
THE TRESTLE-BOARD

VOL 09 - NO 4

BOYLESTON LODGE #123 A.F.M.

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BRETHREN, BEHOLD YOUR NEW DDGM!

R.W.B. CHARLIE. R. 'BILL' BOUKNIGHT NOW LEADING 10TH MASONIC DISTRICT

Brethren, it is with great pleasure to present to you our new District Deputy Grand Master for the 10th Masonic District: Bro. Bill Bouknight! Of course, he is officially Right Worshipful Bro. Bill. In any case, the Grand Master has begun his tenure by making a wise decision on who could do a fine job of leading our district. And Bro. Bill has already started travelling throughout the state. A good crowd of ten Boyleston Lodge #123 members attended Earlewood Lodge on his first trip out as D.D.G.M., a move which hopefully encouraged our new Grand Master who was also in attendance. Be ready to travel with Bro. Bill, brothers, as he has a good bit of work ahead of him. He will do a great job at it, too. Congratulations, Bill, we are behind you!

GRAND MASTER TO VISIT BOYLESTON LODGE

Along those lines, congratulations are also in order for the election of our new Grand Master of Masons in South Carolina, Barry A. Rickman. Most Worshipful Brother Rickman has done a fine job in his Grand Lodge officer roles over the past few years, and he now takes the gavel to lead our state into the next decade. A member of Cayce Lodge, M.W.B. Rickman will also continue hitting the road as Grand Master – and he will soon be visiting with us in Ballentine. That's right; M.W.B. Barry will be here for our July business meeting, to be held on 2 July 2009. Make sure to mark it on your calendars and plan to be here to give him a

hearty Boyleston Lodge #123 welcome. Be sure to include both of these brothers in your prayers as they have an awesome responsibility and will be on the road a whole lot in the foreseeable future.

SUMMARY NOTES FROM APRIL'S BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday, May 7th, 2009 was a downright special night as Bro. Bill was in lodge on an official visit as your D.D.G.M. In attendance with him were Boyleston members and former Grand Lodge Junior Grand Deacon Bobby Lockaby, and Past Grand Master/Grand Secretary G. Ray Marsh. Oh, and 41 other brothers, too (including one visitor). The ladies from the local Order of the Eastern Star chapter once again fed the brothers and it was delicious as expected. Thanks, ladies!

In lodge, a number of 'Thank You' notes were read. Included were thanks sent from Mount Moriah Lodge #196 in Yemassee for the altar and jewels we donated, and notes of appreciation from some more of our widows for the lovely fruit baskets we delivered around Christmastime. Along the lines of correspondence, we received a plea from Mariner Lodge #2 about a brother who is 29 years young and has two youngsters aged 3 and 4 but who himself has been diagnosed with a brain tumor. Bro. Antony Poosinger has up front medical costs associated with this condition and needs money for treatment procedures. To show the true spirit of masonry, the lodge voted to send a gift of \$450 to help defray those costs. Great work, brethren! Please keep the brother and his family in your prayers, and he will be on the prayer list further down this and future newsletters.

Even though we just had a bar-b-que not long ago, Bro. Ken Burgess sends his thanks as Junior Warden for all the help who came out last month to cut wood and

MASTER	SENIOR WARDEN	JUNIOR WARDEN	TREASURER	SECRETARY	LODGE PHONE
Ken Peterson 749.3052	John Meetze 513.2102	Ken Burgess 917.7276	Todd Bedenbaugh 345.0623	John Daraban 732-4227	NUMBER 732.3408
SENIOR DEACON	JUNIOR DEACON	STEWARD	STEWARD	TILER	CHAPLAIN
Wil Hutchins 781-2456	Steve Spreeuwers 730.9545	Hal Boland 518-1796	Jamie Faircloth 600-0429	Jim Dry 781-9569	Ronnie Faircloth 345.2297

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load the pits for the next fundraising cookout. As always, we had a crowd and it was knocked out in no time. The Christgate mission was mentioned once again as they thanked us for the recent donation. Based on further needs, the lodge voted to give more money out of the Needy Fund and so another donation is on its way. Once again, great job in recognizing your priorities as masons, brothers.

