
THE TRESTLE BOARD

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1 FEBRUARY, 2008

From the East

BROTHERS,

IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE A DUES NOTICE YOU CAN SEND YOUR \$71.00 CHECK FOR YOUR 2008 DUES TO:

**JOHN HECKARD PM
3243 SOUTH 675 WEST
LOGANSPOUT, IN 46947**

I APPOLOGIZE FOR THE CONFUSION.

IF YOU ARE A 50 YEAR MEMBER, YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR CARD SOON.

Fraternally,

Barry Taylor WM

50 Year Members for 2008

If you qualify for a 50 year pin in 2008 I want to clarify a few things so you will know when to expect your pin. We are unable to apply for the pin from Grand Lodge until you have reached the month you were raised. After we apply it takes approximately 30 days to get it from Grand Lodge. We will be mailing out the pins when we receive them. We

will have another awards ceremony this year and will officially present them during that event. I felt it was important for those how qualify to be able to wear their pin as soon as possible and be honored at a ceremony later this year.

Remember, if you have gaps in your membership you will need to add those years to the date you were raised. It is 50 years of total dues paying membership not 50 years from when you were raised.

New Building News

We will begin working on the new building when the weather gets a little better. We will be stripping wallpaper and tearing out carpet and a few walls.

We will be talking to a few local contractors about building an addition to the building. We are thinking of adding at least 1000 Sq Ft. This will give us comparable square footage to Royal Center. I will keep you posted.

New Secretary

The Lodge will have around mid year a new Secretary. John Heckard will be stepping down and taking the Treasurer's chair. We are phasing this transition in over 6 months to allow the new Secretary, Jerry Lebo, the chance to learn the ropes. I want to thank John for his years of dedication and welcome Jerry to the office.

Fundraising

In the following months we will be asking for donations for the building fund. We want to defer as much of the cost and avoid spending too much of our money. It's important to maintain a cash reserve. More on that later.

Past Masters Association

I am considering restarting the Past Masters Association. I believe we need the knowledge the Past Masters can offer to help us chart our direction. The meeting would be once a quarter and scheduled in advance. More to come.

Membership

Did you know that you are allowed to ask a person to join the Masons? If so, why haven't you? We need good men

DATES FOR FEBRUARY

- 4th* York Rite Stated Meeting
- 6th* Tipton Stated Meeting eat at 6:00 meeting at 7:00
- 12th* Shrine Club Meeting 7:00
- 13th* Master Mason Degree eat at 6:00 work at 7:00

who are in search of an organization that shows them how to improve their lives. Freemasonry is all about learning how to be a better man, husband and citizen. We have so much to offer and need your help in spreading the word. Make it your goal to ask one person to join this year. If everyone works together, we can grow our Lodge well into the future. We need your help! Let's make membership our number one priority this year!

Advertising in the Trestle Board

I would like to start selling business card ads and offering ads for items for sale in the trestle board to help defer the cost of printing and mailing. The price list is as follows:

1 month business card ad\$10.00

3 month business card as\$25.50 save 15%

6 month business card ad\$48.00 save 20%

1 year business card ad\$90.00 save 25%

1 month item for sale ad\$5.00

The above prices include the same listing on the website and a link to either your website or e-mail address.

To do a business card ad, please e-mail a scanned version of your business card to barry_s_taylor@yahoo.com. Or you can mail the card to me at:

Barry Taylor
2525 Lauren Lane
Kokomo, IN 46901

You can submit an item for sale the same way. We will send you an invoice for the fees.

Tipton Lodge History

I have been reading the book "The First 100 years History of Tipton Lodge". I encourage anyone who is into history to read this book, it is available at the Logansport public library.

What I am learning is that Lodges had the same challenges then as we do now. I think there is a perception that the Lodge was without problems 50, 60 100 years ago. The fact is, they did. In fact I can't think of any organization that has not had several challenges throughout its history.

Tipton Lodge over the last 180 years had had increases and decreases in membership, times of inactivity among the membership, and general concern for its future.

I was shocked to learn that the members of Tipton Lodge around the 1830's had went from June to January without meeting. In fact, it was discussed whether they should surrender their charter. Back then a member could be called before

the Lodge to explain why he had not been attending meetings. It was a different time and a point in our history where men felt belonging to a Masonic Lodge enriched their lives and improved the community at large.

