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# THE TRESSEL BOARD

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Volume 1, Issue1 February 2007

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## **Greetings from the East**

We are now at the start of a new year. With the New Year comes important changes to the way we conduct Lodge. Lodge should be an event you look forward to each month. I realize that meetings are boring and are taking steps to improve our meetings.

Our fraternity is based on a foundation of fellowship. Lodge should be a place to make new friends and reconnect with old ones. If you are able, try to attend one to two Lodge meeting a year. You might be surprised at the changes.

### **Meeting Changes**

Unfortunately, the bulk of the stated meeting is Lodge business. There is no way around it.

However, we are going to add some things to the meeting night that will make it more interesting.

### **Masonic Education**

We will be doing short talks during stated meetings to further our knowledge of our fraternity. This knowledge will not only make us think but make us better Masons.

### **New Mason Training**

Prior to the meeting, newly obligated brothers who are working on their proficiency can come to lodge to practice their memory lecture. Though they can't attend the meeting, they can sit in the dining room and play cards or other activity while we are in the meeting. They join in the fellowship after the meeting.

### **Craft Club**

Craft Club will be held immediately following the stated meeting for 30 minutes. We will announce the section of ritual we will cover in the news letter prior to the meeting. We traditionally would meet on a separate night. I feel moving craft club to the meeting night will improve attendance by the officers and anyone wanting to learn and help with ritual.

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## **Membership Directory**

We will create and distribute membership directories. I know this is something we have done in the past and I feel we should do it again.

## **Historical Committee**

I am creating a historical committee. This committee will catalog and preserve our records. This is our history and the legacy of future members. The books are currently stacked in boxes and in some cases loose in the balcony of what used to be the little lodge room. Anyone who enjoys history and would like access to this information please attend a meeting and discuss it with me afterwards.

## **Purchase Property**

Finally, we need to purchase land or a piece of property for our new lodge. We need to get the ball rolling on this. Time is slipping away and we don't want to get caught with no place to go when our time runs out.

I feel that we can come together as a lodge and accomplish these goals with ease. I want to make lodge exciting and something you look forward to attending. My goal is to get members that can to attend at least two meetings a year. If you have ideas, let me know I welcome all input.

## **Membership Awards**

We will be awarding 10 and 25 year membership awards in addition to the 50 year award of gold. I feel it's important that we

recognize those Brothers who have united with us in this great and good work.

## **Membership Drive**

As a fraternity, we must have new members to survive. I will be announcing a membership drive in the next newsletter detailing the program. At the end of the year we will have an award for the Brother who has the most top line signatures. I know we can pull together and bring in several new brothers into our order.

I look forward to serving you again and seeing you in lodge.

Fraternally,

Barry Taylor

## **WHAT IS FREEMASONRY?**

For more than two centuries learned Craftsmen have ardently sought an accurate, all-inclusive definition for Freemasonry. Our most eminent savants have devoted time, effort and verbiage to the commendable task of expressing in a few, simple words that which is Masonry. Some have almost succeeded. But always, that vital spark which is the very touchstone of our Craft has eluded them.

There is inherent in this ancient and



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **CRAFT CLUB FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2007**

PLACE: MASONIC LODGE

TIME: 6:30PM

We will be covering EA Degree for the Lodge of Instruction

### **LODGE OF INSTRUCTION FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2007**

PLACE: MASONIC LODGE

TIME: 7:00PM

Lodge of instruction for 2007 will be on the Entered Apprentice Degree. Only Master Masons may attend this event. We welcome you attendance and support.

### **STATED MEETING MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2007**

PLACE MASONIC LODGE

TIME: MEAL AT LODGE 6:30PM

STATED MEETING 7:30PM

### **Logansport Shrine Club Meeting March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

Place: Logansport Shrine Club

Time: Board Meeting 6:30PM Stated meeting 7:00PM

### **2007 Officers**

Worshipful Master – Barry Taylor P.M.

Senior Warden – Tom Sadler P.M.

Junior Warden – James Kerns P.M.

Secretary – John Heckard P.M.

Treasurer – John W. Fisher P.M.

Senior Deacon – Jim Huff

Junior Deacon – Ernest Gasho

Junior Steward – Wayne Rusnak

Chaplin – John McMahan

Tyler – Clyde Wilkinson P.M.

honorable institution an intangible, indefinable element which apparently lies beyond the power of words. Without it, no definition of Masonry can be considered complete.

We may find it impossible to define this illusive component in words but the understanding Mason knows it is there just as certainly as he knows there is a G.A.O.T.U. He is therefore satisfied to accept at face value one or more of those definitions which, although admittedly incomplete, most closely approach the ideal. Perhaps therein lies on explanation of the power which Masonry exerts upon the hearts of its votaries, who are thus bound together by that “mystic tie” which never the tongue of man shall speak nor the pen of man shall write.

Officially, Masonry is defined as consisting of a course of moral instruction, illustrated by types, emblems and allegorical figures. The Old English Constitutions state it in this manner, “a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.” Webster says an allegory “represents a suggestive resemblance”; and a symbol is “a visible sign or representation of an idea.”

Right Worshipful Brother Charles C. Hunt, Grand Secretary Emeritus of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. & A.M., proposes the following definition, after an extensive analysis of opinions of other eminent Masonic scholars, “Freemasonry is an organized society of men symbolically

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## Masonic Poem

IS IT MASONARY?

By Brother F.G. Oliver  
(From The Builder, Anamosa, Iowa, March, 1915)

Is it Masonry  
To dare to take God's name in vain,  
Or be careful of our speech;  
From evil thoughts and words refrain,  
And practice what we preach?

Is it Masonry  
To boast of your fine jewels,  
Or purify your heart;  
To be a man and Mason  
And act a Mason's part?

Is it Masonry  
To fail to help your brothers,  
Or your obligations fill?  
To leave it for the others  
Or mean and say "I will"?

applying the principles of operative masonry and architecture to the science and art of character building." This especially distinguishes our fraternity from all other organizations which teach a system of morality.

Combine the above definitions, if you will. Add to them that cosmic spark which makes of man the Temple of God; and you will be as close as mortal may ever come to defining our gentle Craft with words.

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." – I Corinthians 3:16-17.

(From the Indiana Masonic Monitor 9<sup>th</sup> edition 1961)



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