



TRESTLE BOARD

Boyleston Masonic Lodge #123 A.F. M.
PO Box 502
Ballentine, SC 29002
February 2016

Greetings Brothers,

Here it is the 2nd month of 2016 and we've hit the ground running. We started our Stated Meeting with another great meal of spaghetti and meat balls/meat sauce, salad, garlic bread, and ice cream and cookies for dessert. It was delicious and again thank you to all the "kitchen brothers" who come early to prepare our meals for all our meetings.

We received a Petition for Membership to begin and assigned an investigation committee. Then we voted on (1) for the EA degree, (1) for FC degree, and (2) for MM degree and all were elected.

WB Carl Sellers, chairman of the Audit Committee, reported on the committee's findings on the mandated annual lodge audit. The committee's findings were that everything was in order. Brothers, for what ever reason, there are a lot of lodges in dire straits both financially and with membership. It is caused in part by the aging of the members who receive life membership and no longer paying dues. These dues are the life blood of the lodges. They are where the lodges get funds to operate the lodge and pay the month to month bills. If lodges don't bring in dues paying members they have a harder and harder burden to stay solvent. The Grand Lodge wants lodges to stay solvent and does not want lodges to rely on fundraisers to reach that goal. There are some lodges even in our 10th Masonic District that have annual dues of \$125.00 per year. That's why it is imperative to continue to bring in good qualified new brothers.

Because of this concern, the financial committee of the lodge are looking to maximize our assets and get the best return. For the sake of transparency these are some of the things discussed at the Stated (Business) Meeting and appropriately not put in the Trestleboard. If you have an interest in this subject it is a good reason to come to the Stated Meeting the first Thursday of every month.

JW Tom Reed wanted everyone to remember the first Chicken BBQ of the year will be held on Saturday March 5th and he has tickets available. Of course as in every bbq we will need help starting on Friday morning and throughout the day doing various jobs and continue all night with the cooking and starting early Saturday making the dinners and helping people as they come to pick them up. Let's not forget the cleanup crew also. The more that participate, the easier it is on everyone. Also it's always a little scary at every bbq whether we are going to sell enough dinners so please pitch in and make an effort to get your tickets and make this bbq a success. You can reach Bro. Tom at 803-315-8269

Brother Tom also reminded everyone that we needed to fill the pits with wood on Sat. Feb. 6th. I'm proud to say we had an excellent turnout for that work party and the task is done. The "kitchen crew" provided an excellent breakfast and after everyone rolled up their sleeves and did an admirable job which took only about an hour and 45 minutes. What an enjoyable time working alongside and having fellowship with some of the brothers of Boyleston Lodge.

I want to give a big THANK YOU to Brother Robin Olds for paying for and maintaining our website using his own funds and time.

I also want to inform you that if you want to further your Masonic Education by joining the Scottish Rite, they are having a special One Day class on April 2nd at the Scottish Rite Temple on Garners Ferry Road. If interested contact our secretary RW Bill Bouknight @ 803-556-5670.

Work for the month

Thurs. Feb. 11th Entered Apprentice Degree dine at 6:30pm meeting 7:30pm
Wed Feb. 10th practice at the lodge 6:30pm
Thurs. Feb. 25th Master Mason Degree dine at 6:30pm meeting 7:30pm
Wed Feb. 24th practice at the lodge 6:30pm

Trivia Question

In 1949 what was introduced that had a 1 1/2" hole in it's center
answer: the 45 rpm record

This month's question

Marion Morrison was a very famous Mason. By what name is he better known as?

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