

Leesburg Masonic Lodge No. 58

Free & Accepted Masons of Florida

Chartered January 15, 1868

Vol. IV Issue XII

<http://www.mastermason.com/Lodge58/>

DECEMBER 2010

Trestle Board



Leesburg Masonic Lodge

200 Richey Road, Leesburg, Florida 34748

352-787-5696

Stated Communications 1st & 3rd Tuesday of Each Month at 7:30pm

Officers for 2010

Worshipful Master	W.: Donald McIntyre, Sr. (Nina).. 728-6954
Senior Warden	Randall Jesmok (Joye) 407-350-8284
Junior Warden	Larry Duff (Brenda) 728-5270
Treasurer	R.: W.: Ken Graves (Jean) 787-9538
Secretary	Dean Sever (Linda) 787-6667
	Lodge 787-5696
Senior Deacon	Richard Cartier (Frances) 315-1886
Junior Deacon	Jim Angelos 728-6188
Senior Steward	Saul Goodkin (Joanne) 787-7403
Junior Steward	Don Bierly (Elaine) 454-0164
Tyler	Andy Sheffield 365-6698
Chaplain	David Rosenthal (Debbie)..... 702-3878
Marshal	W.: Frank Peregrin (Pat) 728-0774
Organist	W.: Ronald J. Cottman (Cele) 365-1944
Lodge Instructor	R.: H.: Dennis Ricker (Ginny) 314-0828
Lodge Historian	R.: W.: Joseph T. Price 787-0652
Trestle Board	Larry Duff (Brenda) 874-2164
Trestle Board Printing	Leesburg Printing (Mike Mason) ... 787-3348



Living Past Masters

Charles Porter	1959
Theodore E. Weihe	1963
G. Kiser Hardaway	1964
Jack Holloway	1968
R.:W.:Ray Richardson	1969*
R.:W.:Joseph H. Sellers	1970*
William "Ed" Davison	1974
Robert H. Smith	1977
R.:W.:Colin Crews	1980^*
H. C. Connell	1985
R.:W.:Theodore Jansen	1986*
R.:W.:Joseph T. Price	1987*
Michael Dozier	1988
John H. Meier V	1989
Jay A. Frizzell, Jr.	1992
Raleigh Sorenson	1993/1994
Don Barfield	1996
Tom Russell	1997/1998/2002
Mervyn Harris	1999
R.:W.:Kenneth Graves	2000*
Robert H. Browning	2003/2004
R.:H.:Dennis Ricker	2005/2007^
Roland P. Gibson	2006
Bill Green	2008
Richard Ecott	2009

Affiliated Past Masters

Carl Anzelmo
Henry DeBerry
Ronald J. Cottman
Jack Delauter
Robert C. Gleckler
Robert Kennedy
Garry Lee
Clifford Moore
Norman L. Payne
Frank Peregrin
Glenn A. Reynolds*
Edwin Robbins
Robert L. Welch
Forest Case*
Barry Rosenthal
Wayne Parks
Fred Lint
Raymond D Trudeau
Paul Shires
M.:W.:Joseph Brearley
Dennis Managan
James McBride
^ Past District Instructor
* Past DDGM

18th Masonic District

DDGM	R.:W.: Dennis Ricker 314-0828
District Instructor	R.:W.: Glenn Reynolds..... 669-5226

Committees for 2010 and Members

Board of Relief

Chairman W.: Don McIntyre, Sr., Randy Jesmok, Larry Duff

Property

Chairman SW Randy Jesmok, W.: Tom Russell, Larry Duff,
W.: Ed Davison

Finance

Chairman SW Randy Jesmok, Sr, JW Larry Duff,
R.:W.: Ken Graves, W.: Tom Russell, W.: Ed Davison,
W.: Richard Ecott

Vigilance

Chairman JW Larry Duff, Randy Jesmok, Sr., W.: Don McIntyre, Sr.

