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Notes For The East

From March 14th to April 11th was a very busy month. We started traveling on March 16th to Seaside #419 for an excellent MM degree. In attendance were; Bros Matt Davis, Chris Kensel, George Wertheimer, Steve St Clair and your District Deputy Chris Holland. An inspiring and unusual proficiency dissertation in which their coach, W.Bro Matt Fry 319 Marshall, trained them to recite by asking each other the questions and alternating on giving the answers. They did not miss a beat. We took their flag; the newly raised MM vowed they were coming to our lodge to get their flag back at our EA degree on March 24th. THEY DID IT. On March 24th, we conducted an EA degree with 47 brothers and 3 candidates. We all enjoyed fried chicken, mac and cheese, masonic beans, salad, bread and chocolate cake for dinner. Seaside #419 arrived with 2 EAs, the 2 new MMs, Worshipful Brother Ivan Sweatt, and another brother to get their flag back. Socastee, not to be outdone, came with 11 members, headed by W.Bro David Harrell, Master and President to Masters & Wardens club to get our flag and the traveling gavel. Jr Warden Gordon Best, sitting in the East and our officers showed how an EA Degree is supposed to be done. W.Bro Rick Causey did his usual good instructional during the second part and we were not disappointed. Then we had a treat for presentation of the lecture. The first half was given by Bro "Buddy" Best, son of Gordon Best, a proud father and well he should be. As for Buddy's first time, he did an outstanding job. CL Bro Steve St Claire followed with the second half and Bro Don Kelley gave the charge. All three were exceptional. Moose slept through all the presentations and missed out on everything after enjoying a hardy meal. RWBro David Peterson bid farewell until next fall. He is a faithful brother and is always at our meetings. Going back to the March 21st with WMBro Tom Bennett, JW Bro Gordon, SW Bro Randy Black, Tiler BroGeorge Wertheimer, Bro Jody Blackburn and I got the M&W flag. Our Masonic education was given by W.Bro Ron Elvis about lodge voting, something we all do by going through the motions but many do not understand the significance and importance of the procedure. March 31st, Bro George Wertheimer, W.Bro Steve St Claire and I took 2 EAs, Bro Tim Costner and Bro John Danielson to Jordanville #297 to observe an

GRAND STRAND LODGE No. 392 A.F.M. TRESTLE BOARD

G April
2011

Gauge, Twenty-Four Inch

Symbol of time as wealth; note differences between this and the scythe, symbol of the shortness of human time. The twenty-four inch Gauge impresses us with the importance of allotment of time for various activities. "Eight hours for our usual vocations" is all inclusive, but the same need of dividing time between activities which the ritual rather baldly apportions among three only, is stressed here for the use of any part of time.

Time is the substance of life. Wisely used, carefully budgeted, it goes far and does much. Carelessly used, wasted, allowed to slip away, it becomes an expression of useless and wasted life. Ecclesiastes III:1-8, most interestingly describes some of the human usages of time.

EA degree. We also brought their flag back with us. It is worth the traveling time to enjoy one of the oldest lodges in the 29th district. On April 2nd, 385 Masons gathered at Patriots Point in Mt Pleasant, where we boarded a ferry for an assault on Ft Sumter for a historic Master Mason degree. Most Worshipful Barry Rickman welcomed everyone and thanked all for support as this was the last official event of his tenure. He then turned the hat and gavel over to Bro Ron Elvis who presided over the lodge for the degree work. All the officers were in Confederate gray uniforms and the Mason being raised was in a blue and white Union Navy uniform. The ceremony was very well done. The weather was clear, in the 60s with a strong breeze. It was very impressive. Bros David Rankin, George Wertheimer, Bill "Moose" Moore, his son Adam, Joe Battista and I met Bro Chris Kensel at Chilis for lunch. Bro Chris is in management training in N Charleston. We joined Bros Horace Campbell, Ty Bellamy and Jody Balckburn at the dock. We shall always remember this special event. On April 5th, Bro George Wertheimer, Bro Steve St Clair and I went down to Winyah #40 This is the oldest lodge in the 29th district and the history here is overwhelming. In the lobby is a framed apron and jewel worn by George Washington. April 7th, Bros David Rankin, Tommy Johnston, George Wertheimer, Steve St Clair and I traveled to Pawleys Island #409 and returned with their flag. The decor in this lodge is impressive. The meetings are always filled with lots of enthusiasm by the committees and their activities. You may be getting tired of the traveling.

Thoughts and Prayers

Dear Lord,

Please open your arms and give comfort to the families in the loss of their loved ones. Take those who have passed on and give them everlasting life. Put your hand upon the shoulders of those who need our prayers so they may be healed and/or will not suffer anymore. In the name of our Father, Your Son and the Holy Spirit. Especially dear Lord, hear our prayers for Bro EL Lovette, who passed on April 12, RW Bro Alan Beville and his family on the loss of his son on April 12. And for RW Bill Holmberg who is fighting cancer, and WBro Rex Thompson and his family in the loss of his sister. We ask that you look after RWBro Dale Baldwin and WBro Ron Elvis and heal them. Thank You.

Dates to Remember

Thursday April 28-29 Grand Lodge Annual Communication
Monday April 18 M&W Myrtle Beach #353 Supper 7:30, Work 8:00
Tuesday April 19 FC Degree, Practice 6:00
Thursday April 21 FC Degree, Supper 6:45, Work 7:30
Monday May 9 Stated Communication Supper 6:45, Work 7:30
Monday May 9 Blood Pressure screening 6:00

I wish more would come with us. It is rewarding to get out and meet with other Masons and learn of their activities that are being accomplishments. Do you find yourself living in a cocoon, not knowing your brothers in other Lodges or what they are doing? Contact me at any time. I would like to have more light and you should too. Our own Lodge meeting on April 11th, we had 26 members and 2 guests. I imagine the rest of our members were out shagging. Remember, we meet the 2nd Monday of each month. Randy Black brought from the college, country fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, and steamed vegetables. We planned on having Mercy Hospice to our May meeting to present them with our yearly donation. They are a non profit organization. Their liaison officer Dennis Wolterding will be there to accept. They will also have a nurse there at 6PM to take our blood pressure. Come on out. We will have a FC Degree on April 21st. WM Tom Bennett said we are looking into having a float in the Christmas Parade. We discussed a phone calling service, but need more info and will bring it up at our next Communication. Grand Lodge meets April 28 & 29 in Greenville. WM Tom Bennett, SW Randy Black, JW Gordon and I will be attending.

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