
THE TRESTLE BOARD

Volume 1, Issue 7 August 2007

Greetings from the East

All Degree Day

Tipton Lodge will be reviving a tradition in August by having an all degree day. We will confer the all three degrees on different candidates. We will have the degree on August 25th we will serve coffee and doughnuts at 7:00am and start the degrees at 8:00am with the EA degree, Fellow Craft Degree lunch, and then Master Mason. Brother Tom Denny has graciously offered to cook pork loin on his big cooker at the Shrine club for those who attend the degree for lunch. We will finish the FC degree and then go over to the Shrine club for lunch.

We will need lots of help to make this day a success. Tipton Lodge has not done an all degree day in almost 10 years. This is a fun event to help with as well as

an opportunity to refresh our Masonic knowledge. Plus, we are going to have a great meal served at lunch. Come and welcome our new brothers into our grand fraternity.

Awards Banquet

We are in the process of reserving the memorial home for the awards banquet. We will be giving away over 100 awards this year to 50, 25 and 10 year members.

The 50 year award of Gold signifies 50 years of membership and is given by Grand Lodge. The 25 year award signifies 25 years of membership and is given by the Lodge. I am adding a new award from the Lodge this year, the 10 year certificate. I felt that it's important to celebrate the important milestones in a brother's Masonic membership.

I will be releasing the details in up coming newsletters.

Charity Pool Tournament

Logansport York Rite in conjunction with Tipton Lodge is organizing a pool tournament at Coonies Rack and Cue. This event will have 32 teams of 2. Our goal is to give \$1000 to a local charity and smaller amounts for 2nd thru 4th place.

This is a worthy cause and we should support it as a Lodge. The cost for each player is \$30.00 or \$60.00 for a team. This event will serve

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to help our community as well as spread the word about Tipton Lodge and Freemasonry in general. I will put more information in the September issue of the newsletter.

Remember, if you have any questions or concerns, you can always contact me either by e-mail at worshipful_master@tiptonlodge33.org or by phone at 765-438-8919.

Fraternally,

Barry Taylor

The Mysteries of Masonry – or so it seems

By Barry Taylor PM

I have, over the years, watched several programs on Freemasonry. It's no secret that Freemasonry as a whole is widely misunderstood and draped with accusations of a desire for world domination. There are however several points that these programs always make that I feel need addressed.

Freemasonry is often referred to as a "Secret Society", however, if that were true would we would hide the location of our meetings and not display Masonic regalia such as car emblems and rings.

A secret society is one that hides its existence and membership from the world. Freemasonry does not hide its membership or its existence. Our fraternity does have secrets much in the same way corporations have secrets, or families. However, freemasonry has over the years, due to its secretive nature, created a buzz among the conspiracy theorist that freemasonry has something to hide. We do, however, I think they would all be disappointed to learn the secrets; it's not what they think.

Something else freemasons are accused of is a world wide conspiracy to take over the world. Now, I have no doubt that there are many lodges that are well organized, but give me a break, Lodges have a hard enough time deciding what to serve as a meal after a meeting, how on earth are they going to take over the world. If anything, freemasonry wants to improve the world by teaching men friendship, morality and brotherly love and through faith, hope and charity we can change the world for the better.

For some reason, these television programs make a big deal out of a mason being a 32 degree mason. They make this statement without explaining the facts. There are only three degrees of Masonry. Any member of the Scottish Rite is a 32 degree mason. These degrees do not make a person any higher than the degree of a Master Mason. These degrees, much like those in the York Rite, are symbolic and are intended to further the member's knowledge of Masonry and to illustrate moral and virtue through symbolic ceremonies and lectures.

I realize that as long as Freemasonry has secrets, we will always have those who read more into them than is there. I believe that Freemasonry is by far one of the greatest fraternal organizations in the world. No other can hold a candle to the lessons we teach our members and that's something to be proud of to be sure.

**"Last Night I Knelt Where Hiram Knelt"
Author Unknown**

Last night I knelt where Hiram knelt



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ALL DEGREE DAY AUGUST 25TH, 2007

PLACE: MASONIC LODGE

TIME: 7:00AM – WHEN WE FINISH

Conferring the EA, FC and MM degrees (this is not a one day class)

LOGANSPORT YORK RITE STATED MEETING SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2007

PLACE MASONIC LODGE

TIME: MEAL AT LODGE 6:30PM

STATED MEETING 7:30PM

TIPTON STATED MEETING SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2007

PLACE MASONIC LODGE

TIME: MEAL AT LODGE 6:30PM

STATED MEETING 7:30PM

Logansport Shrine Club Meeting September 11th, 2007

Place: Logansport Shrine Club

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

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

Senior Steward – Chad Geer

Junior Steward – Kevin Hedger

Chaplin – John McMahan

Tyler – Clyde Wilkinson P.M.

And took an obligation
Today I'm closer to my God,
And I'm a Master Mason.

To' heretofore my fellow men
Seemed each one like the other,
Today I search each one apart;
I'm looking for "My Brother."

And, as I feel this friendly grip,
It fills my heart with pride;
I know that while I'm on the square
That he is on my side.

His footsteps on my errand go
If I should such require;
His prayers will plead in my behalf
If I should so desire.

My words are safe within his breast
As though within my own;
His hand forever at my back
To help me safely home.

Good Council whispers in my ear
And warns at any danger;
By square and compass, Brother now!
Who once would call me stranger.

I might have lived a moral life
And risen to distinctions
Without my Brother's helping hand
And fellowship of Masons.

But God, who knows how hard it is
To resist life's temptations,
Knows why I knelt where Hiram knelt
And took that obligation.

"Start by doing what's necessary, then
what's possible and suddenly you are
doing the impossible."

-- *St. Francis of Assisi*

"A cynic is a man, who when he smells
flowers, looks around for a coffin."

--*H. L. Mencken*

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