Funeral

Chairman R.:W.: Ken Graves, W.: Bill Green, Officers & Members

Petitions

Chairman SW Randy Jesmok, W.: Richard Ecott,
W.: Bob Browning, Dick Cartier, Jim Angelos

Charity

Chairman R.:W.: Joe Price, Dean Sever,
Saul Goodkin, Fred Neilson, David Rosenthal

Catechism

Chairman Randy Jesmok, W.: Bob Browning W.: Roland Gibson,
John Dean

Greeters

All Officers

Scholarship

Chairman Larry Duff, R.:W.: Joe Price, Fred Neilson,
Spencer Glover

Investments

Chairman R.:W.: Ken Graves, W.:Tom Russell,
R.:W.: Theodore Jansen, Joe Dykes

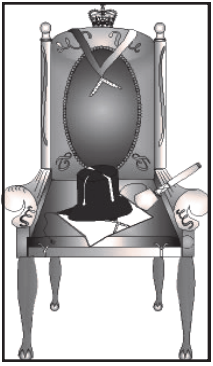
Masonic Education

Chairman W.: Ed Davidson, JW Larry Duff, Richard Tanner

Activities & Awards

Chairman W.: Richard Ecott, Dick Frazier, Cliff Frazier

Officers and Committee Chairmen will meet at 6:30 pm before the first stated meeting of each month for business and planning.



LIGHT FROM THE EAST

W.: Donald McIntyre, Sr.

This is the last issue for 2010 and as such the last issue for me as Master of Leesburg Lodge No. 58. On December 7th we will hold our election of officers for 2011. The change in Lodge leadership is an important event for the direction of our Lodge not only in 2011 but for future years. Lets make this day, along with January 8th the installation date of new officers, days which we come to Lodge and show our support for those who wish to continue our Lodges growth and viability.

I would like to Thank the officers and those in the membership who have volunteered their time and monies in support of our Lodge during 2010. We have accomplished a lot, some visible and some not.

Your 2011 Officers have some big tasks ahead of them. They will need your support and participation, to the level that your are capable, to continue our growth and accomplish the goals and objectives they set forth and those set forth by the Grand Lodge of Florida. I trust that you will be there for them as I will.

I look forward to our continued friendship in

the years ahead and hope to see each of your at Lodge meetings and with your families and friends at open Lodge functions.

Nina and I wish to all health, happiness and a fulfilling 2011 and for many more years ahead.

GREAT NEWS - One area of concern every year is the loss of membership by non-payment of dues. I am very happy to report to you that for 2010 we will not lose any Brother for non-payment of dues. We have maintained 100% membership while adding a number of new Brethren to our Lodge and Fraternity.

I am sadden to report that our Brothers Richard Eugene Brown Jr. and Brother William A. Lawson passed away recently.

We welcome Brothers Theodore Miller and William Matthews to our Lodge by Affiliation of Transfers for membership.

PETITIONS - None received this month.

CHARTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS - None this month due to the low amount of funds in the account. We do have one Scholarship request pending, while we attempt to replenish this fund.



From the Chaplain

Brother David Rosenthal

Sickness & Distress:

Brother Saul Goodkin (Senior Steward) is at home with back problems, Brother Saul mobility is limited and getting medical evaluations for treatments.

Brother Frank Toth was in LRMC and had a heart cath.

Lady Carolyn Browning, wife of W.: Bob Browning was in LRMC and recovering from hip surgery.

Your cards and visitation is appreciated by all. We which all who are ill a speedy recovery and hope to see you soon.

If you know of anyone that is ill or in distress, please, call a lodge officer. Keep all our brothers in your

prayers, extend a comforting hand, call or visit someone in need of friendship today.

HAPPY DAYS — We extend to all who have birthdays and anniversary's this month our best wishes for a happy, safe and healthy celebration of your day.

From the Great Light - "So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be strong in character and ready for anything." James 1:4 NLT

Words to Live By: "One night a father overheard his son pray: 'Dear God, Make me the kind of man my Daddy is.' Later that night, the Father prayed, 'Dear God, Make me the kind of man my Son wants me to be.'" Anonymous

It's Masons who make Freemasonry relevant in their community!

Hawthorne Masonic High Twelve Club #547

For those of you unable to attend the November 26th meeting at Golden Coral, their new meeting location, a very nice and heart moving presentation was made for our veterans yearly celebration - Led by Lee Frazier - Sam Getter - Terry Shook, Ted Martin and Ed Walsh.



Leesburg Masonic High Twelve Club #424

Leesburg Hi-12 met at Taste Tempters Restaurant, President Richard Cartier brought the meeting to order and guest speaker Kelly Piscioha of Habitat for Humanity of Lake-Sumter FL, Inc gave a presentation on the great works and achievements of Habitat for Humanity benefiting those in need in our county.



