

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

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

Monthly Newsletter-----May 2011 – June 2011



In May, our Lodge provided enlightenment in the second step in Freemasonry in presenting the Fellow Craft degree. The practice and hard work of the many individuals involved made it a delightful evening for both the Brothers and the candidate. We continue to be indebted to these Masons for their commitment and hard work in the delivering these degrees and we look forward to their continued diligence.

Additionally in May, our Lodge hosted Guest night, further giving prospective Masons the opportunity to become acquainted with the fraternity. Stan Masinter, Pipe Major, lead the Baton Rouge Caledonian Pipes and Drums through a medley of Irish and Scottish tunes, culminating in a dramatic finale and departure with Amazing Grace. Interspersed between songs, were explanations of the workings of the bagpipes and accounts of the various accomplishments of the ensemble.

Our Lodge was also privileged to receive the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the State of Louisiana, Most Worshipful Grand Master Beverly J. Guillot. He provided an illuminating history of Louisiana Masonry. He then presented Proficiency Cards to Brothers Maynor and Bardwell, two members of our Lodge that exemplify the dedication and ideals of our Fraternity.

The summer solstice occurs in the month of June, providing the most amount of light in a day. We as Masons continue to be enlightened by both the degree work and presentations from our guests. In this endeavor, the June meetings will provide both an Entered Apprentice Degree and St. John the Baptist lecture.

May Peace and Harmony prevail,

JWR

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, and members of his official family: Most Worshipful Bro. Jimmie Dean Dunkin, Grand Lecturer, District 13; Most Worshipful Bro. William Haskell Brown, Past Grand Master., were received by the Lodge with Grand Honors given. Proficiency Certificates were presented to Bro. Jeffrey Davis Maynor, who has only been a Mason for eight months. Bro. Joe Arthur Bardwell was also presented his third Proficiency Card. by the Grand Master. Most Worshipful Grand Master Beverly J. Guillot spoke on Masonry in Louisiana.

May 28, Downtown York Rite Council and Commandery Bodies received two new members at the Festival on Saturday,

FUTURE EVENTS

Practice every Monday at 5:30 pm at the Lodge.

Begin Casual Summer Attire (except for degrees)	
June 2	Entered Apprentice Degree
<i>June 5 (Sunday 2:30 PM) 13th Masonic District Meeting Baker Lodge No. 441 at 4807 Groom Road at 12:30 dinner, 1:30 Lodge of Relief, and 2:30 PM District Meeting.</i>	
June 16	St. John the Baptist Program & Flag Day, Master Mason Degree
July 7	4th of July celebration(Open / Meal 6:30 PM)
July 21	TBA
July 30, August 6	Downtown York Rite Festival
August 4	Report by Treasurer & Finance Committees
August 18	TBA
End Casual Summer Attire	
September 1	Guest Night (Open / Meal 6:30 PM)
<i>September 11 (Sunday 2:30 PM) 13th Masonic District Meeting</i>	
September 15	TBA
October 6	Past Masters, Widows & 25/50/60 Yr (Open / Meal 6:30PM)
October 20	TBA
November 3	St. John the Evangelist & Election of 2012 Officers
November 17	Thanksgiving Banquet, Veterans' Recognition (Open / Meal)
December 1	Installation of 2012 Officers
<i>December 4 (Sunday 2:30 PM) 13th Masonic District Meeting</i>	
December 15	Necrology

SICKNESS and RELEF

Please pray for health and recovery of the following Brothers:

W.Bro. Fred Ladner who is slowly recovering from a stroke and has moved temporarily to the Wellness Center in St. James Place at 333 Lee Drive , Baton Rouge, LA 70820 .

W.Bro. Cal Elliott who had a procedure on May 23 to correct heart arrhythmia and may soon be moving into an assisted living facility.

Bro. John Lucas has reportedly moved to a nursing home in Carencro, LA and his wife, Louella, is with sisters nearby, and his home on Goodwood Boulevard is for sale.

Please notify our Secretary, W.Bro. Mark Paxton, at P.O. Box 444 Baton Rouge, LA 70821 of any changes in conditions of our members and any mail address or email address changes.

Thanks, JoeR

Bring guests!

to the open Lodge meetings at 6:00 pm
on **July 7, September 1, October 6, November 17**

RECENT EVENTS

May 5, 2011 - Fellowcraft degrees were conferred on two candidates after an excellent jambalaya dinner. One Investigation Committee Report was made and a ballot spread. Visitors were W.B. Bill Womack from Istrouma 414 and Bro. Matthew Cael from Carrollton Lodge # 1400 in Texas. Bro. Cael is a graduate student in Food Science at LSU and plans to visit frequently.

May 19, 2011 - After a delicious dinner, The Caledonian Pipes and Drums entertained and educated, and The



St. James Lodge No. 47
Post Office Box 444
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Newsletter
May 2011-- June 2011

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

MICHAEL "Mickey" EUGENE HUGHES
P O BOX 211
OREGON CITY, OR 97045-0013

PLEASE notify our Secretary, W.Bro. Mark Paxton and W.Bro. Joe Richard
whenever your mailing address, email address or telephone number changes.

