

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

Mark Jeffery Paxton, W.M.

Home: 752-2568

Office: 769-9923 x106

mjpaxton@cox.net



Frank Earl Dedman, Secy., P.M.

Home: 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 News Letter for May 2007 – June 2007



Brethren,

Happy Father's Day to all brethren.

June is almost here, which means that we are beginning summer. School is out and vacation time is at hand. I pray that you and your family have a safe and wonderful time, especially those traveling,

If you are available **please** come to the Lodge as we have two meetings in June that you won't want to miss. **The first meeting in June** we will be honoring St James Lodge 50 year and 25 year members. Also, we will have Most Worshipful Brother Joe Baker talk to the Lodge on the Grand Lodge's Perpetual Membership program and the benefits to both St. James Lodge and the Grand Lodge. Jambalaya will be served at 6:30 be sure to attend. **Reminder: this will not be an open meeting!**

The second meeting in June (6/21/07) will be an open meeting with the second annual Flag Day Program. David Dodge has a great program arranged. It honors the American Flag with its history and display of the actual Flags from the beginning to the present day American Flag. Dinner will be served at 6:30 with the program to start at 7:30. **Be sure to attend and bring a friend to this special program honoring the Flag of this great country.**

On May 3 we had another great group of young adults honored at the Honesty & Integrity program. Most Worshipful Brother William Brown gave an excellent talk on honesty and integrity. The committee did another great job of finding three outstanding youth worthy of this award. I give my "thank you" to the committee.

I hope that everyone has a great summer, be safe in your travels and hope to see you soon at *your* Lodge. And if there is anything that I can do for *your* Lodge please do not hesitate to let me know.

WM Mark Paxton

RECENT EVENTS

May 3rd Honesty and Integrity Awards were presented in an open meeting to Nicholas Easterly (PSMC, GRAND COMMANDERY, Louisiana DeMolay), Jonathan Vignes, and Marshall Watts. Each recipient had their families in attendance. Nicholas Easterly's father is Master of the Lodge of Nine Muses, #9 and his uncle is Grand Master of the State. A Certificate of Proficiency was presented to Bro. Joe Bardwell who is now qualified to hold any station in the Lodge, less than a year after being raised a Master Mason.

5/17 One petition for membership was accepted and referred to Committee. A scholarly paper was presented by Bro. Tim Atkins, S.D. on the word 'Cowans'.

With solemn ceremony, The Order of The All Seeing Glass Eye (with Flag) was presented to W. Bro Pence by Bro. Atkins.

W. Bro. Norman Martinusen was presented his 50-year Certificate, because he will be unable to attend June 7.

A motion passed to replace the front door to the Lodge. Done to improved security and provide wheel chair access.

It was announced that the Masonic Education training committee will soon start to train lodge members in the work of each station.

FUTURE EVENTS

-----Begin Casual Summer Attire, **!!!!except for Degrees!!!!**-----
6/3 Masonic District 13 will meet at Trinity Union Lodge at 3950 Florida Boulevard at 2:30 p.m Sunday afternoon. It was requested by the Worshipful Master that all officers and member attend, if possible. Make a good showing so we may get an attendance award.

6/7 Stated Communication. M.W. Joe Baker, P.G.M. is expected to attend the meeting where 25 and 50-year certificates will be presented. This is NOT an Open Meeting, but it is a dinner meeting with jambalaya, rolls and refreshments for Masons.

JAMBALAYA DINNER at 6:30.

This is NOT an OPEN meeting!!!!!!!

6/16 "The Day The War Stopped" Masonic Re-enactment will be at St. Francisville on Saturday. Masons, including Knights Templar in uniform, should assemble at Feliciana Lodge at 9:30 A.M., and the Parade will form at 10:30 A.M. Lunch for those participating will be available at Feliciana Lodge at 11:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. The Re-enactment Drama to bury Commander John Hart is scheduled for 1:30 to 2:30 P.M.

6/21 Stated Communication "Honor the Flag of Our Country" program will be presented by the Boy Scouts Of America.

Jul. 5 4th of July Program, We will honor St. John the Baptist.
Jul. 19 Treasurer's Report & Committee Reports
Aug. 2 Masonic Education Program
Aug. 16 TBA

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

Sep. 6 ***Guest Night (Open/meal 6:30 PM)**
Sep. 20 TBA
Oct. 4 ***Past Masters' Night (Open/meal 6:30 PM)**
Oct. 18 TBA
Nov. 1 St. John the Evangelist & Election of 2008 Officers
Nov. 15 ***Thanksgiving Program (Open/meal 6:30 PM)**
Dec. 6 **Install Officers for 2008 (Open/meal 6:30 PM)**

* Represents possible entertainment TBA = To Be Arranged

REMINDER: Invite guests to open meetings!

Other Masonic Events –

13th Masonic District meets quarterly on the first Sunday of the last month in each quarter, except the 2nd Sunday in September. The next meeting of the 13th District is June 3 at Trinity Union # 372.

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 7:30 p.m. Acacia Shrine Temple meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. with dinner at 6:00 p.m.

