

MORE LIGHT

From

Manteo Lodge #521

A. J. & A. M.

Chartered April 18, 1962
September & October 2008

TRESTLE BOARD

September 8, 2008 7:30 PM

**Regular Stated Communication
Covered Dish at 6:30**

September 22, 2008 7:30 PM

**Regular Stated Communication
3rd Degree Practice for Masonic Education (see
newsletter for more detail)**

October 4, 2008 11:00AM

SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION-MANTEO 521

October 13, 2008 6:30 PM

PAST MASTER'S NIGHT & SERVICE AWARDS

October 13, 2008 7:30 PM

**Regular Stated Communication
Covered Dinner at Lodge: 6:30 PM
Possible E.A. Degrees**

October 27, 2008 7:30 PM

Regular Stated Communication

[www. Mante521.org](http://www.Mante521.org)

FROM THE EAST

Brethren:

Summer is over and we have now returned to our twice per month meetings. And, not a moment too soon. The degree work continues apace. At our Stated Communication on August 25th, we raised three more Mason's to the Sublime Degree. Please join me in congratulating Bros. Brian Defosse, Gil Meyers, and Chip Reynolds. This was a special night as WB Chris McCarter handled the second section of the degree with his usual excellent performance. It has been a few years since WB McCarter performed this part, and we all enjoyed his effort.

Our Brethren in the Dare County Shrine Club held their 2nd Annual Fish Fry on behalf of the Manteo 521 on August 30th. We tried to take advantage of the Labor Day weekend to draw traffic to the event. Early results indicated at least 80 people came by, which should earn the lodge around \$600 towards our building and operating funds. We thank them for all the hard work they have put into the project, started by WB Craig Davenport. Next year, let's shoot for \$1000 in sales!

Our next fundraiser will occur in November or December. This will be our 2nd annual Turkey Shoot, with proceeds going to our two Masonic charities in NC. We promise ALL of the details in the next issue of More Light

PAST MASTER'S NIGHT & SERVICE AWARDS OCTOBER 13, 2008

It is that time again, when our Lodge recognizes our Past Master's and presents Service Awards to our members. For those new to the Lodge, each year we hold one or two Past Master's Night's wherein

we recognize the service of those Worshipful Brother's who have presided in the East. At the same time, we present Service Awards for members who have attained 25, 50, and 60 years as members of the Craft.

We also invite and recognize our Widow's.

This year the ceremony will start at 6:30 PM with dinner supplied by TL's in Manteo; look for BBQ and fried fish with all the fixing's. We will present the awards downstairs, before the Stated Communication. At 7:30 PM we will go upstairs for our Regular Stated. Award recipients will thus have the option of staying for the meeting, or leaving after dinner. This way, they can bring their spouse and receive their awards without requiring the wives to stay on for the Stated.

All Lodge members, their spouses, widows of members, and visitors are invited. Hopefully, DDGL Robert Despo will also be present from Ocracoke.

Given the nature of the event, we ask members to wear ties and sport coats or suits on this night. If you plan to attend, please call either myself or our Secretary, Brian Edwards so we can get a good count. Our contact numbers are on the last page of this newsletter.

DUES INCREASE VOTED

At our last Stated Communication in August, the Brethren present voted to increase annual dues by \$10 in order to balance the budget. Increases in the Affiliation and Initiation Fees were also approved. For the past two years, the Lodge has run a deficit of about \$1200 per annum, even after cutting costs and initiating the Shrine fundraiser for the Lodge.

SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION-OCTOBER 4th, 2008

Here is another opportunity for our new Master Mason's to learn about our Degree Work. Each year, the Grand Lodge requires each Masonic District to hold two School's of Instruction. Our Masonic District consists of Manteo, Cape Hatteras, and Ocracoke Lodges.

The School is taught by District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Wayne Cox, PM. He is the Mason who gave most of you your 1st and 3rd Degree lectures.

During the School each of our three District lodges takes on one of the degrees from start to finish. We open the Lodge, confer the degree, and close the Lodge. The OSW, the "Code" book we aren't allowed to use in open lodge is used in the School, and by attending, you will not only begin to learn the words of each degree, you will be introduced to the "floor work", be taught how to "read" the OSW, and WB Cox will also provide a lot of history and background on each degree—the "why do we do this?" questions will be answered in full.

We also learn other aspects of Lodge work, such as how to receive the Grand Master or District Deputy Grand Master, funeral work, and other ceremonies.

Best of all, it is a great opportunity to meet our brothers from Cape Hatteras and Ocracoke. We are very fortunate to have these other two lodges in our District; we have a great history of working and helping each other. Many of us have formed long term friendships. We now hope to pass this on to the next generation of Mason's.

The School lasts about 4 hours, dress is casual (jeans and shorts OK), and the sessions are pretty informal relative to asking and learning about the work. Plan to attend!

THE OSW & BAHNSON MANUAL

We've raised seven new Manteo Mason's this year, and a like number last year. Many of you are wondering about these two books.

All of our Master Mason's receive the "Bahnsen Manual" on the night they are raised. This book, coupled with the "OSW" or Official Standard Work, comprise the ritual work we perform in Lodge, including all degrees and other ceremonies.

For each of the three degree's, part of the ritual work is in the OSW, and part of it is printed in the Bahnsen. The "OSW" portion is considered "secret", hence the OSW is in a cipher, or code. You first saw this book when you were coached in your catechisms. The Bahnsen work is *not* secret, and you can share this book with your spouse or other interested parties. In the Bahnsen you will find all of the prayers we use in Lodge, and significant parts of each degree lecture. By reading this book, you will begin to learn about the symbolism of Masonry and the degrees. The Bahnsen can be open during a tiled Lodge meeting. Work that appears in the Bahnsen is often referred to as "monitorial" work in Masonic parlance.

The OSW work includes all of the opening and closing work on each degree, except for the prayers, which are in the Bahnsen. It also includes all of actual conferred work of the degree, including the obligations you took at the altar. The parts of the degree lectures that refer to the actual conferring of the degree are also in the OSW, since that portion of the lecture refers to "secret work:|". We are not allowed to have the OSW open in a tiled lodge.

Any Master Mason can purchase an OSW for \$25 from the Lodge Secretary. Any Lodge member will be happy to teach you how to read the OSW. You

can also learn about the OSW in our School of Instruction's, where the OSW can be open.

THIRD DEGREE PRACTICE AT SEPTEMBER 22 STATED!

This is a special call to ALL new members, and all of those members (especially the Shrine crew!) who help out with the second section of the 3rd degree work.

I would like to dispense with labor (so we can open the OSW) at the Sept 22 meeting and take about 15-20 minutes to practice the "craftsman" part of the 3rd degree. This is a major part of the work that we have not quite "got down" and I think if we spent a short amount of time in Lodge on this section, we can get it right going forward. All new Master Mason's should also try to make this meeting.

MORE LIGHT DONATIONS

A special thanks to Bros. Pete East and Richard Pro for their generous donations to the More Light fund. The newsletter is not paid for by our dues, and its distribution is 100% reliant upon member contributions. Our Secretary will always be glad to accept ANY donation to this fund, as well as for our Building Fund and Scholarship fund. We very much appreciate the generosity of our members.

And Special Thanks to TL's, Darrell's, Basnight's Lone Cedar, Austin Fish House, Willie Etheridge Seafood, and OL Mann for contributions to our Fish Fry. Please tell them thanks if you have the opportunity.

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