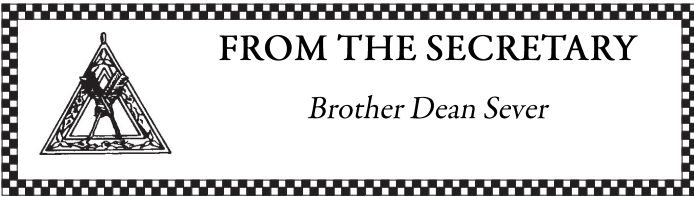
Habitat for Humanity of Lake-Sumter Florida is a nonprofit, tax exempt, ecumenical, Christian ministry dedicated to building simple, affordable housing for people living in substandard and overcrowded conditions beyond their control.

Many factors are taken into account in qualifying a family for a new house. In essence, the criteria are: Need, Ability to repay a no-profit, no-interest mortgage, Willingness to become personally involved in the volunteer process, to name a few.

You can help by volunteering with construction (all phases), in their thrift stores (cashiers, sorters and floor workers), working in the office, becoming a committee member or donating unused and unneeded items to the thrift store or monetary donations.



Since 100% of the homeowner's mortgage payment are used to build Habitat homes, your donation will make a difference in family after family after family. A Habitat house is an investment in the future of our community. More info call Habitat at (352) 483-0434.



FROM THE SECRETARY

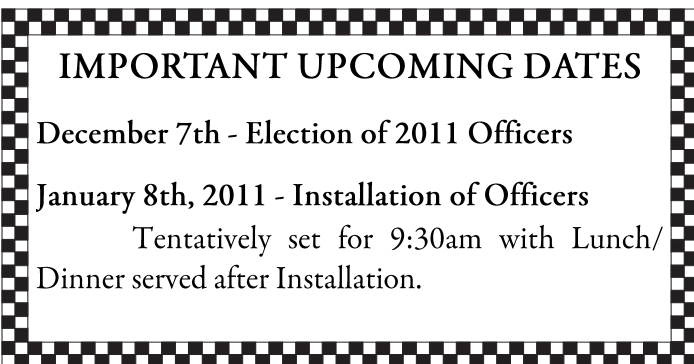
Brother Dean Sever

The 2011 Dues notices were mailed out in November. The good news is dues for 2011 will remain the same at \$60.00 or a gentle way to look at it is \$5.00 per month, a bargain compared to most of the other Lodges, Appendent and Concordant bodies.

The Officers are looking at the future Budget with projected increased costs of utilities, maintenance, and general operation of our facility for 2011 and into 2012. Now or in 2011 would be a good time to consider the perpetual membership option of 20X's the current dues of \$60.00 or \$1200 and never worry again about paying dues and help your Lodge forever. Payment Plans and Credit Card options are available. Brochures and petitions are available in the Secretary's office.

Besides the annual dues, there is also a *voluntary* \$7.30 that goes to our Masonic Home, Our Lodge has made a commitment of 100% membership participation to support and assist those who reside at this top notch facility that we all could have a unforeseeable need for ourselves/spouse or a Brother in distress in the future. Please consider making the \$7.30 contribution, not all do and as such monies from operating costs make up the difference needed. The Officers and I encourage each of you to consider paying this small optional fee (\$7.30) to lighten the bill at the end of the year your Lodge pays out for this worthwhile obligation you took.

We also encourage all, when you can, to attend one of our Tuesday Morning Coffee Klatch & Breakfast or one of our monthly Second Sunday Dinners. The Breakfast and Dinners are aside from dues the largest fund raising events we have to keep the dues low. You can't beat the price, the food, or the fellowship.



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

December 7th - Election of 2011 Officers

January 8th, 2011 - Installation of Officers

Tentatively set for 9:30am with Lunch/
Dinner served after Installation.

Masonic Friendships

It is generally agreed that one of the finest fruits of Masonry is friendship. If we review our days and years in the field of Masonry, we instantly mark our experiences by various friendships formed over the years.

Acquaintances are easily made, and many, aside from our Masonic associations, grow into abiding friendships. However, there is a definite reason for the solid foundation upon which Masonic bonds are made and increased. Men who have in common the gifts of Masonic teachings, who share alike in such a glorious adventure, who take sacred obligations at the same Altar, lay the groundwork for enduring friendships and of such fiber that they have a spiritual strength beyond the power of description.

Masonry is ever the advocate of the principle of freedom of thought and speech, and the fact that men may differ in their private opinions tends to give dignity to man, and strength to Masonic friendships.

Men who keep before them the ideals of a universal religion, men not bound by the chains of edicts and dogma, but governed only by the dictates of conscience, men who are true to their government and just to their country, men who are ever conscious of their threefold duty to God, to neighbor and to self, men who do not practice deception—such men are the rightful claimants to rich and wonderful friendships.