Congratulations to Bro. Johnny C. O'Neal on receiving his 40-year pin and certificate – a great accomplishment, brother! And there were plenty of Grand Lodge officers on hand to present it. ☺ Bro. David Easley reported that a leak had been found in the plumbing above the kitchen at the former Richland #39 building on Kennerly Road the last time he went there to air out the building and turn on the water to flush commodes and pipes. The lodge voted to approve the repairs as needed (and since the meeting Bro. Ronnie, Bro. Carl David, and Bro. Albert have already taken care of the leak).

Speaking of leaks, the committee reported that the roof on the Cooking Shed outside the lodge was in need of repairs. The lodge approved the repair work. Bro. Hal Curtis then motioned that while fixing the roof the committee should look into taking care of painting the cooler and repairing its roof and floor as well. This, too, was approved. Continuing on the subject of our lodge and repairs/construction, there was a good bit of discussion surrounding the shape of our dining hall. Some suggested it be painted, others suggested possibly paneling the walls so as to not have to paint, and it was brought up that a firm price for the differing options might be the best bet prior to making the decision. The discussion was tabled until the next business meeting.

Continuing with the theme of Boyleston Lodge building needs, W.B. Carl Sellers gave a report on quotes received for a service lift or chair lift to help get brothers in need of assistance upstairs to the lodge hall. He has two quotes for the service lift already, but has a few questions for the vendor before being able to report back to the committee. He will have something for the next business meeting. Brothers then took turns discussing whether or not it was prudent to stay in the building, or to build a new meeting hall somewhere else. Bro. Carl also reported that there had only been a couple more calls regarding the sale of the former Richland building. W.B. Gene Hutto chimed in and

asked the master to consider forming a committee to research and come up with a vision for Lodge #123 and to look into the costs associated with going the various ways we could be heading. W.B. Ken Petersen tabled the discussion for this meeting but it will be brought up again next month.

By the way, the Worshipful Master requested that all who can attend lodge on Wednesday, May 27th to please do so at 7:00 as there will be an open lodge proficiency that night prior to the practice session. If you can be there, that would be great. Finally, congratulations to Carlos Gibbons via his daughter Leeza who has written another book. The book is entitled “Take Your Oxygen First”, and it chronicles the family’s struggles with Jean’s Alzheimer’s battle. It gives insight into caregiving as well. Take a look at Leeza’s website at: <http://www.leezagibbons.com> for more information and a few looks into Bro. Carlos’ family life. You won’t be disappointed.

HEALTH AND HAPPINESS



Prayers are requested for the following: Bro. Dutch VanBeek; W.B. Bobby Lockaby; W.B. and Mrs. Buster Platt – Buster just got out of the hospital and still has gall bladder issues; Judy Dry, wife of Bro. Jim Dry – Judy’s continuing cancer treatments appear to be helping -- Thanks to the Grand Geometrician for His hand in this! Continued prayers for: Bro. Hollis Petersen; W.B. Gene Swygert; W.B. Lindsey Koon and his wife; W.B. Gene Hutto and wife Amelia, who continue to improve; Bro. Bob Martin; Bro. Richard “Smitty” Koontz and his wife. And remember to add to your list Bro. Antony Poosinger from Mariner Lodge #2 who is battling a brain tumor.

Please continue to keep in your prayers: Mrs. Eula Lowman; W.B. Pappy Wren – Pappy was recently in the hospital in Johnson City TN, so if you think about it give a call or send him a note; Bro Bryce Wren; Bro. Bob Martin; Bro. Pookie Turner’s father; W.B. Rufus Shealy; Bro. Bryce Wren’s son Jimmy; W.B Ken West from Dentsville Lodge; Bro. Dwight Derrick; Bro. Piney Bickley’s mother-in-law Dorothea Harrellson; W.B. Sellers’ wife Becky; Bro. Ron Kuhn; Robbie Robinson; Bro Lewis East; Bro. Billy Sox – now on a soft diet and undergoing dialysis; Please add Bro. Hayward Shuler and his wife Gloria – Heyward has shoulder injuries and Gloria injured her ‘good’ leg the other week and already has issues in her other leg and both are undergoing physical therapy.

