

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

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

Monthly Newsletter April 2010 –May 2010



FROM THE EAST

My Brothers!

Our South-Louisiana summer is upon us. The thermometer records degrees. St. James is heating up with degrees, but these are degrees in masonry rather than temperature.

Masonic degrees are scheduled for: A Master Mason on Thursday, June 3rd at 7:30 PM; A Fellow Craft on Thursday, June 17th at 6:00 PM; with four more Entered Apprentice degrees coming soon.

St. John the Baptist Feast will be celebrated on July 15th at 7:30 PM with a served dinner of BBQ Brisket, Our Jimmy's corn dish, Cowboy baked beans, and anything anyone else offers that's good to eat. This is a Masonic dinner that I would like to see all our members attend from the newest Entered Apprentice Mason to the oldest Master Mason. This is NOT an open meeting.

Talking about our oldest Master Mason, George Jones was honored as such at the May 20th meeting. Brother Jones honored the Lodge by giving a short talk on St. James.

Come and enjoy the fellowship and brotherly love along with the above listed degree work at St. James.

Speaking of fellowship, important fellowship and bonding takes place at our weekly 'Monday evening practice sessions'. Even if you are not planning to attend the degree or the regular meeting, please join us for the practice. That way you can help us continue to ...

Keep making good men better!

Tim Atkins
Worshipful Master 2010

donation toward the preservation of the historic and beautiful three-story brick building Ascension Lodge No. 251 at Donaldsonville; R.W. Bro. Carle Jackson, DDGM and Grand Steward brought greetings from Grand Master Woody Bilyeu and spoke, first on three legs of Grand Master Bilyeu's program of Community Involvement, and, secondly on Masonic Education - the five points.

Monday, May 24, 5:30 P.M. - Practice for Master Mason Degree.
Monday, May 31, 5:30 P.M. - Practice for Master Mason Degree.

FUTURE EVENTS

**Practice every Monday at 5:30 pm at the Lodge.
All officers are hereby summonsed to practice.**

Thursday, June 3, 7:30 P.M. - Stated Communication - 1 (one) Master Mason Degree will be conferred.

Sunday, June 6, 12:30/1:30/2:30 P.M. - 13th District Lodge meeting at Trinity Union Lodge # 372 at 3950 Florida Boulevard.

Thursday, June 10, 6:00 P.M. - SPECIAL COMMUNICATION - Called to confer 1 (one) Entered Apprentice Degree.

Thursday, June 17, 7:30 P.M. - Stated Communication - Recognitions of Flag Day and of St. John the Evangelist 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

Please, keep the following in our prayers:

- W: Bro. Frank Dedman will have a hernia operation in early June.
- W: Bro. David Dodge will have a second knee replacement in early June.
- W: Bro. Ken Streater is recovering well from double hernia surgery.
- JOE BARDWELL, Senior Deacon, had an eye operation that resulted from an accident during cataract surgery.
- Bro. EDISON "FRED" FREDERICK appreciates the blood and attention from his Masonic Brothers. He is having physical and speech therapy following a successful open heart surgery for heart valve replacement. He is still can not swallow due to throat damage and is fed through a tube directly into his stomach. He is improving.
- Bro. JOE HOWELL has been having prostate cancer treatment and on Wednesday, May 26th will have a radiation implant operation at Baton Rouge General Hospital at Bluebonnet Boulevard.
- Bro. EDDIE COLEMAN is nursing his father, who has had two strokes and has heart problems.
- Bro. JOSH BEAM's mother is being treated for cancer.
- W: Bro. Eggers' wife, DORIS, is recovering well from a broken femur and hip joint.

Thanks to Bro. Joe Cooper for keeping us posted.

Fraternally,
JoeR P.M.

CONGRATULATIONS

The Lodge welcomes three new Master Masons. John Lewis Amador is a BR native, an Electrical Engineer with Jacobs Engineering, and his wife's name is Julie. Richard William Black is an Accountant with the La. Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, a native of New Orleans, he recently moved to Denham Springs. Richard Sott "Woody" Heywood is from Holyoke, MA, his wife is Mary, and he travels a lot in Southeast Regional Sales for American Orthodontics. Also, congratulations to Bro. William Trevor Smith on passing the Bar Exam.