Triangle Commandery

No. 38

Knights Templar

EUSTIS YORK RITE

CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE

December 10th, 2010

Christmas Observance beginning at 7:30 pm.

All Masons, Families and Friends are invited.

York Rite Knights Templar are requested to be in uniform or dark suit. All others are requested to be in suit and tie.

Christmas Observance beginning held at;
Leesburg Lodge, 200 Richey Road, Leesburg,
Florida

BIRD BRAIN

Having been a Deputy Sheriff and a Detective & Detective Supervisor for over 30 years, I like this story.

Bill owns a company that manufactures and installs car wash systems. Bill's company installed a car wash system in Frederick, Md.

Now, understand that these are complete systems, including the money changer and money taking machines.

The problem started when the new owner complained to Bill that he was losing significant amounts of money from his coin machines each week. He went as far as to accuse Bill's employees of having a key to the boxes and ripping him off.. Bill just couldn't believe that his people would do that, so they setup a camera to catch the thief in action. Well, they did catch him on film!

Look at the picture on the right, that's a bird sitting in the change slot of the machine.



The bird goes down into the machine and back up inside the machine. To exit he reverses his path and comes out. Look at the picture on the next page.



High Twelve is an organization of Master Masons who support Masonic causes with special emphasis on youth support and patriotic events. High Twelve is an association dedicated to the unification of Master Masons, independent of the formal ritual of Lodge, but dedicated to service to the fraternity.



HIGH TWELVE CLUBS Meeting Times & Locations

Hawthorne Masonic High Twelve No. 547 - Meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at Golden Coral 1720 Citrus Blvd. (Hwy 27/441) – Leesburg, FL. Tel: 352-728-3911.

Leesburg Masonic High Twelve No. 424 - Meets at 9:00 a.m. on the 4th Thursday of each month at the Taste Tempters Restaurant on West Main Street in Leesburg.

Mid-Florida Masonic Lakes High Twelve No. 522 - Meets at 11:30 a.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month at Mid-Florida Lakes Clubhouse, east of Leesburg on CR-44.

Tavares Masonic High Twelve No. 557 - Meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Golden Coral Restaurant on 441 in Eustis.

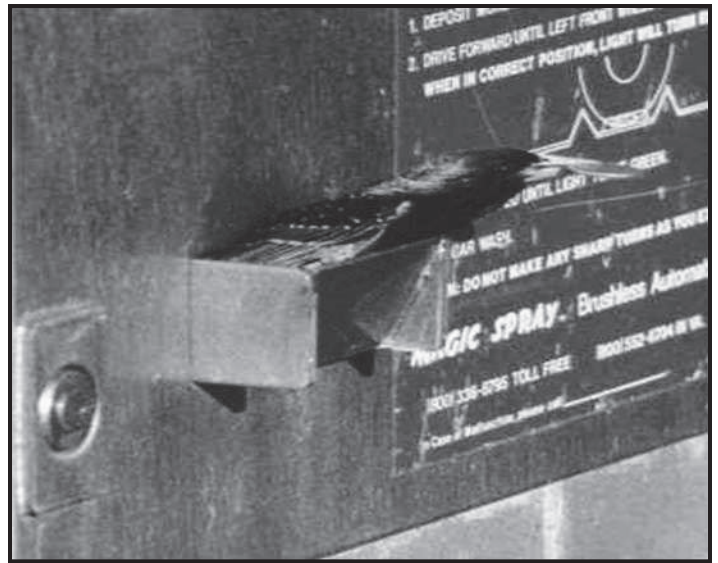
Tri-County Masonic High Twelve meets 10:30 a.m. 1st Wednesday of each month at La Hacienda Recreation Center, The Villages. Reservations for lunch due by the Thursday before the meeting, call Rita at 750-5561.



MASONIC CLUBS

Plantation Masonic Club - Meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Plantation Oaks Restaurant.





That's right, he's got three quarters in his beak. Amazingly the pictures found that it was not just this bird but several working together.

Once the "thieves" were identified they found \$4,000 on the roof of the car wash and more under a nearby tree.

And there, you thought you had heard of everything, crime solved.

And to think being a "Bird Brain" is associated with not being to smart.

Not these birds.



SUNDAY DINNER — DECEMBER 12th, 2010

11:30 a.m. TO 1:15 p.m.

