

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

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

Monthly News Letter June 2008 – July 2008



Brethren,

Summer is traditionally a time of vacations and relaxation with family and friends. At St. James Lodge, summer is also a time of camaraderie with your Brethren.

On June 19th, St. James celebrated Flag Day with our annual "Honor the Flag of Our Country Program. Special thanks go to David Dodge, P.M., who once again put together a truly memorable program. Thanks also goes to Steve Newman for his moving reading of a moving story about the men depicted on the Iwo Jima Memorial.

Boy Scouts of the Istrouma Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America ably presented the nation's colors in synchronization with the David's flag program. St James lodge presented them with a small token of our gratitude.

As for upcoming events, on July 3rd, William E. Free, Deputy District Grand Master of the 13th Masonic District will honor us with an official visit and share with us a report on current events at the Louisiana Grand Lodge.

On July 17th, Jim Seager will demonstrate the proper operation of an automated external defibrillator which he will subsequently be donating to the Lodge. In addition, Junior Warden Tim Atkins will be providing a steak and potato dinner on the second floor prior to the meeting.

In addition to the events described above, degree work continues at St. James Lodge as a Special Communication had been called for July 10th to confer the Entered Apprentice Degree.

William E. Little, W.M.

RECENT EVENTS

June 5 The Entered Apprentice proficiency examination reports for two candidates were accepted, two Fellow Craft degrees were conferred, and one petition on the worthiness to take the degrees in Masonry was balloted upon.

June 11 The Lodge of Nine Muses passed an Entered Apprentice to the degree of Fellow Craft.

Jun. 19 Honor the Flag of Our Country Program (June 14 was Flag Day) Approximately forty members and guests enjoyed Smothered Pork Chops, rice and gravy and field peas along with salad and White Cake with White Icing. PGM William H. Brown welcomed everyone, gave a brief History of Masonry, explained the stations of the Lodge and how they functioned. Bro. Steve Newman gave a moving story on the Monument to the Six Marines raising the Flag on Iwo Jima. WB David Dodge explained each of the flags of our country as they were carried in by Scouts. Members of the First United Methodist Church Chancel Choir sang the Star Spangled Banner and America the Beautiful, beautifully. After guests withdrew the lodge approved repairs to the building.

FUTURE EVENTS

-----Casual Summer Attire, except for Degrees-----

Thursday, July 3rd at 7:30 P.M. Stated Communication with 4th of July program and Official Visit and Reception of the District Deputy Grand Master, District 13, R:W: Bro. William Free.

Monday, July 5th at 5:00 PM Practice for E.A. Degree
Thursday, July 10th at 6:00 P.M. Special Communication to confer one Entered Apprentice degree.

Thursday July 17th at 7:30 P.M. Stated Communication - At 6:00 P.M. on the second floor there will be an informal gathering of new initiates and old members for fellowship over a steak and potato dinner. Reports from the Treasurer and Committees are to be presented.

Friday June 27th at 7:30 PM W.Bro. Glenn Cupit says he will hold a "mini-cackle", firing up his Cupit & Cunningham 1965 AA/FD cackle car on nitro at Gerry Lane Hummer,. He will fire it up shortly after dusk. He will conclude at 9 PM. He says he will be honored if you can attend. He will supply ear-plugs.

Aug. 7 Masonic Education Program

Aug. 21 TBA

-----End Casual Summer Attire-----

Sep. 4 Guest Night (Open/Meal 6:30 PM)

Sep. 18 TBA

Oct. 2 Past Masters' Night (Open/Meal 6:30 PM)

Oct. 16 TBA

Nov. 6 St. John the Evangelist & Election of 2008 Officers

Nov. 20 Thanksgiving Program (Open/Meal 6:30 PM)

Dec. 4 Installation of 2009 Officers (Open/Meal 6:30 PM)

PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIPS - Now, while St. James Lodge dues are \$59.50 per year, before the per-capita dues increase takes effect, is the time to start YOUR Perpetual Membership for 20 times annual dues, in a lump sum, OR 20 times annual dues PLUS interest over 5 years, and is calculated at 4.52 times annual dues, to allow for the interest factor.

