

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

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

## Monthly Newsletter January 2010 – February 2010

Year 2010 Schedule

Feb. 4 Charity budget; Grand Lodge Pre-filed Resolutions  
Feb. 6-7 (Sat. - Sun.) Grand Lodge Annual Communication  
Feb. 18 Grand Lodge Actions Report & Presidents' Day  
**Mar. 4 Guest Night (Open Meal 6:30 PM)**  
Mar. 18 Rededication & Re-obligation  
Apr. 1 TBA  
**Apr. 15 Grand Master's Visit & H/I Awards (Open/Meal 6:30 PM)**  
May 6 By-Laws of St. James Lodge  
May 20 Honor 60-Year Members  
-----Begin Casual Summer Attire, Except for Degrees-----  
Jun. 3 TBA Education  
Jun. 17 St. John the Baptist Program & Flag Day  
Jul. 1 TBA  
Jul. 15 Reports by the Treasurer & Fin/Invest. Comm.; & 4th of July  
Aug. 5 TBA  
Aug. 19 TBA  
-----END Casual Summer Attire-----  
**Sept. 2 Guest Night (Open/Meal 6:30 PM)**  
Sept. 16 TBA  
**Oct. 7 Past Masters', Widows & 25/50 Yr. (Open/Meal 6:30PM)**  
Oct. 21 Tyler's Annual Report  
Nov. 4 St. John the Evangelist & Election of 2011 Officers  
Nov. 18 TBA  
**Dec. 2 Installation of 2011 Officers (Open/Meal 6:30PM)**

### Sickness and Relief

Brethren, the 12/30/09 Advocate newspaper informs us that the Great Architect Of The Universe called one of our members to be with Him in his eternal home on December 23, 2009. Edward Jackson Fletcher, Sr. was 92 years old and was a 50-year member of St. James Masonic Lodge. He is survived by three sons and their families, who may be comforted by our prayers over their grief.

Fraternally,  
JoeR, P.M.

Did you know that you can read the news-letter on-line at <http://www.stjameslodge47.org> ?

Ever Master Mason is given a copy of "THE LOUISIANA MASONIC MONITOR." It was first issued in 1921 and last reprinted in 1988. It contains descriptions and lectures *Of The Degrees Of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason And Other Masonic Ceremonies*. We continue article started in the October 2009 newsletter.

### Landmarks Recognized

LANDMARKS RECOGNIZED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF LOUISIANA (Adopted Feb. 14, 1989). (These ancient landmarks originate with the *Regius Poem* or *Halliwel Manuscript* from the late 1300's to mid 1400's, and subsequently modified by the "General Regulations" of the Grand Lodge of England in 1721, *Anderson's Constitution* by Rev. Dr. Anderson in 1723, and *Landmarks of Freemasonry* by Albert G. Mackey in 1858. (By-Laws of St. James Lodge requires the Master to see that the laws and regulations of The Grand Lodge are duly obeyed and enforced, not suffering any of the ancient landmarks to be removed.) (Landmark # 23: "Every Master, before closing his Lodge, may give or cause to be given, a lecture on Masonry, or a part thereof.") ... [to be continued]

### FROM THE EAST



St. James Lodge Meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup> will cover the 2010 budget, the Treasurer's Report, the Finance Committee's Investigation & Audit Report, the Charity Budget, and the Grand Lodge Pre-filed Resolutions.

Most Worshipful Brother Bill Brown, P.G.M. will read the resolutions to us and give guidance to understanding them. I invite all of the Brothers of St. James to attend this meeting to contribute their labor on these works.

This brings me to a subject that has been on my mind recently: voting and good citizenship.

We are taught to be good citizens, obedient to the government and the laws of our land. We are also taught to carefully exercise our responsibility to be an active citizen, both in the lodge and in our community.

Part of being a good citizen requires us to be informed about issues such as the Grand Lodge Resolutions. We are also required to make sure our representatives know our Lodge's position on the resolutions.

Look at the events occurring in our lives and the world we live in. Many changes are underway.

Our government, both in the lodge and in our nation, contains ways for the needs of the majority to be satisfied while there are checks and balances to prevent a 'tyranny of the majority' from trampling the rights of the minority.

Voting is a powerful tool in our community and our nation. Our Lodges teach Masons the value of voting as an individual act of responsibility. Voting in a Masonic Lodge is a responsibility that must be performed wisely.

What comes next? That is up to you, My Brothers.

Masonry: continuing to make good men better.

Timothy Atkins,  
Worship Master 2010

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.