Menu items:

BAKED HAM or TURKEY BREAST

*Sweet Potato Casserole, Baked Seasoned Potatoes, Vegetable Medley, Raisin Sauce, Garden Salad, Dinner Rolls
Homemade Deserts (Sugar Free / No Sugar Added) and Drinks*

Suggested donation \$8.00 per person, Children under 14 years of age \$4.00

PLEASE call the Lodge, or sign the guest list in the foyer, provide the number of guests attending with you, this ensures enough food is prepared for all. **ALL MASONS**, their families, friends and guests are invited to our Second Sunday Dinners and breakfasts. Menu items subject to change due to availability and cost.



Tuesday Morning Coffee Klatch & Breakfast

Eggs, Pancakes, Sausages (Patty's or Links), Pancakes, Breakfast Potatoes, Grits, Sausage Gravy, Biscuits, Toast, Fruit Cup, Breakfast Dessert, Coffee, Orange Juice and lots of great Fellowship





Scottish Rite

www.OcalaSR.com or www.SROrlando.com

Ocala Scottish Rite meets at the Ocala Scottish Rite Center, 3632 NE 7th Street, Ocala, Fl. the first Monday of each month, at 7:30pm. Next meeting is September 6th. Fall Reunion is scheduled for October 16th & 17th, 2010.

Orlando Scottish Rite meets at Orlando Scottish Rite Center, 1485 Grand Road, Winter Park, Fla. on the 4th Friday of each month, except, November, which is on the third Friday and dark in December, meetings at 7:30pm.



York Rite Bodies

“A Continuation of the Blue Lodge”

www.flgyr.org

Ocala York Rite Bodies – Meetings at Belleview Lodge No. 95, Belleview.

Ocala Chapter No. 13 - Meets on the Second Wednesday of January, March, May, September and November beginning at 7:30 PM.

Ocala Council No. 22 - Royal & Select Masters - Meets on the Second Wednesday of February, April, June, October and December beginning at 7:30 PM.

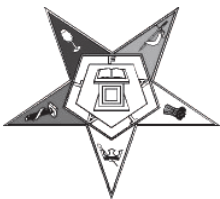
Ocala Commandery No. 19 - Knights Templar - Meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM.

Eustis York Rite Bodies - Meetings at Leesburg Lodge No. 58

Eustis Chapter No. 33, Meets on the fourth Friday of each month at 7:30 PM.

Golden Triangle Council No. 28—Royal & Select Masters - Meets on the fourth Friday of each month, 7:30 PM.

Triangle Commandery No. 38 –Knights Templar—Meets on the on the second Friday of each month at 7:30 PM



Order of the Eastern Star, Leesburg Chapter No. 84

Lady Marylu Stewart – Worthy Matron

W∴ Roland Gibson —Worthy Patron

Meetings – 1st Thursday of the Month at 7:30 p.m.

If you are a member of the OES and wish to contribute a article or information for inclusion in the Trestle Board, just send it to the editor. Articles are requested to be no more than one or two pages.



Tall Cedars, Lake Forest, No. 200

GT—Jim Stueber

Meetings – 2nd Saturday of the Month at 10:30 a.m.

If you wish to contribute a article or information for inclusion in the Trestle Board, just send it to the editor. Articles are requested to be no more than one or two pages.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6 Ocala SR 7:30 pm DeMolay 7:30 pm Eustis Lodge Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm	7 Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8 am Leesburg Lodge Stated Meeting	8 Ocala York Rite Council 7:30pm Plantation Masonic Club 11:00am At Plantation Oaks	9 Leesburg Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 84- 7:30 pm	10 Triangle Commandery No. 28 Christmas Observance 7:30 pm @ Leesburg Lodge	11 Tall Cedars, No. 200 at Leesburg 10:30 am
12 Sunday Dinner 11:30 — 1:15 pm Baked Ham or Roast Chicken And all the fixins	13 Mid-Florida Lakes Hi-12 meets at Mid- Fla. Lakes Clubhouse at 11:30 am Boy Scout Troop 1	14 Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8:00 am Hawthorne Hi-12 Taste Tempters 11:00am	15 Ocala York Rite Christmas Observance District Association Wildwood 7:30 pm	16 Tavares Hi-Twelve Golden Coral Eustis 11:00 am	17 Golden Triangle Council & Chapter 7:30 pm @ Eustis	18
19	20 DeMolay Chapter Meeting 7:30 pm at Eustis Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm	21 Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8 am Leesburg Lodge Stated Meeting	22 Ocala York Rite Commandery District Instruction Wildwood 7:30 pm	23 Leesburg Hi-Twelve Club, Meeting at Taste Tempters 9:00am	24 Orlando Scottish Rite (DARK) 7:30 pm	25
26	27 Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm	28 Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8:00 am Hawthorne Hi-12 Taste Tempters 11:00am	29	30	31	
31						



The EARL of MORIRA, newly appointed Governor General of India, on his way to his post in 1813, stopped at the Island of Mauri-

tius, where he laid the foundation stone for the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Port Louis. He was acting Grand Master of India at the time.