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.

Valley of Baton Rouge meets on the 2nd Monday of each month, dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7 to 9 PM, at the Consistory on Florida Boulevard. The Advisory Council meets 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 formal meeting on June 8th will be held at Camelot Club. The meeting starts at 6:30 PM. If you are interested in visiting, contact one of the members for dress code and other details.

It's the 58th annual gathering of **The International Masonic Lodges Named for St. Alban**
October 7-9, 2011 at St. Albans Lodge # 28 in Jackson Louisiana
Information on the Gathering is available on the Association website at: <http://www.stalbanslodges.org/>
The website for St. Albans Lodge # 28 F&AM can be found at: <http://stalbans.brla.us/>

MIRROR LODGE

"How do you like it now you've been a member six months?" asked the Old Tiler.

"I am discouraged," was the dejected answer of the New Brother.

"Tell me about it," suggested the Old Tiler, leaning his sword against the wall and shifting in his chair.

"Maybe I expect too much. My dad was a Mason and he always thought a lot of it- he was a Past Master and a trustee. He talked much about the friends he made in lodge and the spirit of brotherhood there, and how Masons helped each other. I have found none of that. I come to the meetings and listen to the degrees, of course, but the rest is all talk so far as I can find. I don't know any one in lodge. I am not really a part of it- I just play audience."

"You remind me of a story," grunted the Old tiler. "A chap came to a wise a man and said, 'I am not popular. People don't like me. They leave when I come around. I like people; I don't like to be unpopular. What's the matter with me?'

"The wise man looked his inquirer over and then said, "What do you do when you are alone?"

"I don't do anything when I am alone,' was the answer, 'I am never alone. I hate to be alone. It bores me. I bore myself. I have to be with people to be happy.'

"The wise man smiled and answered, 'How do you expect not to bore other people if you bore yourself? The man who has no resources to interest himself, cannot interest others. Go, read, think, reflect, get an idea, a personality, a smile, a story, an accomplishment- learn something, do something, be something, amuse yourself, please yourself, interest yourself, and you can please, interest and amuse others!'"

"You mean I find no brotherhood in lodge because I bring no brotherhood to it?"

"You get it!" exclaimed the Old Tiler. "Masonry offers treasure for her children who take it. But it has to be taken. She doesn't stuff her treasures down your throat. Your father was a Past Master. That means he gave years of service to the lodge. He was a trustee- so he was well known, liked, trusted. Men do not get well known, liked and trusted by sitting in a corner listening. They get up and talk, get out and work, do something, serve their fellows, to be known and liked. Your father brought rich treasures of service, interest, ability to his lodge. His lodge gave him back honor, respectability, respect, love. You sit on the benches and listen! We made you a Master Mason but only you can make yourself a good one. We give you privileges- only you can enjoy them. We give you opportunities- only you can use them. We did all we could for you. Now you must prove yourself.

"Many a man comes into lodge expecting a special reception committee, crowding around him at every meeting, saying how glad it is to have him there. Many a man is disappointed. You had our undivided attention as a candidate, as an initiate, as a Fellowcraft, and when we made you a Master Mason.

"Now it's your turn. We are through with your candidacy- you are now a part of the lodge. Every privilege has a duty attached. When you perform those duties, other privileges await you. If you never perform them, you will get no farther. The responsibility we assumed in approving you as a man worthy to be a Master Mason and sit with us must be shared by you. Your responsibility is to be a good lodge member. There are good Masons who are poor lodge members, but they are not the beloved ones. The beloved lodge members, like your father, finds labor and service and takes his pay in the spirit of fraternity, in the love and admiration of other men, in the satisfaction which comes from playing his part."

"But what can I do- what is my first step?"

"You want to make friends in the lodge?"

"I surely do."

"Then be a friend! I am told that the Master read tonight that Brother Robinson is ill. Go and see him. Old Willis is back at work after being sick a year. Call him up and tell him you are glad. Hungerford just returned from the West. He is out of a job and wants help. Ask him to come and see you. Maybe you can help him, maybe you can't. But if a brother takes an interest in him, he will be heartened and given courage. Ask the Master for a job- he'll use you, never fear. A sister lodge comes to visit us next month. Offer your car to the chairman of the entertainment committee. Bob always has trouble getting enough for his personal column in the Trestleboard,; scout around, learn a few things, tell him them. I understand you play the piano. Offer your help to the choirmaster when he needs someone to take the organist's place. There are one thousand and one ways a chap can make himself known and liked in a lodge. All you have to do is look for them."

"I see..."

"Not yet, you don't! But you soon will. When your eyes are opened you'll see just what you are. And if the reflection is dejection, dissatisfaction, unhappiness, it is because those are you. When you look in the lodge and see yourself happy, busy, well liked, giving service and taking joy in brotherhood as a return, you will know that you are a real Mason, a real lodge member, a real son to a father who learned that the secret of Masonic joy is to give, that it may be given back to you."

"I'll begin now! Don't you want to get a smoke? I'll stay on the door until you come back!"

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