

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

Joseph George Richard, Jr, W.M.

Home: 225-924-7965

[jgr2@cox.net](mailto:jgr2@cox.net)



Frank Earl Dedman, Secy., P.M.

Home: 225-927-8196

[Frankededman@cox.net](mailto: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: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

## Monthly News Letter January 2008 – February 2009



Brethren,

Time Marches On.

Each of us, as individual Masons, is obligated to the GAOTU, the United States of America, and our own family. Those obligations are especially heavy at this specific time in history.

Many, including me, believe that Masonry is on the brink of rejuvenation. Our beloved Fraternity in Louisiana has been suffering through a reduced harvest of Masons, especially following multiple hurricanes in 2005 and 2008. The effect on St. James Lodge was particularly noticed at those September Guest Nights. Together, let us strive to overcome this in 2009 by leading more to Masonry by our actions and example.

With our new Grand Lodge building in Alexandria, a fresh new Internet web site for Louisiana Masonry, a new working Committee structure, and a solid long-range plan, we must support and encourage Grand Lodge officers in their leadership for the future as they meet on February 7-8, 2009.

We must all support and pray for divine guidance as our new President takes office, together with some members of Congress, State Legislators, City-Parish Mayor and Council, and their respective administrations, who will take charge of our Country, State and local governments.

Monday, February 16 is Presidents' Day, when we are all reminded of the "Father of our Country," George Washington, and his impact on us, Masonry and the United States of America.

Our Country, and the entire World, is now in the midst of turmoil in many categories – economics, finance, employment, fuel, population, food, water and air pollution, wars and strife, and morality. Let us dedicate ourselves with renewed vigor to support our leaders in Church, State, Community, Country, and Lodge with our prayers, encouragement, support, and participation. I, too, ask for your prayers, support, encouragement and participation in Masonry and St. James Lodge No. 47.

With Brotherly Love,  
Joe Richard, W.M.

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

### RECENT EVENTS

*Thursday, Jan. 1* - Stated Communication at 7:30 P.M. was brief due to football bowl games. A Special Communication was called for 5:30 P.M. January 15 to confer an Entered Apprentice degree.

*Thursday, Jan. 8* - Special Communication at 6:30 P.M. conferred two Master Mason degrees. Congratulations and welcome to Bro. Enrique Ortiz Huerta, who is retired from the US Navy, and Bro. Jayme Charles Ellender, who is an LSU student.

*Thursday, Jan. 15* - Special Communication at 5:30 P.M. to confer one Entered Apprentice degree.

*Thursday, Jan. 15* - Stated Communication at 7:30 P.M. - The 2008 Report from the Treasurer, W: Bro. Zollinger, was presented, and the Budget for 2009 were both presented by the Finance Committee Chairman, W: Bro. Selby. Visitors included W: Bro. Bob Smith from Fairfields Lodge No. 425. One Entered Apprentice degree was conferred.

*Monday Jan. 19* Special Communication at 1:30 P.M. conferred all three degrees with esoteric work between degrees, by Dispensation from the Grand Master Lloyd E. Hennigan Jr., on Bro. Ryan Randall Salter, who was on temporary leave from Iraq. Dinner was at 6:00 P.M., followed by the Master Mason degree. Bro. Ryan is the son of Bro. Brent Salter and the grandson W: Bro. Frank Dedman, both members of St. James Lodge. Congratulations to Bro. Ryan.

### FUTURE EVENTS

**Standing Officers and Degree Team Practices will be on each 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 5:30 p.m. until further notice.**

*Thursday, Feb. 5* - Stated Communication at 7:30 P.M. - M:W: Bro. Bill Brown will review pre-filed resolutions to be presented to Grand Lodge. Also, W: Bro. George Jones will talk about George Washington.

*Saturday & Sunday, Feb. 7-8* - Communication of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana at 7:00 A.M. at Sai Convention Center, 2301 N. MacArthur Drive, Alexandria.

*Thursday, Feb. 19* - Stated Communication at 7:30 P.M. - Report of Grand Lodge actions by the three principal officers of St. James Lodge.

*Friday, Feb. 21* - Baton Rouge Certificate Association meets at Trinity Union Lodge No. 372 at 6:30 P.M. at 3950 Florida Boulevard.

### Sickness and Relief

Bro. Joe Cooper was in the OLOL Hospital on Jan. 15 for kidney stone removal. We wish him a speedy recovery.

W:Bro. David Dodge goes to the doctor on Jan. 19 to determine if he will undergo back surgery.

### 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.**



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

**December 2008 — January 2008**

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.

"Rays of Masonry" by Dewey Wollstein -1953

**AFRAID OF THE LIGHT**

We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark. The real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the Light.

The entire structure of our American Government is build upon the ideal of Light and More Light. It is part and parcel of the philosophy of Masonry, that force which welded thirteen colonies into a United States of America.

There are perhaps only two forms of government; one which conceals in darkness and one which reveals in light.

Do you ever hear of the wrongs of a dictatorship from the mouth of a dictator? No. By the very nature of government by force, the dictator is blinded by the same darkness that he uses to cover the minds of the people.

On the other hand, do you not hear daily criticisms of a democracy? A dictatorship must be that which foolishly claims infallibility. The sole function of the dictator is to keep this false propaganda before the people, and to liquidate those who would attempt to pierce the darkness and cry out for Light. A democracy is in the making. It is renewed daily by the intellect and moral worth of the individual.

Forever the dictator yells "Capitalism," while he gathers the fruits of the labor of the people who are satisfied with slavery crumbs. The dictator talks about the plight of the American workman while he forces his people to work for an impersonal state. Thus, for the price of a miserly security, they labor without hope or vision, not able to claim the dignity of workmen but forever remain cowardly snivelers.

America must forever go forward to untold triumphs of the heart and mind. Masonic philosophy which inspires men to walk as men not afraid of the Light, must ever be the guiding hand of America. A rat may find security in darkness. Man must seek Freedom in Light.

"Rays of Masonry" by Dewey Wollstein -1953

**DURABLE INSPIRATION**

Attribute the general feeling of despair today to the war, but bear in mind that people who are for the moment without hope are not easily duped. They are not like drowning people grasping at a straw. Rather does a hopeless condition demand that which is lasting, that which is durable. Looking at the shiny surface, touching the bright veneer, will no longer suffice.

There must be strength and wisdom, interspersed with beauty. Great business organizations are talking more today of factual truths than "pep meetings." "Pep Meetings" are injections that last until the meeting is over; factual truths are durable.

What has this to do with Masonry? The ways of Masonry are slow; the sensational is absent. Yet war proves the

value of her patient ways. Masonry came into being because society cried out for an institution that was free of superstition, of idle creeds, of mercenary dogma.

Throughout the centuries our Institution has shown her votaries a pattern of life, a life in which men are brothers because God is the Universal Father. Simple, yet so comprehensive, the very future of the world depends upon its acceptance. Are these factual truths?

Study and contemplate. From your own conclusions there will come, not a momentary inspiration, but a durable, lasting satisfaction that will reflect in every act of your life.

So it is. Throughout the centuries Masonry has remained on guard against the evils of a purely emotional influence and has slowly, but surely, sought the way of Lasting Truths.

**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)