When completed in 1892, the Masonic Temple in Chicago was the World's tallest structure! Before the

Temple was finished, the word "Skyscraper" had been coined in Maitland's "American Slang Dictionary".

Dr. James Naismith, invented the game of Basketball using two peach baskets and a soccer ball. He received his degrees in the Roswell Lee Lodge of Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1894.

"The Argonaut" the first submarine to operate successfully in the open sea (1897) was built by Brother Simon Lake (1866-1945) a member of Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford Connecticut.



TRESTLE BOARD SPONSORS

YOUR NAME HERE - INDIVIDUAL OR COUPLE FOR ONLY \$20.00

Current year or any part thereof - HELP US KEEP YOU INFORMED!



R::W:: J.L. "George" Aladro - Senior Grand Warden

Mr. Tubalcane

R::W:: Dennis & Ginny Ricker

W:: Charles & Marlene White

W:: Jack Holloway

Jim & Dorothy McBride

Dean & Linda Sever

Richard Tanner

Susan Keast & Helping Hands Cleaning

W:: Forest & Anne Case

George Wikane

Richard & Frances Cartier

Randy & Joye Jesmok

Tavares Masonic Hi-12 #557

Irvin & Dorothy Creed

W.: Bob & Carolyn Browning

R::W:: Joe Price

Leesburg Masonic Hi-12 #424

W:: Tom & Lynn Russell

Plantation Masonic Club #719

R::W:: Ted & Marilyn Jansen

W:: Bill & Nancy Green

Wil & Norma Hoehndorf

Ed & JoAnne Davis

Dallas Douma

George Shoemaker

Larry & Brenda Duff

John Dean

Dan Bluxom

Garth & Molly Phillips

W:: Don & Nina McIntyre

Ken Hamilton

M::W:: Joseph & Anna Brearley

Betsy Jordan

Delores Duff

Gene & Dolores White

Leo Blum

R::W:: Kenneth Graves

Paul & Delores Shires

Dick & Jackie Frazier

John Parfumore

W:: Richard Ecott

Jim Angelos

Joseph Schlegel

Bill & Sharon Aston

Holt & Libby Whatley

R::W:: Gary Smith

Tom & Bev Wright

Bob Rowden

John Gammon

Ken Hamilton

Patrick Brunt

W:: Edwin & Wanda Robbins

Ray & Jan Trudeau

W:: Dr. Ronald & Cele Cottman

W:: Frank & Pat Peregrin

Hawthorne Masonic Hi-12 #547



If you would like to be a sponsor in 2010, please see the secretary with your donation. Your donations are applied to the monthly mailing costs of the Trestle Board, we need 60 sponsors to cover the yearly mailing costs. Sponsorship is \$20.00.

Editors Note: All articles and information for publication must be received by the editor prior to the 15th of the publishing month for inclusion in the next issue. Articles can be e-mailed to Larry Duff at Ldduff@centurylink.net

MASONIC EDUCATION & DISCUSSION

Seek to mentor a Brother Mason: It's good for him, it's good for you, and it's good for Freemasonry!

"An Educated Mason Is A Dedicated Mason" and a dedicated Mason will ensure the perpetuation of our fraternity.



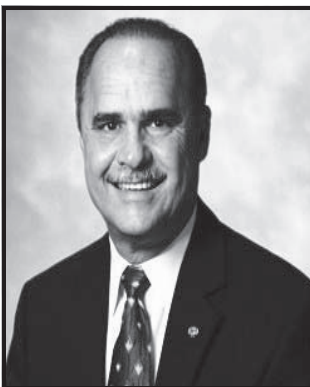
Worshipful Brother Austin Harris, Past Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, in a paper he wrote for his Lodge, (Ancient Landmark #5,) some time ago had something in it that is important for Masons to think about. I think once you read it you'll see the value of what he wrote.

