

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

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

Stated Communications: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

## Monthly Newsletter February 2009 – March 2009



Brethren,

The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana just concluded its 198<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication at Alexandria, in peace and harmony. It was filled with Brotherly Love and had the least amount of controversy in the half-dozen or so years I have attended. The Five-year Plan of the Grand Lodge that was adopted in 2007-2008 under Grand Master Easterly has been implemented. Lodges represented were 198, our membership is approximately 22,000, average member age is 63, and 20.7 % are now Perpetual Members. The budget for the year ending September 30, 2009 was adopted at \$426,266 receipts and \$460,813 expense. Our new 13th District DDGM is a Past Master of St. James Lodge, W: Bro. Scott Broderick and our DDGL continues to be W: Bro. Jimmie Dean Dunkin.

Spring is "busting out all over," both in the GATOU's outdoor world and St. James Lodge. The City of Baton Rouge is alive with Mardi Gras activities. Remember to change your clocks for the Sunday, March 8 return to D.S.T. Degrees are being conferred in rapid succession with seven (7) during January. We especially thank Bro. Tim Atkins, S.W. for the extremely good work in recruiting degree teams and for the Degree Teams members who participated. Also, the flow of petitions to St. James Lodge 47 is very encouraging.

Please continue to pray for our Masonic Fraternity, and St. James Lodge. Pray also for our City, State, and Country, and its leaders.

Joe Richard, Worshipful Master 2009

Thursday, February 19 at 7:30 P.M. – Stated Communication – Our Wardens, Bros. Atkins and Dr. Robinson, summarized actions by Grand Lodge Annual Communication on February 7–8. One Petition was received, with necessary appointments made.

### FUTURE EVENTS

**Officers and Degree Team Practice - each 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 5:30 p.m.**

Sunday, March 1 at 1:30/2:30 P.M. – 13th Masonic District meeting at St. Albans Lodge 28 in Jackson.

**Thursday, March 5 at 6:00/6:30 P.M.** – Stated Communication – Semi-annual Guest Night **Open Meeting with meal.** W: Bro. Dedman will talk on "Freemasonry, Its Origins and What It Is" and M:W: Bro. Brown will talk on "The Lodge, room, furniture, paraphernalia, officers, jewels, how to join, etc." Committee reports were received and ballots conducted on two Candidates.

Thursday, March 7 - 8 – Scottish Rite Reunion at the Consistory. Two (2) St. James members expect to receive the 32nd Degree.

Sunday, March 8 – Begin Daylight Saving Time & end C.S.T.

Saturday – Tuesday, March 7-10 – Annual Louisiana Grand Chapter 163rd Convocation & Grand Council 155th Assembly at Landmark Hotel in Hammond.

Thursday, March 19 at 7:30 P.M. – Stated Communication – One Petition was reported on and balloted. Anticipate conferring one or more Fellow Craft Degrees.

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

*Still time--bring a guest: March 5 6:00/6:30 P.M*

**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**

### Sickness and Relief

Prayers are requested for the following Brothers. W:Bro. Sartain anticipates "cat" scan following his mini-stroke with full mobility recovery.

W: Bro. Streater's grandmother (aunt) who raised him died.

P.G.H.P. Belanger returned home from Lafayette hospital and complications from minor prostate surgery.

Bro. Zinn is suffering upper right quadrant abdominal pain. The good news is that ultrasound and xray show no abnormality.

W:Bro. Ladner has recovered from stomach problem. W: Bro. Dodge has experienced some back relief.

**Bro. Gordon R. Gisclaird Jr. a 50 year member died January 1st 2009.** Keep Bro. Gisclaird's family and wife Juarene in your prayers.

**Bro. Erol Kozdereli died February 8th 2009.** Keep Bro. Kozdereli's family and wife June in your prayers.

### 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, and meeting at 7:30 PM

Livingston Certificate Association meets at 6:00 P.M 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. 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.

