

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 for October 2007 –November2007

RECENT MASONIC EVENTS

Friday, September 30 – Lodge of Nine Muses held their 'annual' table lodge. 119 Brethren and guests attend the Table Lodge. It was a great Masonic evening of fellowship and learning.

Thursday, October 4-An open meeting was held, honoring our past masters. Fun was had by all. A good meal was served. Brian Babin played the sweetest music this side of heaven.

Wednesday, October 10 – Lodge of Nine Muses initiated the first EA to be inducted into a **new** Louisiana lodge in over 10 years.

Thursday, October 18 - 25 members attended. A Fellow Craft degree was conferred. R.W. Bro. Guy Jenkins, Deputy District Grand Master, 13 Masonic District, was received and he reported:

1) The 2008 Grand Lodge Communication will be Saturday and Sunday, February 2 & 3 in Bossier City.

2) A brief history of Grand Lodge buildings was given. The new Grand Lodge building in Alexandria is open, functioning and visits are welcomed. Due to financial considerations, the Grand Lodge is considering a resolution to raise the per capita assessment by \$1.00 next year and each year thereafter for 10 years.

3) George Jones was commended for his program 'How to recruit Masons' given at Warden's Retreat, Woodworth, LA last August.

Thursday, October 18 - W: Bro. David Dodge, PM, received the Achievement Award for 2007 from R.E. Bro Guy Jenkins, who commented the St. James Lodge was only one of three Lodges in the 13th Masonic District to receive that Award.

Thursday, October 25 at 6:00 PM - SPECIAL COMMUNICATION was called to confer an Entered Apprentice degree.

FUTURE EVENTS

Nov 1 7:30 PM - Rededication & Reobligation; Election of Officers for 2008.

Nov 8 - Possibly SPECIAL to confer a Fellow Craft degree.

Nov 15 at 6:30PM - Thanksgiving dinner, OPEN MEETING. Guests are invited.

Dec. 6 **Install Officers for 2008 (Open/meal 6:30 PM)**

Masonic Education:

Every Tuesday at 5:00 PM there will be a tutorial practice of the Work for each Station of Lodge Officers conducted by Past Masters of St. James Lodge.

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.

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

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, Members: Tim Atkins, Larry Wade, Alva Clay Smith; Clayton Johnson Borne, III; Shane Crump; Glenn Cupit ; Jay L. Martin, Mike Carpenter; William Little

WB James Patrick Fleming Jr. PM of Eastgate Masonic Lodge 452 passed away Friday, Oct. 12, 2007, in Baton Rouge at age 90. An Order of Eastern Star funeral service and a Masonic funeral service were held. He was active in all bodies of Masonry and will be deeply missed. Our prayers and condolences go to his family.

Special Notice: Please notify the Secretary, W: Bro. Dedman and Joe Richard if you change your address, telephone or email address.



Brethren,

Halloween is upon us and it's time to prepare for the ghoooooos and gooooooblins. Speaking of preparation, come to the lodge the

first meeting in November! Not only is it election time but we will have the rededication and reobligation ceremony. AND there will have a report from the finance committee. As per W. Brother Sartin's request, the finance committee is ready to give its recommendations to the Lodge. I hope to see you on November 1.

The second meeting in November, we will have our **annual Thanksgiving Celebration dinner**. I have "cooked" up some special live entertainment at the request of several of the Brothers. Be sure to come and celebrate Thanksgiving with your brethren.

The Lodge had an official visit from Right Worshipful Guy Jenkins the Deputy District Grand Master and he gave the Lodge an update from the Grand Lodge. Also, Brother Jenkins presented David Dodge, Past Master 2006 with his achievement award. Congratulations, Brother Dodge on receiving your award.

