

MORE LIGHT

From

Manteo Lodge #521

A. F. & A. M.

Chartered April 18, 1962

March & April 2009

TRESTLE BOARD

**March 19, 2009—3rd Degree Practice @ 6:00PM
@ the Lodge**

**March 23, 2009-Regular Stated @ 7:30 PM
Master Masons Degree Scheduled**

**March 28, 2009—Lecture Series @ 10:00AM
Location: Manteo 521; DDGL Wayne Cox will
practice all Degrees with officers and members**

**April 13, 2009—"Pot Luck" Dinner @ Lodge @
6:30 PM. BRING A DISH & ENJOY THE FUN**

**April 13, 2009-Regular Stated @ 7:30 PM
Fellowcraft Examination Scheduled**

**April 23, 2009— Practice for Master Masons De-
gree @ 6:00 PM @ the Lodge**

**April 25, 2009— PANCAKE BREAKFAST @ the
Lodge; 7:00 AM—10:00AM—Proceeds go to
MHCO & MESH**

**April 27, 2009— Regular Stated @ 7:30 PM
Master Masons Degree(s) Scheduled**

**Remember Shrine Meetings on 1st & 3rd
Wednesday's at the Shrine Club**

www.manteo521.org

FROM THE EAST

Greetings my brothers, January and February were excellent planning months for the Lodge. With the full participation of the Brethren in lodge we were able to set the dates for all our fund raisers and special events for the year. As we move along these dates will be published in the coming issues of More Light on the Trestle Board. We continue to have very good activity within the degrees. Brother Robert Reardon was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on February 9th for the first degree of the year (but surely not the last). March and April will be busy months with at least one Fellowcraft and two Master Masons Degrees to be conferred. Our next stated will be on March 23rd with a scheduled Master Masons degree at 7:30. I look forward to seeing you in Lodge.

Doug Langford, Worshipful Master

FROM THE WEST

Hello Brethren. News for the West. We have a few candidates working their way through the degrees, so expect a Fellowcraft Degree, perhaps in May. Bro. Robert Reardon was passed in February. There have been many new Masons added to ranks over past three years, and it is a sad thing to put on a Degree for a new Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft and not have the Candidate share in the fellowship and support of his Brothers. Besides, we also miss your fellowship. We had a great meal cooked by the brothers at our last Stated in February; also Masonic Education with lots of Q&A following, much enjoyed by all.

More good news, the children from the Masonic Home in Oxford will join us June 11-15 for a

visit. They will be staying at the "Croaker Club" on the Nags Head causeway, donated by local contractor Carl "Pogie" Worsley and the other members of the Croaker Club. Please come out to visit, and if you have a suggestion for some activities, contact me. Finally, please come to Lodge and if you can— bring a Brother. We miss your fellowship. There will always be a light on for you in the Lodge and in our hearts. Thank you and may God bless you and yours.

Jim "Swivel" Cox, Senior Warden

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Bro. Edwards didn't send me anything, but if he had, he probably would have included a gentle...no, make that a very slightly urgent request for those who have not paid their dues for 2009 to do so. The Lodge operates on basically a break-even basis, so every dollar counts. More importantly, we don't ever want to lose *any* Brother as a member. We know times are tough all over, especially in Dare County. If paying dues poses a problem, please contact any Brother in confidence and let him know. After all, that is why we are Brothers and we're here to help one another. No Mason should ever be reluctant to approach another Mason if he requires help of any kind.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

We're giving you a lot of notice this time around! The Lodge will hold a Pancake Breakfast from 7:00 AM until 10:00 AM at, of course, the Lodge! Tickets are \$5.00 per plate, and all proceeds are split between the Masonic Home for Children and the Masonic Eastern Star Home. Come out and enjoy the fellowship. We promise a good time and the chef's swear the pancakes will not

be chewy or hard. We scheduled this year's event the same time as "Bike Week", hoping to take advantage of the increased road traffic.

DID YOU KNOW?

The word many Mason's hear in Lodge as "hail", is actually spelled "hele", and its origins can be traced to the British Isles. The word means "to hide, to cover, to roof". Chaucer used it in the phrase "Hide and hele things" in the 12th century.

"Cowan" is another word we hear, although some think its "coward". Cowan is Scottish and is defined as "one who works as a mason without having served a regular apprenticeship". One can see how operative masons might have been wary of a cowan in the days before our modern fraternity. In British Masonic parlance, the term has come to define "pretenders and interlopers" trying to the favor of, or admission to, speculative lodges.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

The term "Worshipful Master", often shortened to "Worshipful" conjures up images of inferiors bowing down to, or actually worshiping the one holding the title. Likewise, "Master" reminds one of the person who owns or employs servants, or a King presiding over the lowest of his subjects.

In reality, the term "Worshipful" has nothing to do with worshiping the possessor of the title. The term is often cited by some religious groups opposed to the Craft to imply we are worshiping our Master instead of the one, true God.

As any student of the British Isles knows, the term “Worshipful” in that part of the world (England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland) is a honorific, the same as referring to a Judge or Mayor as “Your Honor”, or to the President of the United States as “Mr. President”. If you think about many old movies that depict Britain in the 19th century, you might remember such phrases as the “Worshipful Lord Mayor of London”. That is all there is to the word “Worshipful” in Lodge tradition.

There are many definitions of “Master”, some of which do actually refer to the relationship of one man who owns another. But, always remember as Freemasons, we draw our customs from operative Masons and their original lodges or guilds. And, in that context, “Master” refers to “**A worker qualified to teach apprentices and carry on the craft independently** “. Which is what our Master does, in theory, with the help of the Brethren.

Now it can be demonstrated that neither term carries a negative connotation, nor does the term “worshipful” conflict with any true religious belief. Not only are our origins in true *craft* masonry, but the speculative Masonry we practice had its origins in England, Ireland and Scotland, and we have adopted many of their common terms of language, as well as many archaic words no longer in use.

And, if you ever do have the honor of serving in the East, rest assured your spouse will never believe you are either “worshipful” or the “master”!

LECTURE SERIES 2009

As many of you may recall, in the past Grand Lodge has required that each Masonic District hold two School’s of Instruction each year. Since our District lacks a District Deputy Grand Lecturer, we have relied upon the services of our neighboring district’s DDGL, W.B. Wayne Cox.

Starting in 2009, there will only be one School of Instruction each year, to be attended by all lodges in that District. In place of the second school, each lodge will now have a “Lecture Series” that will be taught by the DDGL for that lodge only. In this “class”, the DDGL will cover all three degrees. Our turn will come on March 28th at Manteo Lodge, starting at 10 PM. All officers, as well as anyone who wants to learn about the degree presentations, or those who participate in the degrees in *any* role should plan to attend.

MORE LIGHT DONATION

Our thanks to Bro. G.G. Bonner for his generous donation to the More Light fund. More on More Light in future issues.

FACEBOOK

Ye editor and a few other members are now on Facebook. If you are, look me up and send a “friend” request.

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