

MORE LIGHT

From

Manteo Lodge #521

A. J. & A. M.

Chartered April 18, 1962

February, 2008

TRESTLE BOARD

February 11, 2008 6:30 PM

****Covered dish at Lodge**

February 11, 2008 7:30 PM

Regular stated communication
Special Masonic/Scouting Presentation
to W.B. Mike Schilling, PM

February 25, 2008 7:30 PM

Regular Stated Communication
Fellowcraft Degree for Candidates

March 10, 2008 6:30 PM

Lodge Dinner for Grand Master
\$10 per person, RSVP to Secretary

March 10, 2008 7:30 PM

Regular Stated Communication + Grand Master
Visitation for District

March 24, 2008 7:30 PM

Regular Stated Communication

YORK RITE MEETINGS 8:00 PM

Eureka Lodge—Elizabeth City, NC
1st & 3rd Thursday of Each Month
Except Summer

SHRINE CLUB 7:30 PM

First Wednesday of Each Month
Shrine Club, Manteo, NC

FROM THE EAST

Dear Brethren,

It's a beautiful day as I type this section. Its hard to imagine one can be sitting on their deck with a glass of wine and a cigar in February whilst its 62 degrees on the outside!

We had a wonderful Installation and every officer from Master to Steward was present. Our thanks to MW Jerry Tillett for serving as the Installing Officer, and Missy McPherson & Co. for arranging the fine spread afterwards.

There is a lot of work going on in the Lodge. The Audit Committee has met and signed off on our 2007 financials. The Budget Committee has also met; the news is not as good there (see page 2)! We are close to resolving the problem of upstairs access and we hope to have some chair lifts installed soon.

Two candidates are closing in on their Fellowcraft degree, and we accepted a new petition last month. WB Holmes is busy coaching candidates and training officers to learn their next level of degree work.

WB Craig Davenport jumped from the fire into the frying pan and is now President of the Outer Banks Shrine Club. I had fun attending the Winter Ceremonial in New Bern last month and hanging out with several Manteo 521 m3mbers. It takes a lot of guys to make Masonry happen in Dare County.

Don't forget the Grand Master's visit on March 10; let's put on a good show from the home team! Bring a brother to lodge and see you next month.

Russ Lay, Master

FROM THE WEST

Greetings my Brothers and welcome to another active year in Masonry. I would like to thank the brethren first and foremost for your support, and your help in the coming year. At our first stated in February the Masonic Education Committee hopes to have a short, but very interactive program ready. Also, I look forward to seeing you in lodge at our second stated in February for our continued fellowship and a Fellow Craft's Degree, which may include two candidates seeking more light in Masonry. Mark your calendars 6:30 PM on the 11th (covered dish) and 7:30 on the 25th.

See you in lodge,

Doug Langford SW

MASONIC EDUCATION

Speaking of the above, our Lodge Education Committee is working on an active program for 2008. Planned are guest speakers on Masonry, explanation of ritual and customs, even working out of the OSW. We also have plans to invite some non-Masonic speakers and allow wives and families to attend these sessions. If your reason for not coming to Lodge is "all we do is read the minutes and pay the bills" we're hoping to change that perception! Look in the pages throughout the year for advance notice of some of these events!

We have a covered dish dinner before the FIRST stated of each month. Bring some grub and join the fun at 6:30 PM.

WB Mike Schilling will receive a special Masonic Scouting Award from the Grand Lodge on Pennsylvania on February 11th. His scout troop will also attend.

GRAND MASTER VISITATION

MARCH 10, 2008

Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons, Rev. David R Cash, Sr. will visit Manteo 521 on March 10, 2008. We are planning dinner at 6:30 PM, catered by our own Bro. Vic Cox. This will be MW Cash's only visit to this and surrounding regions, so our fellow Mason's from Ocracoke, Hatteras, Currituck and even Elizabeth City plan to join us.

Dinner will be \$10 a person, payable at the door or in advance. You can mail checks to the Lodge Secretary address on the last panel of this newsletter. You **must** RSVP the number of folks in your party to Brian or myself no later than **March 1, 2008** so we may plan the amount of food accordingly.