Message from our secretary:

"DUES are now OVERDUE!"

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**

Sept 2, October 7 and Dec 2

RECENT EVENTS

Thursday, May 13, 6:00 P.M. - SPECIAL COMMUNICATION - Received Fellow Craft proficiency examination reports and conferred 3 (three) Master Mason Degrees.

Thursday, May 20, 7:30 P.M. - Stated Communication - Received District Deputy Grand Master, Carle Jackson on Official Visit; Received 5 (five) Petitions and appointed Investigation Committees; Accepted favorable Investigation Committee report and Balloted on 1 (one) Petition; 1 (one) Fellow Craft Proficiency exam report was accepted; In recognition of 60-year members W: Bro. George Jones, a 65-year member of St. James Lodge and recipient of the Fidelity Medal, reviewed a brief history of St. James Lodge over the past century; a resolution passed to recognize Bro. Norman Martinusen on our rolls as a Past Master based on his tenure as Past Master of Tyee Lodge No. 66, Grand Lodge of British Columbia, A.F. & A.M.; a motion passed to make a



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Newsletter
April 2010 -- May 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 13th Masonic District meetings will be lunch, Relief Lodge and District Lodge at 12:30/1:30/2:30 P.M. June 6th 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 4th 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 2nd Wednesday of each month. The meeting on Wednesday, June 9th will be a formal meeting at 6:00 PM and will be held in the Red Room at St. James Lodge. The Lodge will initiate one candidate. If you are interested in visiting, contact one of the members for dress code and other details.

NOTICE

St. James Lodge is requested to participate in the Blood Bank Drive of Trinity Union Lodge # 372, since their bank was emptied for Bro. Fredrick. The drive is on Saturday, June 26th at 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at Central Wall Mart at 10200 Sullivan Road, Central, LA, and Saturday, July 17 at 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at Oak Point Shopping Center, corner of Greenwell Springs Road and Sullivan Road, Central, LA.

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 the quoting in the article from the May 2010 newsletter.

AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS (p. 67) – "The books and accounts of each constituent Lodge shall be audited in detail, at least annually, by the Finance Committee or by a competent accountant appointed by the Master, and the complete financial statement shall be available for inspection by the Grand Master or his representative."

BALLOTING AND VOTING (p. 69-70) – "Every Lodge must have a regulation ballot box with two compartments. One compartment shall contain sufficient white balls, the minimum being twenty-four (24), and black cubes the minimum being seven (7) to permit all members present to vote. This compartment shall have an opening through which the voter's hand may be inserted and the ballot cast in secrecy, through another opening into the second compartment, which must be a drawer or have a hinged cover to permit the ballot to be displayed to the proper officer at the right time. Balloting must be upon only one candidate at a time every member of a Lodge present at a meeting is required to vote on a candidate"

BALLOTING AND VOTING DISTINCTION (p. 70) – Balloting requires the use of the ballot box.

"Balloting is the act of passing on the worthiness of an applicant for the degrees, the worthiness of a Brother applying for affiliation or the question of the Lodge recommending the reinstatement of an expelled Mason. Use of the ballot box is required, and election is by unanimous consent of the members present. Voting is the act of deciding all other business matters coming before the Lodge, when the Lodge possesses that prerogative. Voting may be accomplished by any of the usual methods: voice, raising of hands or standing, or by a secret method, such as the use of slips of paper. Under no circumstances should the ballot box be used in voting."

"The Master shall call for a secret vote (paper slips) when, in his opinion, the peace and harmony of the Lodge might be disturbed by an open vote."

"A secret vote shall be taken when requested by any member of the Lodge."

"Where a two-thirds vote is necessary, it refers to the members present."

"If exactly twice as many, or more, vote for a proposal as vote in the negative, it is approved."

"The Master is entitled to vote on every question of his Lodge, but, if after his vote, the result is a tie, he cannot decide the issue. Voting by proxy in a Lodge is illegal." (Proxies may be used by delegates to Grand Lodge).

[to be continued]

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