade. The last such publication I subscribed to was *The American Mason*, a newsprint-style periodical that disappeared suddenly around 2003.

There is a Society that publishes a “slick” color magazine every two months. *The Philaethes* is the bi-monthly publication of the Philaethes Society. It calls the magazine “The Journal of Masonic Research and Letters”.

The Society is international in scope, and is not affiliated with any Grand Lodge. Membership in the Society is open to all Master Masons, regardless of Grand Lodge affiliation. In that regard, some members of the Society are affiliated with Grand Lodges not recognized by all American Grand Lodges.

The articles cover the gamut of Freemasonry; discussions of Prince Hall, now-defunct degrees, famous Masons, and most interesting to me, descriptions and history of degrees in other countries. A sampling of article from the February 2008 issue included these articles: “Freemasonry Should Be Self Critical”, “Masonic Philosophy of Faith, Hope, and Charity”, “Chaos in DeWitt County: The Sutton-Taylor Feud”, “The Politics of Grand Lodge Foreign Relations”, and “The Brotherhood of Man, A Collection of Short Stories”.

As a Society that encourages research and free thinking, some of the articles can stir controversy. There have been debates concerning female Masonic lodges in Europe, the struggles of Prince Hall Masonry in North America, and discussions on the behind-the-scenes maneuvering that often takes place when one Grand Lodge recognizes the other. The Society itself does not necessarily endorse the opinions of the writers, rather it encourages Freemasonry to open discuss the differences of opinion that a part of any organization as large and diverse as our Craft. While I don’t agree with everything I read in the Society’s publication, it is the closest thing I have found to a Masonic “magazine”. Visit them at www.freemasonry.org

2008 OFFICERS

Master	
Russell (Russ) Lay.....	480-1859
409 Raceview Ct Nags Head, NC 27959	
Senior Warden	
Douglas (Doug) W Langford.....	441-8862
Junior Warden	
James (Jim) M. Cox.....	473-6270
Secretary	
Brian D Edwards, PM.....	473-6971
PO Box 1864 Manteo, NC 27954-1864 E-mail: bedwards@albemarle.cc.nc.us	
Treasurer	
Lowell Spivey, PM.	255-0631
Senior Deacon	
Christopher (Chris) East.....	491-9261
Junior Deacon	
Terry Sherman.....	
Chaplain	
Randell E. Holmes, PM.....	473-5485
Tyler	
Marvin R Worrell.....	473-2797
Stewards	
Joe Southern & Bo Taylor	

Lodge Hall Phone 252-473-2241

Editor
Russell Lay—252-480-1859
409 Raceview Ct
Nags Head, NC 27959
russlay@embarqmail.com

www.manteo521.org

NON PROFIT ORG
27949-9803
Kitty Hawk, NC
PERMIT NO 2

MANTEO LODGE 521
A.F. & A.M
Brian D. Edwards, Secretary
PO Box 1864
Manteo, NC 27954