Many of the first members of our Lodge were business men who helped found Logansport. Many do not realize how important Tipton Lodge was in creating Logansport. At the time Tipton Lodge was chartered, Logansport didn't yet have a name.

I personally believe in what we are and what we do. The craft from time to time will stray, but we always manage to pull together when it matters and do what is right for the Lodge.

Tipton Lodge last year added another chapter to our history. We purchased a building that will soon be our new home. Though it would have been nice to have kept the old building, the days of large and gothic Lodges are coming to an end in favor of practicality. It's not as important where you meet as it is what you do when you meet.

Tipton Lodge has been in two buildings and will be moving to the third. I hope you will join me in the excitement of moving into a new Lodge. I think it is going to open the door to so many possibilities and activities we were unable to do at our present location.

We have so much to look forward to and I hope you will be there to enjoy the new building when completed.

Rusty Nail Degree

Last year I had every intention of doing this degree. However it didn't work out. The Rusty Nail Degree is intended to be a refresher course for those who have not been to Lodge in a while.

I often talk to members who tell me they don't remember the grips or words needed to get into Lodge. If this is the case, you can rest easy. Most Lodges including ours will only demand to see a current paid dues card as proof of membership.

I would like to do the rusty nail degree this year but want to make sure we have enough people participating. If we have 5 or more members who want to participate we will schedule one.

If you would like to participate, you can contact me via e-mail at barry_s_taylor@yahoo.com or you can call me at 765-438-8919.

Masonic Scholarship

We have applications for Masonic Scholarships available at

2008 OFFICERS

BARRY TAYLOR PM ...WORSHIPFUL MASTER

TOM SADLER PM ...SENIOR WARDEN

JIM KERNS PM ...JUNIOR WARDEN

JOHN HECKARD PM ...SECRETARY

JERRY LEBO ...ASSISTANT SECRETARY

DANNY BOOCHER PM ...TREASURER

JIM HUFF ...SENIOR DECEAN

ERNIE GASHO ...JUNIOR DECEAN

KEVIN HEDGER ...SENIOR STEWARD

TED JONES ...JUNIOR STEWARD

JOHN MCMAHAN ...CHAPLIN

CLYDE WILKINSON ...TILER

TRUSTEES

MATT HECKARD

TOM SCHERER

JEFF PURSCH

IF YOU KNOW ANY OF THESE BROTHER, BE SURE TO CONGRADULATE THEM WHEN YOU SEE THEM NEXT. WE NEED THE HELP OF EVERY MEMBER TO MAKE OUR LODGE A SUCCESS.

the Lodge. If you are a member and have a child entering college or a grandparent with a grandchild entering college you may apply for this scholarship.

To get an application, please contact me at 765-438-8919 or by e-mail at barry_s_taylor@yahoo.com.

Applications are due back to the Lodge by March 1st.

ATTENTION BROTHERS—House Bill HB 1281

The State of Indiana in an effort to reform property taxes has submitted this bill before the Indiana legislature. This bill could cause Lodges, and other Masonic organizations to loose tax their exemption.

If Indiana Lodges had to start paying property taxes, it would effectively bankrupt many Lodges.

The reality is that local and state governments will not do with less, so if they lower property taxes they will make up for them elsewhere.

Though the Lodge is not a forum for political action, I feel it's important, considering the direct impact this bill could have on our and every other Lodge in the state, that we should oppose this bill.

I encourage you to contact your State Senators and Representatives and encourage them to vote no on this bill. We need to work together. If this passes and becomes law it could devastate the Masonic Fraternity for a long time.

Indiana Senate

Brandt Hershman

Tom Weatherwax

House Representatives

Eric Gutwein

h16@IN.gov

Bill Friend

h23@IN.gov

Rich McClain

h24@IN.gov

Address and phone number for all:

200 W Washington St.

Indianapolis, IN 46204

(800) 382-9467



Tipton Masonic Lodge # 33 F&AM
400 North Street
Logansport, IN 46947

STD MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
KOKOMO, IN
46902
PERMIT # 45

Have you seen our Website?
Go to
www.tiptonlodge33.org