How many Masons does it take to change a light bulb?
How many people have YOU invited to our next open meeting?
The answers are related. It only takes one mason to bring light to a non mason by inviting him to an open meeting.

The good thing is that there is no limit on how many people you can invite.

Don't YOU be the limiting factor, limiting how many of the people you know that actually attend.

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. Ernest Easterly, W.M., Ricks Bowles, S.W., Adib Shala, J.W., Sam Roberts, Treasurer, Larry Moore, Secretary, William Mollere, Chaplain, Naresh Sharma, Sr. Deacon, Danny Smith, Master of Ceremonies, Gerard Ruth, Sr. Steward, Robert Zinn, Jr. Steward, Kristopher Easterly, Tyler, Tim Atkins, Member.

Sickness and Distress

My son, Liam, has Pneumonia and a bad ear infection. They put him on a strong anti-biotic and will see him tomorrow. May 31. If the anti-biotic does not work he will have to go into the hospital. Please keep him in your prayers. The little fella has been sick for two weeks. With my best regards to you and yours, I remain fraternally yours, my brothers. Chris Dalton

"Old Tiler Talks" by Carl Claudy -1924

FOOLISH SPENDING

"Why do Masons spend their money so foolishly?" asked the New Brother.

"A fool and his money are soon parted," answered the Old tiler.

"Do you think Masons are fools?"

"Certainly not, I was just agreeing that if Masons spend money foolishly they are foolish. What variety of foolish spending is teasing you?"

"Oh, a lot! We spend five dollars to send a funeral wreath to every brother's funeral, and three dollars for flowers every time one is sick, and four dollars for fruit when one goes to the hospital. We decorate the lodge room when we have entertainment. We spend money for food for men who are well fed at home. We hire entertainers for a blow-out. My idea would be put all that money in an educational fund or a charity fund or..."

"By any chance," interrupted the Old Tiler, "are you delivering a lecture? I want to talk, too!"

"I want you to talk. Tell me that I am right and that we do spend our money foolishly!"

"I can't do that," answered the Old Tiler. "But perhaps I can show you something on our side. You object to five dollar funeral wreaths to deceased brethren, and would rather see the money put in charity. Do you think we send the wreath to the dead man? With it we offer consolation to the family! We show that his brethren care that he has died and that the world may see that we hold our deceased brother in honor. If we are careless when grief comes to the loved ones of those we love, the world will hold it against us, and our influence be lessened.

"We send flowers to the sick and fruit to the hospital, that the ill brother may have the cheering comfort of knowing that in his hour of need his brethren forget him not. Is it, then, more charitable to feed a hungry body than a hungry heart? Have you ever been ill in a hospital? Did no one remember you with a card, a flower, a basket of fruit? If you were unremembered, you passed a sad hour in the thought that no one cared. If friends brought their friendship to you when you needed it you were helped to recover. If we do not cheer a worthy brother, for what does our brotherhood stand?"

"Of course we decorate a lodge room for an entertainment! In your home are there but bare walls, without pictures, carpets or furniture? Do you give to the poor all you make over a bare subsistence? Do the poor spend only for food? In a poor man's home you will find a flower, a book, a picture. Beauty is as much a need as bread. Cows chew cuds contentedly, but man must chew the cud of life with a spiritual as well as a physical outlook. The lodge room is our home. We decorate it for entertainment that all may remember their Masonic home as beautiful with pleasures taken together.

"Refreshment, whether sandwiches and coffee or a vocal or instrumental solo, refreshes mind and body. The solo we hear alone gives us not half the pleasure which comes from listening in company. The few cents per capita we spend for refreshment is no more wasted than were the twenty cents you paid for your cigar or the fifteen cents for your shoe shine!

"Suppose the world spent only for food, clothes and charity? The poor would become rich; ambition, thrift, independence and manhood would become extinct. If there were no music, painting, love of flowers, beautiful buildings in the world, where would our hearts reach when they seek something they know is just beyond? We do not see God in the ham sandwich as in the beautiful notes of music. I'll agree He is everywhere, but we find Him easiest through our appreciation of the lovely, rather than the mundane things of life.

"Would you cease printing Bibles that more hungry people be fed? You argue that money not spent for charity is ill spent, but charity is but a part of Masonry. Masonry teaches men to help themselves, to think, to aid their fellows, not only by gifts, but by encouragement, cheer, help, aid, the kindly word. When we express them in the flower, the basket of fruit, the song or refreshment, we spend out money wisely.

"Truly the fool and his money are soon parted, but the fool parts with his for foolishness. We part with ours for value received, to carry Masonic cheer to the hearts of our brethren."

"You are right, as you always are," agreed the New Brother. "By the way, you are chairman of the committee on hospitals, are you not? Stick that in your pocket and make the next bunch of flowers or basket of fruit twice as big."

That with which the New Brother soothed his conscience crinkled as it was folded.

[note: the spelling 'Tiler' in the article is NOT in accord with the spelling we use: Tyler.]

Your article could have been here

Send articles to Bob Zinn, bz@chem.lsu.edu

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



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

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

extra copy

MAY 2007 —JUNE 2007