### **From the Secretaries 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.

### RECENT EVENTS

Thursday, February 5 at 7:30 P.M. – Stated Communication – M:W: Bro. Brown, P.G.M., discussed the pre-filed Grand Lodge Resolutions. W: Bro. George Jones talked about George Washington, the Mason and "Father of our Country." One Petition for Degrees and one Petition for Advancement were received. The Charity Budget for 2009 was adopted.

Wednesday, February 11 at 5:30 P.M. – It is worthy of notice that The Lodge of Nine Muses conferred its first Master Mason Degree, with assistance of members and loan of paraphernalia from St. James Lodge.



**St. James Lodge No. 47**  
 Post Office Box 444  
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**February 2009— March 2009**

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

Apron Charge (taken from the Grand Lodge of Main's web site)

It may be that, in the coming years, upon your head may rest the laurel wreaths of victory; pendant from your breast may hang jewels fit to grace the diadem of an Eastern potentate; nay, more than these, with light added to the coming light, your ambitious feet may tread round after round of the ladder that leads to fame in our mystic circle, and even the purple of the Fraternity may rest upon your honored shoulders; but never again from mortal hands, never again until your enfranchised spirit shall have passed upward and inward through the pearly gates, shall any honor so distinguished, so emblematical of purity and all perfection's, be conferred upon you as this which I now bestow.

It is yours; yours to wear throughout an honorable life, and at your death be deposited upon the coffin which shall enclose your lifeless remains, and with them laid beneath the clods of the valley.

Let its pure and spotless surface be to you an ever present reminder of a "purity of life and rectitude of conduct, " a never-ending argument for nobler deeds, for higher thoughts, for greater achievements.

And when at last your weary feet shall have come to the end of life's toilsome journey, and from your nerveless grasp shall drop forever the working tools of life, may the record of your life and actions be as pure and spotless as this fair emblem which I place in your hands tonight; and when your trembling soul shall stand naked and alone before the Great White Throne, there to receive judgment for the deeds done while here in the body, may it be your portion to hear from Him who sitteth as the Judge Supreme the welcome words, "Well done, good and faithful servant! Thou hast been faithful over a few things; I will make thee ruler over many things! Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

"Rays of Masonry" by Dewey Wollstein -1953

FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR YOUNG MASONS

Often we hear criticism of a Mason, the recital of some act on the part of a brother, which reflects upon the Craft as a whole.

For the most part, it seems to this writer that we are over-critical of our brothers, but perhaps in this way we have maintained a standard of moral excellence which is respected by almost the entire world, with the exception of those who bow to the dictates of tyrannical leaders, political or religious, and are not permitted to see any good in the Mason or Masonry. In these cases the critic does not own his own soul, so there is little that can be done except to offer pity.

However, many times, the young Mason will talk with a non-Mason, who is always willing to go to great effort to explain

"why he will not become a Mason." His purpose is to confuse the candidate, or young Mason.

But note carefully. Generally, the person who makes such an effort to discuss a subject of which he knows nothing is one who cannot enter the portals of our Institution. Many times he is the fellow who judges according to standards which he cannot attain for himself.

Let us understand well that there are men in every community who represent in their lives the ideals and principles of Masonry, but have never taken the degrees of Masonry. These men, however, have the wisdom to refrain from discussing the subject with which they are not conversant.

The best suggestion we can make to the young Mason is this-look around you. Consider the character and lives of the men in your community who are Masons. Many have known you since your childhood days. Discuss Masonry with Masons.

**Your article could have been here.** Send articles to Bob Zinn, [bz@chem.lsu.edu](mailto:bz@chem.lsu.edu)

If you change phone, address or e-mail, PLEASE send updated information to George Scanlan [gscanlan@cox.net](mailto:gscanlan@cox.net) and Frank Earl Dedman [Frankededman@cox.net](mailto:Frankededman@cox.net)