"You are the one. When I come to the end of a busy Tuesday and remember that this is that Tuesday on which I am obliged to leave my usual pursuits and gather with my friends and brothers there are always special faces I really hope to see. Although all my brothers are special some really lift my spirits and inspire me just by their presence and when they are missing my evening at lodge is a little less meaningful."

"You are the one who can make this all meaningful: More meaningful for that brother who came especially hoping to see you, and for that brother who looks out at you from your mirror."

I will add; there are Masons in your Lodge who look forward to seeing you there and if you're not there for a communication they feel a little disappointed. The Masonic experience in your Lodge is missing something if they are missing you.

Let's all go to Lodge and enjoy the fellowship and the experience of being a Freemason!



"RITUAL"

R:W::Jorge L. Aladro,
Senior Grand Warden
Grand Lodge of Florida
DISCOURSE, Vol. I Issue V

My Dear Brothers:

I find this particular discourse fascinating in many ways, first I must give you my

disclaimer, I am not a ritualist, never pretended to be and do not believe I could become one. However, what I can do and have done all of my Masonic career is to dedicate myself to learn whatever part I had committed myself to, attended all the practices, sought outside assistance when it was needed, and never embarrassed myself or Lodge by not following up with my promise and commitment with whatever part I undertook.

With the disclaimer out of the way, let us proceed to have an open discussion about the "Ritual" and with that being said, if you look at Albert Mackey he defines Ritual as. "The mode of opening and closing a Lodge, of conferring the Degrees, of Installation, and other duties, constitute a system of ceremonies which are called the Ritual. Much of the Ritual is esoteric, and, not being permitted to be committed to writing, is communicated only by oral instruction. In each Masonic Jurisdiction it is required, by the superintending authority, that the Ritual shall be the same, but it more or less differs in the different Rites and Jurisdictions but this does not affect the universality of Freemasonry."

The Grand Lodge of Florida has addressed the matter of Ritual over the last 180 plus years in many ways, with one of the biggest concerns from early on that the Ritual would be uniform across the state. In the early years the major influence were caused by Brothers inserting influence from Georgia and Alabama Ritual and later on or in our time the influence has been from the Northeast and Midwest depending on what part of Florida you live in.

It also took Florida many years for the Brothers to accept a Ritual Cipher, which has made it easy for Brothers to learn the Ritual, and in the last, few years the Floor Work Book has also been adopted which exemplifies proper procedures of navigating around the Lodge, once again improving or making easier the learning of the Ritual. Further, the Craft approved a set of "Books" for any District that chooses to acquire a set for the convenience of their members, today there are more Sets of Books available in the state than at any time before. We have also gone from a Lecturer for the State to a District Instructor in every District to assist the Brethren at the local level making the ability to learn the Ritual work with more ease and convenience.

Now with a small view of what has transpired

over the years to improve the Ritual, I now would like to ask my Brothers why are more Lodges not able to “Open and Close” or “Conferred Degrees” of Freemasonry properly. As I travel, I find the biggest cause of this failure is lack of commitment, dedication, and apathy. Why you may ask? Well let us see if we can answer in a way that everyone can understand, be politically correct, or in other words sugar coat it in order to dilute it so much, so, that no one gets the message, because everyone would be doing everything just right and no one Brother would take you serious which, is what has happened. But no more, NOT with me!

Masons more than any other group that I have been associated with deal in truth, I will even go further and say we deal in absolute truth, and anytime we deviate from that we find ourselves in trouble because only the truth will give us the strength, knowledge and wisdom to deal with any problem we may be confronting. Wait a minute, here is the biggest concept of all “COMMUNICATE THE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH TO THE CRAFT.” It is my most sincere belief that the Craft when given the right information, when there is no confusion in the facts, when you have been involved in the communications that YOU will make the right decision time after time, I personally have an abiding faith in the Craft.

That being said now lets converse. Whose fault is it? and Why is this happening? The first one is simple it is EVERYONE’S FAULT, you may ask why, you know the work, you are not an Officer, you have never participated in a Degree, how could you have done anything wrong. Well to me it is simple. The Brothers that have never participated should do so. Get involved learn, do not place all the load on your officers, you do have something at stake; YOUR LODGE, you should make sure everything is done according to the regulations, you should be part of the team that welcomes the new candidate and there is nothing more impressive than a Degree conducted properly. NO EXCUSES. Further, you have a great part of the burden because you chose the leaders past and present Officers of the Lodge and if they were not or are not performing according to their Obligations you should select others that would take their obligations seriously, even if this means getting yourself involved and taking a leadership roll in YOUR LODGE. Notice it is YOUR LODGE, not mine. YOU and all the members of your Lodge are responsible and duty bound to see that the Lodge does well if not you should consider alternative measures such as, merger, consolidation or surrender your Charter, if Masonry is no longer