MW Cash is from Troutman, NC, and is married to Rev. Lynn Watts Cash, pastor of Kerr Street UMC in Concord. MW Cash graduated from the Univ. of South Carolina, North Carolina A&T State University, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been in the ministry since 1984. He serves on the Board of MHCO and MESH. He cooks, golfs, and enjoys his membership in both the Blue Lodge and the Shrine.

It's been awhile since we last hosted a Grand Master in our Lodge. Let's turn out in force and demonstrate to our Grand Master the enthusiasm of Manteo 521. We have a lot to be proud of in our Lodge and we should share that pride with our Grand Master.

Congratulations to Bro. Jay Hart, who as a result of his participation in the Winter Ceremonial is now also known as Noble Jay Hart as well as an aspiring Beach Bum (or so we hear).

LODGE FUNDS

It's time to remind everyone about our various Lodge funds. These are monies we collect that supplement activities not supported by our dues:

More Light: This fund pays all the postage for this newsletter. We do not support More Light from our dues. Our thanks to those who contributed \$200+ last year, that about breaks us even. I've had some brothers stop by the Bank where I work and leave money already in 2008.

Carlisle Davis Scholarship: Each year we award \$500 to a Manteo High School Senior who plans to major in the field of art. Our goal is to get this fund to \$10,000 so it can become self-sustaining.

Building Fund: We added carpet in 2007, we'll have a chair lift in 2008, and we hope to finish the fire escape also. That should about deplete the entirety of the Building Fund.

As you can see, all of these funds are important. If you wish to support any of these programs, you can mail contributions to the Secretary or pass them along to any officer. Your generosity is what keeps us going, and we greatly appreciate all the help we've received in the past.

DA BUDGET!!

I won't go into great detail, but here's some of the findings of the Budget Committee. In 2007, the Lodge took in about \$11,400 from all sources (dues, donations, fund raisers, gifts from the O.E.S). We spent a little over \$16,100, mostly from our savings. The \$5,000 deficit was not all-concerning since we tapped our Building Fund for some much needed improvements. But, after the planned 2008 chair lift and fire escape, our Building Fund reserves will be depleted.

As to our normal operating budget, which includes dues for income and normal Lodge bills as expense (utilities, insurance, Grand Lodge per capita), we are forecasting an \$1100 deficit at minimum. Brethren, our dues simply do not cover our normal expenses. With about 159 dues paying members, even if we raised dues by \$10/year, we'd only add another \$1600 to the annual budget. That will barely cover our normal expenses.

We will likely contemplate a \$5 increase for 2009, which will raise about \$800 additional. The rest of the money will have to come from the Shrine Fish Fry in summer. We need a large turnout from the members and the general population in order to raise about \$1000. Planning is already underway. Let's all work together to make this a success.

SCOTTISH RIGHT DEGREES

April 4th & 5th are the dates for the next conferral of Scottish Rites degrees in New Bern, NC. These "Reunions", as the Rite refers to them, happen twice a year. Most Mason's who have been through this degree work typically cite them as the most beautiful in Masonry. The action picks up where the 3rd degree left off, and goes on from there. There is NO memorization required on the part of the candidate; the degrees are "put on" for you by actors in full costume and surrounded by beautiful scenery, backdrops and props. The cost, including initiation fees and first years dues is \$265; thereafter the dues are currently \$65 per year.

The Scottish Rite is known as "The University of Freemasonry" owing to the research and publications about the Blue Lodge they produce. Join in the fun and help preserve one of the greatest traditions in Freemasonry.

2008 OFFICERS

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Douglas (Doug) W Langford..... 441-8862

Junior Warden
James (Jim) M. Cox..... 473-6270

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Treasurer
Lowell Spivey, PM.255-0631

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Christopher (Chris) East..... 491-9261

Junior Deacon
Terry Sherman.....

Chaplain
Randell E. Holmes, PM.....473-5119

Tyler
Marvin R Worrell.....473-2797

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Joe Southern & Bo Taylor

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