Sickness, Relief and Sorrow

Remember our ill members and their families:

Nancy Grady (wife of W: Bro. James E. Grady) says that he is very weak, and has been returned to In-Hospice Hospital during the week. Nancy continues to work and have Jim home on the week-ends, to avoid him going to a nursing home. However, his life is hour to hour. She and Jim requests no visitors or phone calls, but welcome your cards and prayers.

Bro. Joe Bardwell was diagnosed with prostate cancer. He is to undergo surgery on July 1st. We pray for his quick recovery.

Bro. Al Blanchard continues to struggle with congestive heart failure and diabetes as his wife, Peggy, continues to have back and joint pains.

Brethren, it is with deep regret and prayers for the Gagnon family that you are notified of the elevation to the Celestial Lodge Above of a good and faithful Mason: Worshiptful Brother Leo William "Bill" Gagnon, PM, whose battle with cancer ended at 4:00 p.m, Sunday, June 15, Father's Day.

A Masonic Funeral was held by Louisiana Lodge # 102 on June 19 in New Orleans, with some of our members.

Payne Fletcher, 93 years old, a 50-year member of St. James Lodge # 47. Joined the Celestial Lodge His Masonic Service was held June 25 at Rabenhorst East. Keep Brother Fletcher's family in your prayers.

For these and all worthy brothers in need, we pray swift relief.

Nothing more, from the West, Joe R

Other Masonic Events

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, dinner at 6:30, 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.



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June 2008 — July 2008

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Notify our Secretary, W.Bro. Dedman and Joe Richard if you change your address or telephone.
Your article could have been here. Send articles to Bob Zinn, bz@chem.lsu.edu

Where on Earth is my ink pen?
I thought I left it in the den.
I have looked, looked all around
But, my pen can not be found.
I, I must have left it at the bank.
And now I have lost my glasses.
All around is just a blur.
Now, another thing, I have caught a bad cold
E.D.Lane

"Rays of Masonry" by Dewey Wollstein -1953
WHAT IS IMPORTANT?

In the work of Masonry there are many field of endeavor, all a part of our plan "to improve ourselves in the way of life." One brother may outline in appropriate words the duties that are ours as Masons. His words inspire us.

Another brother may not have the same ability to put his ideas into words, but he know with equal certainty about his duties as a man and a Mason. If he learns of a brother who is sick, or in distress, he understands, and it is more than an understanding of duty, it is the

understanding of the principles of Love and Brotherhood, which quickens the desire into action, and sends him to the sick or the distressed.

One brother may be a good ritualist, another a student of symbolism, and still another a good worker on any committee.

Each brother doing the special task for which he has the greatest ability results in the success of the lodge and Masonry.

There are no special degrees of importance. Doing what we can in the work assigned to us is the important thing.

"Rays of Masonry" by Dewey Wollstein -1953
COURAGE TODAY INSURES MASONRY
TOMORROW

Masonry, which does not claim strength through numbers, but through the fibre and moral power of the individual, has withstood the tyranny of kings and popes, and in all countries wherein Masonry prospers, there you will find the greatest individual prosperity and happiness, the greatest cultural progress and the highest standard of living for the greatest number of people.

Let us not rest on our laurels. To make possible the advancement of Masonry from yesterday until today there was required the moral courage of many Masons. They were Masons who were determined that no personal cost was too great to pay for Liberty, Justice and Tolerance. To make possible Masonry of Today there were Masons who suffered reprisals, financial sacrifice, and even death.

While we cannot peer too far into the future, we must remind ourselves that, step, by step, by degrees, we are making Masonry of Tomorrow. We have Divine Assurance that if we do the work of Masonry, if we discharge our sacred obligations, if we hold fast to all that is true, Masonry will be a stronger force tomorrow than today.

Then let us contemplate more and more on the ultimate objective of Masonry- to make of our candidates Master Masons. Let those who are capable of teaching be generous with their talents. Let us never cease to teach. To the patient teacher there will always come the eager pupil.

Let the Worshipful Master and the officers of the lodge bring teacher and student together and there will result a strength that will be reflected in future generations.

The teacher and the pupil inspired and enlightened by the Source of All Wisdom are the Masons who today are creating Masonry's place in the World of Tomorrow.

If you change phone, address or e-mail, PLEASE send updated information to Joe Richard jgr2@cox.net