It is NOT too early to start thinking about inviting a guest: 6:00/6:30 P.M

March 4, April 15, Sept 2, October 7 and Dec 2

### RECENT EVENTS

Jan. 7 We were treated to a fine St. John the Evangelist Program & Secretary's Annual Report, after fine fellowship and a good meal together.

Jan. 21 one Petition accepted, an Investigation Committee appointed, three Petitions balloted and one EA degree was conferred.

Jan 28 Special meeting to confer two EA degrees.

### FUTURE EVENTS



**St. James Lodge No. 47**  
 Post Office Box 444  
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**Newsletter**  
**January 2010 -- February 2010**

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PLEASE notify our Secretary, W.Bro. David Dodge and W.Bro. Joe Richard if you change your address, email address or telephone number.

Other Masonic Events

The next 13<sup>th</sup> Masonic District meetings will be lunch, Relief Lodge and District Lodge at 12:30/1:30/2:30 P.M. March 7 at Baker Lodge No. 441.

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, dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM, at the Consistory on Florida Boulevard . The Advisory Council will meet at the Consistory at 6:00 P.M. on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month.

Livingston Certificate Association meets at 6:00 P.M with dinner, on the first Friday of each month at Hurd Merrill Lodge # 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.

Lodge of the Nine Muses #9, F&AM, meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM. The meeting on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, will be at Camelot Club. M. W. Bro. Clayton J. Bourne, III will present the paper. If you are interested in visiting, contact one of the members for dress code and other details.

**A LOOK BACK ON 2009 by Joe Richard, P.M.**

Being Master of St. James Lodge No. 47 has been a great honor and privilege for which I thank all of my Brothers who have done the work while I had most of the fun.

My Special Thanks to:

- 1) All 22 of our Past Masters for their guidance, leadership and continuous participation in St. James Lodge. Also, thanks for their serving as Coaches and providing leadership in Investigation Committees, degree teams, Guest Nights, and the Honesty and Integrity programs.
- 2) My dear friend and our Secretary, Worshipful Brother Frank Dedman, for his dedication as Secretary the past four years, and for his help and patience with teaching me the ropes.
- 3) Brother Bob Zinn for his ever faithfully editing of our Newsletters. Also, thanks to Brother Turhan Ak for mailing them, and Worshipful Brother Preston Eggers for his relationship with the Louisiana Associated General Contractors that allow them to print and fold them.
- 4) Brother Tim Atkins for his diligence in managing and recruiting teams for 34 degrees and 14 Master Mason degrees this year.
- 5) Worshipful Brother Cal Elliott who regularly provided quality training to our Officers and Degree Teams on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday practices, as well as being our in-house authority and guide on Masonic Law.
- 6) Brother Jimmy Robinson, together with his Stewards, for providing us with delicious meals and refreshments.
- 7) Our appointed Officers and Standing Committees who served very well this year by their work and assistance whenever required or called upon.
- 8) The patient and supportive wives of our members and officers, especially my Bettye.

**SUMMARY OF EVENTS**

- 1) The Lodge was honored on May 21 by our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother J.F "Jeff" Webb, his wife Anita, and members of his official family, who were properly received, in conjunction with Honesty and Integrity Scholarship Recognitions and Awards.
- 2) On June 4 we properly received the District Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Scott Broderick, who was Master of St. James Lodge in 1984.
- 3) In addition to our usual programs, observances, and recognitions we made Charity donations totaling \$13,200 to various organizations.
- 4) Interesting programs when the Lodge was at refreshment were by Smiley Anders, noted columnist, and Davis Rhorer, Executive Director, Downtown Development District.

**STATUS**

- 1) We had 5 open dinner meetings - one for Officer Installation, one for receiving our Grand Master with Honesty & Integrity Awards, two for Guest Night, and one honoring Widows, Past Masters, and 25 & 50-year members.
- 2) I am happy to report a membership increase from about 190 at the beginning of 2009 to 199 at year end. Degrees conferred were 34. Fourteen (14) Master Masons were raised, 3 of which were Courtesy Work for other Lodges. We gained 4 plural members and hopefully will lose none for Non-Payment of Dues.
- 3) Sadly, I report that this year we lost 3 members to the Celestial Lodge Above – Brothers Gordon Rene Gisclard, Jr., Erol Kozdereli, and Leon Coates Hendry.

**FUTURE TIDINGS**

Do good Work; Continue to spread the cement of Brotherly Love and Affection; and continue to improve ourselves in Masonry.

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