

St. James Lodge No. 47 F. & A.M.

Joseph George Richard, Jr, W.M.

Home: 225-924-7965

jgr2@cox.net



Frank Earl Dedman, Secy., P.M.

Home: 225-927-8196

Frankededman@cox.net

315 Convention Street, Post Office Box 444, Baton Rouge, LA 70821

225-344-7658

Web Site: <http://www.stjameslodge47.org>

Stated Communications: 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Monthly Newsletter April 2009 – May 2009

RECENT EVENTS

Thursday, April 2, 6:30 P.M. - Stated Communication - OPEN MEETING/Hors d'oeuvres with Scottish/Irish Observance with bagpipe entertainment by our own W: Bro. Larry Bossier and talk about by W: Bro. Ricks Bowles about a Scottish immigrant, Peter Williamson, in early 1700's.

Monday, April 6, 5:30 P.M. - Practice

Thursday, April 16, 7:30 P.M. -- Stated Communication - Recognize 60-year members & a holder of Gold Proficiency Certificate for over 26 years of service teaching Masons. Bro. Ed Cailleateau to talk on M:W: Bro. Ben Franklin.

Congratulations to Bro. Chris Gaspard and Mandy on their wedding, Saturday, April 18, 2009.

Monday, April 20, 5:30 P.M. -- Practice.

Monday, April 27, 6:30 P.M. - SPECIAL COMMUNICATION - Confer one Entered Apprentice Degree.

FUTURE EVENTS

Officers and Degree Team Practice - each 1st and 3rd Monday at 5:30 p.m.

OPEN MEETING

Ladies & Guests Invited for Dinner and the Annual Honesty & Integrity Awards at 6:30 P.M. Thursday, May 21, 2009

Monday, May 4, 5:30 P.M. – Practice for Master Mason Degree, Second Section, and possibly Fellow Craft Degree.

Thursday, May 7, 7:30 P.M. - Stated Communication - ballot on one Candidate, review St. James By-Laws, & possibly confer Fellow Craft Degree.

Thursday, May 14, 6:00 P.M. - Special Communication to receive Fellow Craft Proficiency Exam Committee Report on two candidates and confer two Master Mason Degrees.

Monday, May 18, 5:30 P.M. - Practice to receive the Grand Master.

Thursday, May 21, 6:30 P.M. - Stated Communication - **Open/Dinner - Honesty & Integrity Awards; Reception of The Grand Master of Masons of the State of Louisiana & his Official Family & his talk on Masonic H & I Program.**

Thursday, May 28, 6:00 P.M. - SPECIAL COMMUNICATION to confer two Entered Apprentice Degrees.

Sickness and Relief

Prayers are requested for the following brothers: W:Bro Lenton Sartain is recovering from a left carotid artery surgery and has equilibrium difficulty.

W: Bro. David Dodge has back pain, epidural shots have not helped, and he anticipates surgery soon. Pray for him, Barbara, and their family.

Bro. Eddie Coleman requests prayer for his father who had an operation for cancer and is being treated.

In contacting our 60-year members, it was discovered that **Bro. Odell Calvin Cooper** left this earthly realm and joined the Celestial Lodge Above on February 29, 2007 at 86 years of age. We regret having been unaware of this at the appropriate time.

Brethren,



One highlight of my year as Master of St. James Lodge is the honor of an Official Visit to our Lodge on Thursday, May 21, 2009 by The Grand Master of Masons of the State of Louisiana, Most Worshipful Brother Jules F. "Jeff" Webb, and his Official Family. That will be an Open Meeting for ladies and guests, with dinner at 6:30 P.M. In addition to the public reception of the Grand Master and his Official Family the program will also honor and recognize recipients of Honesty & Integrity Awards and their families. Come and enjoy this joyful occasion, good food, fellowship, and meet our Grand Master and members of his Official Family.

Our Lodge continues to be blessed with petitions and degree work. Eleven (11) degrees have been conferred in 2009 through the end of April and four (4) more will be done in May - two Entered Apprentices and two Master Masons. That is a total of fifteen (15) degrees so far this year. This has taken a lot of work and practices by our Coaches, Senior Warden and Degree Teams. The entire Lodge thanks them for their dedication to Masonry. It is a rewarding pleasure to participate in Degree work to bring more good men to Masonic light and help them to share in the joys that each of us have known.

Approximately half of our Charity Budget for 2009 has been distributed, and acknowledgement has been received from the recipients. It was reported by W: Bros. Larry Bossier and Tom Perry from Fordoche Lodge and Livonia Lodge, that with our help, the Pointe Coupee Parish Dyslexia program is well established with an excellent teacher that started with a full class at Pointe Coupee Catholic Elementary School on March 23, 2009. Local interest in the program is so good and the number of student applicants was so large, that a second class is contemplated.

Our regular Stated Communications continue to have interesting programs. If you have been unable to attend recently, for whatever reason, please come and share in enlightenment, fellowship and fun. The Lodge needs your participation.

Joe Richard, Worshipful Master

From the Secretary's Desk: if you have not paid your 2009 dues, they are now delinquent.