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Prayers are requested for W. B. David Easley's step-father Ray Williams who is in the hospital due to complications from his cancer; His other step-father, Bart Mellon, continues to improve but is on dialysis and hopes to be weaned off of it in the near future; Bro. Wil Hutchins' cousin Julie Rout and her surviving infant child; Bro. Wil's aunt Linda Olsten; Bro. Gene Sweat; Bro. Bobby Pittman; Bro. Jim Hamel from Fort Jackson Lodge; Don Browning, in the hospital in Charleston battling Hepatitis C; Bro. Albert Stoudemeyer's mother; Thanks be to the Lord for keeping Bro. Ronnie Faircloth well through his recent brush with melanoma as the doctors feel like they got it all! Great news, Bro. Ronnie.

MASONIC EDUCATION

In a bit of a departure from the past few months, I wanted to pass along some of our Grand Master's suggestions towards proper etiquette while at a meeting. Many of these are requirements for his appointees or elected Grand Lodge officers. But they are all **VERY STRONG SUGGESTIONS** which relate to us all, and yet especially to our own officers or those sitting in chairs on a pro-tem basis. Please do your best to adhere to them, brothers – this comes from the Grand Master's workshop:

Bro. Grand Master starts by addressing his party as to their dress, but then he states: **“As to the membership, I would rather not see t-shirts, shorts, or sandals being worn in our lodges.** Many of our brethren have become too casual, while some have become sloppy in their dress.” In other words, collared or knit shirts, officers doing work in coat and ties preferred, but business casual is the appropriate approach to take. If you wear t-shirts and/or shorts, you may be asked to go home and change.

“Members of the lodge must pay due respect to the officers of their lodge during meetings and at any other time. Lodge members and officers must follow the rules of order during meetings as prescribed in Section 82 of the Code of the Grand Lodge. Said section reads: ‘Due respect and obedience shall be paid by the members of the lodge to its various officers, according to their respective rank and station.’ This mostly speaks for itself, but saluting by using the due guard and penal sign appropriately also stands out to me.

“When lectures are being given, the lodge is at labor and appropriate tiled lodge behavior must prevail. The officers should be in their stations and the brethren who are not leaving to return home should remain in the lodge room.” Again, this speaks for itself.

“Cell phones are to be turned off or on-duty EMS/law enforcement brethren's phones placed on vibrate before the lodge is opened. No one should take a call or carry on any phone conversations or be texted during lodge hours within the lodge room.” Again, pretty clear. I would hope that the Grand Master would also allow other people who are on-call to act in a similar manner, and believe that common sense likely prevails here.

“Firearms or other weapons are never to be allowed in a Lodge. The Worshipful Master should assure that no weapon is ever taken into the lodge room. Law enforcement officers, if they arrive with a weapon, should secure it in their vehicle before coming in to the meeting.” Once again, crystal clear.

More Masonic education next issue!

Well, brothers, that's it for another issue! Thanks for the kind words we've received over the past few months regarding the newsletter. It really is a lot of work, and we try to get it right the first time. As with everything in life, though, whatever we do should glorify God and should reflect our very best effort. But I just wanted to make sure that you know that the kind words are appreciated. See you in lodge, soon!

SETTING THE WORK

E.A. DegreeMay 14th, 7:30 p.m.
(practice on 13th at 7) supper at 6:45 p.m.

F.C. DegreeWed. May 20th, 7:30 p.m.
(practice on 19th at 7) supper at 6:45 p.m.

M.M. DegreeMay 28th, 7:30 p.m.
(practice on 27th at 7) supper at 6:45 p.m.

Note: Lodge is set to open on the 27th at 7:00 p.m. as well for an open lodge proficiency.

There's a good chance for three degrees to take place during the month of June. Dates will be posted once the Master sets work at the business meeting on Thursday, June 4th.

OTHER UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

June Business Mtg.....June 4th, 7:30 p.m.
supper at 6:45 p.m.

July Business Mtg.....July 2nd, 7:30 p.m.
supper at 6:45 p.m.

Note: Grand Master to be in attendance, so make plans to be a part of this visit!

A big "Thank You" to all of the folks who help sponsor the mailing of this newsletter!

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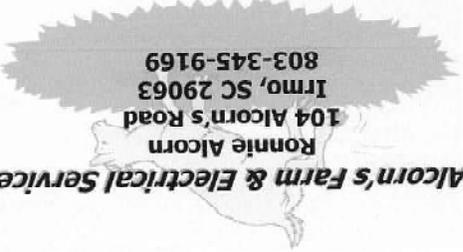
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