I hope everyone has a spooky Halloween, and if I don't see you at the Thanksgiving Banquet, I hope everyone has a safe and thankful, Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,
Mark Paxton, WM

2008 Dues and Perpetual Membership -- The 2008 dues notices will be mailed out in November and due by December 31, 2008. Annual dues of St. James Lodge are currently \$59.50 and are expected to increase by \$1.00 when Grand Lodge meets on Saturday & Sunday, February 2 & 3, 2008. Perpetual Membership currently costs \$1,190.00, or 20 time annual dues. That amount can be paid over 5 years, which amounts to a more manageable and appealing amount of only \$238.00. After the five years, you will be Dues Free. Please consider it. Frank E. Dedman, Secretary, PM

Sickness And Relief

Bro. Eugene Lejeune's wife says that he had a stroke some 8 years ago. He is doing well, although he cannot stand or speak, he reads everything. His address is 12860 HIGHWAY 76 MARINGOUIN LA 70757-4203. I am sure that he would enjoy getting cards and letters from his brothers.—Frank Dedman



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OCTOBER 2007 —NOVEMBER 2007

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Dear Brothers:

The first phase of my training here at Ft. Bragg is almost complete. As always the worst is saved for the very last. My last week here is a week long process designed to see how we do with stress, little to no sleep and time lines to make. The class is divided into 4 teams. Each team member will have a chance to make as many mistakes as they wish under the influence of stress and no sleep. During this time we will walk through the make believe desert, work out of a FOB(Forward Operating Base), all in pine trees and the real environment is a desert. This is typical Army military decision making process(MDMP). The army runs on acronyms. In fact, it is possible to have an entire conversation using acronyms.

On 1 Oct 2007 the Navy promoted me to the rank of Commander. This has been my greatest jump in rank. There is a huge difference between Lieutenant Commander and Commander. The pay increase is nice as well.

Duty assignments have been handed out. Late in November, the 432 Army National Guard unit will report for their second deployment to Iraq. We shall deploy together. Our location will be in the thick of things. It has had the highest casualty rate of late. It took some time for me to get my arms around and accept the future challenge. My nick name for the 432 is "Cheese Heads". While training here at Bragg, it has been my pleasure to meet a few officers from that unit. As usual, the 432 are short on officers. Their CO is brand new, given command last week; their XO has a stellar reputation. Due to duty assignments it looks like higher authority is trying to run good horses for all they are worth.

On the Masonic front, I have met 2 men that have asked for a petition to join the local lodge. They are good men, one being a Green Beret and the other 82nd Air Borne. The AF & AM rituals are different from A & FM, and I think they explain more of the Masonic work. It has been rewarding and a pleasure to meet masons from all over, here at Bragg. Take care and safe travels.

Fraternally, Bro Evan Cooper

On August 21, 2003, we were privileged to have as a guest at St. James Lodge Bro. Avadesh Prasad, of Swarn Jayanti (Golden Jubilee) Lodge in NOIDA, India. Looking forward to becoming WM of Swarn Jayanti Lodge in 2004, Bro. Prasad had come from India at the invitation of WB Naresh Sharma, PM of St. James Lodge, in order to attend the Louisiana GL's Warden Conference/ Masonic Renewal seminar in Woodworth, LA, on August 23, 2003.

The program for the August 21, 2003 meeting of St. James Lodge was to include a presentation by RWB Chip Borne on the subject, "The History of the French Lodges of Louisiana." At the last moment, we learned that RWB Borne was caught in traffic and would not be able to reach Baton Rouge in time for the meeting.

At the request of the WM, then, Bro. Prasad presented a talk on, "The History of Freemasonry In India." This was an excellent talk, the text of which was subsequently published in the September 2003 – October 2003 issue of the St. James Lodge Newsletter.

We have now received exciting news from WB Prasad.

The GL of India holds an annual "Masonic Essay Competition." On Thursday, October 25, 2007, WB Prasad was informed by the Grand Secretary of the GL of India that his essay, "Morality and Freemasonry," has been awarded first prize in the 2007 competition.

I know that we will all feel particularly happy that this wonderful Freemason has been awarded this well-deserved recognition.

WB Prasad has asked us to convey the following –

I shall always remember your Lodge meeting, which I was privileged to attend that evening. I shall always treasure its memories with warmth and humility, gratefully acknowledging the generous hospitality extended to me by Brethren. Indeed it was one of the most delightful and memorable experience of my Masonic career. I do hope that some day GATU shall reward me yet again with another visit to your esteemed Lodge.

Please permit me to convey through you my Fraternal Greetings to the Worshipful Master, the Lodge Secretary and Brethren all.

Congratulations to WB Prasad from all of us at St. James Lodge!

Those interested in reading WB Prasad's article, published in the news letter may do so at <http://www.stjameslodge47.org/newsletters/39-40%20%20Newsletter%20September.pdf>

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