Consider a PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP at twenty (20) times current annual dues. This may be paid over 5 years.

Keep open meetings in mind-----Invite worthy guests.

May 21	Grand Master's Visit & H. & I. Awards
Sep. 3	Guest Night
Oct. 1	Past Masters', Widows & 25/50 Yr.
Dec. 3	Installation of 2010 Officers



St. James Lodge No. 47
 Post Office Box 444
 Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0444

April 2009 — May 2009

NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U. S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT NO. 158
 BATON ROUGE, LA

extra copy

Notify our Secretary, W.Bro. Dedman and George Scanlan if you change your address or telephone.

Other Masonic Events

Acacia Shrine meets at 6:00/7:00 PM every 3rd Wednesday at 7991 S. Commerce Ave
 Downtown York Rite Bodies meet regularly on the 1st Saturday of each month at 8:00 a.m. with breakfast at 7:30 a.m.
 Scottish Rite Baton Rouge Valley meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Consistory on Florida Boulevard with Advisory Council at 5:30, meeting at 7:30 PM, and dinner at 6:30 PM
 Livingston Certificate Association meets at 6:00 P.M with dinner, on the first Friday of each month at Hurd Murrell # 454 in Livingston, LA and Baton Rouge Certificate Association meets at 6:30 P.M. with dinner on the third Friday of each month at Trinity Union Lodge # 372.
 The Lodge of The Nine Muses, No. 9, F. & A.M., meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the Red Room of St James Lodge. If you are interested in visiting, contact one of the members to find time, dress code and other details.

The Masonic Spirit
 (adapted from a usnet posting circa 2003)

THIS is what it's all about: My buddy (a fellow Shriner, as am I) was on his motorcycle about 3 weeks ago. It's an old rebuilt thing, and has no gas gauge.
 Well, he runs out of gas about 15 miles from home and pulls into the apron of some driveway.
 An older man, in his 80's, comes out of the house to see what the scoop is.
 You gotta realize that my buddy and I are *bikers*, long hair, beards, the whole nine yards. The older man sees my buddies Shrine/Masonic emblems on the motorcycle and inquires.
 After a few minutes of discussion, the man says c'mon up to the house a minute. They go up. Buddy uses the phone a minute, hangs up and sees the man with a 5 gallon gas can, full.

The man says "take what you need."

My buddy offers cash, and apparently the man won't hear of it. Says he hasn't been to a Shrine event in 10 years from poor eyesight and can't drive.
 Last night, we went and picked this man up, and took him to the business meeting. He saw men he once knew well, that he hasn't spoken to in years. Somehow, rumor got around he passed away, out of town. Now that they know otherwise, he's got offers for rides to any event he wishes to attend.
 Just goes to show, Masonry is not dead. It is indeed an organization for gentlemen and Brothers. I for one am proud to say that I am a Mason and Shriner.
 David Howard, 32
 Western Hills #762 Cincinnati, Ohio www.wh762.com
 AASR Valley of Cincinnati Syrian Shrine - Cincinnati, Ohio
 Motor Patrol <http://www.sohocomsol.com/mp/>

"Rays of Masonry" by Dewy Wollstein -1953

THE PURPOSE

If men are morally qualified to become Masons, then what does Masonry offer them? The purpose of Masonry is to improve. It is a system of morality. It means nothing to those who lack the desire to grow spiritually.
 Goodness, Masonry point out, is not a fixed element, which one works at today, and rests from tomorrow. Masonry is the force that leads men on in the adventures of the heart, keeping man between two columns- The Pillar of All-Creation and the Pillar of Man's Creation. There is forever the struggle between life and the things of life. The victory is not in waiting for the destruction of adverse conditions, but in making a life in the "middle of them."
 Men, therefore, may be morally qualified to become Masons, and yet fail utterly to improve themselves in the art of Masonry. The failures are those who believe that the ultimate attainment of some degree of spiritual improvement is not worth the steady application that is required to achieve it.
 It is essentially necessary that our officers make a thorough study of Masonry in order to keep before the members the real purpose of the Institution. The proper discharge of the duty of the Worshipful Master to see that the lodge is set to labor under good and wholesome instruction largely determines the success of a lodge. The success can never be computed in numbers, in degrees, or in proficiency in the ritualistic work.
 Masonry cannot offer that which first must be in the heart. It can begin there and take us to paths of undreamed triumphs.

The 'Bad' mason, why is HE here?

As Masons, we are taught that ALL men are our brothers and we are told...Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for the brethren to dwell together in unity.... When thou shall vow a vow unto the Lord thy God, thou shalt not slack to pay it: for the Lord thy God will surely require it of thee.... We love Him, because He first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment we have from Him, That he who loveth God love his brother also... If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally and ubraideth not; and it shall be given....The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the headstone of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.
 If you have, in the past, fallen short of being able to love one of your brother masons, consider the possibility that perhaps he has been placed in your life for a reason. Perhaps he is here so you can better learn the lesson of love.

Your article could have been here. Send articles to Bob Zinn, N5bz@cox.net