being conducted in the Lodge. Read your Digest, your Charter so you may have a clear understanding of what is expected of every Lodge by regulations. NO EXCUSES You know the work, Congratulations on having done well, now it is your duty to impart that knowledge to those less informed, and I know that you can lead the horse to water but you cannot make him drink. That is entirely true, but Masons strive for perfection day after day knowing that it will not be achieved. Teaching the work to Brothers is no different because you need to build an environment where your Brothers feel comfortable and conducive to learning. Praising those that do well in public and advising those that did not do well in private, build a rapport with the Lodge and create an atmosphere where the Brothers of the Lodge expect a good Degree this will create the peer pressure to do well. Also, if you have the rapport with the Craft and Officers are not meeting their responsibilities as Officers, maybe the members of your Lodge will not socially or undeservingly promote a Brother that cannot perform the work. NO EXCUSES.

So you are an Officer of the Lodge, you are expected to do your very best, to apply yourself, to know your capabilities, to know your weaknesses and your strength, to be a leader, to know your duties and responsibilities, you are in charge and I ask you. What has happened to your Lodge? Why do you not know how to open and close the Lodge? Why do you not know your part in the Degrees? Why are you allowing a Degree to go on when the parties are not ready to confer the Degree? and the list goes on and on. NO EXCUSES.

Officers, on you I place the biggest culpability, because you accepted the positions and responsibilities yet you have not fulfilled them. If you are allowing this type of Ritual work to be conducted while any of you are in the line it is truly shameful. Pride my Brothers, pride that you will do your best and not settle for less. Pride that you will deliver the Degree with the same measure that you sold Masonry to the candidate if not better. Pride that you may not embarrass yourself or your Lodge, when visitors and members see something not even closely remote to the Ritual, as practiced in Florida. NO EXCUSES.

Be the leader your Lodge needs, inspired your members to higher goals lead them by examples; do not settle for the same failures that have gotten you to where you are today. Aspire to do better and you will start your Lodge on the road to recovery. The greatest legacy a leader can leave his followers is that he will not be missed because of the failures in his absence, but because

he would have made leaders capable of taking the reigns of leadership and continue to progress without hesitation. NO EXCUSES. If you are doing whatever it takes to turn your Lodge around count on me, to do whatever I can to help you in this worthwhile endeavor.

Every Lodge in the State of Florida and for that matter the world is expected to perform the Opening and Closing Ceremonies properly, to confer the Three Degrees and any other ceremonies that add to the protocol and decorum of this Ancient and Noble Fraternity; to accept anything less is reprehensible. Your Charter by whose authority you are allowed to meet as a Lodge, requires among many other duties that your Lodge Officers know the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, confer the Three Degrees of Masonry, and your Dispensation required that you have someone to deliver the Lectures. If your Lodge cannot perform these duties and are not trying to overcome the situation, than you should not continue to have the authority to meet as a Lodge. What you need now is to merge, consolidate or surrender your Charter, whether knowingly or unknowingly you have failed to live up to the contract between your Lodge and Grand Lodge. You may want to look into a Square and Compass Club.

Would you want to be remembered as the Master and Officers that were in charge when your Lodge was designated more of a Square and Compass Club than a Lodge? Would you want to be remembered as the Lodge Officers that failed to turn the Lodge around? Would you want to be the Lodge Officers that were responsible when the Lodge doors were closed never to be open again? I know I would not want to be in your shoes during any of these scenarios. However, you can still count on me to see that this transaction is done according to the Regulations.

The following is some of the text contained in the U.D. Certificate and the Lodge Charter:

The U.D. Certificate says and I quote. "that the Brethren therein nominated for Master and Wardens are qualified and capable to confer the three Degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, according to the established work of this Grand Jurisdiction and to give the lectures appertaining to those Degrees;"

The Charter says and I quote "hereby v and committing to them and their successors full power and authority to open and hold a Regular Lodge Free and Accepted Masons, and by virtue of these presents to confer the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, according to the known and established customs and practices of Freemasonry, and not

otherwise;"

The reason we offer these quotes is to demonstrate the importance of the Ritual so much so that it was described in detail in the U.D. Certificate and the Charter of each Lodge that has been constituted in the State of Florida. Ritual work is part of the requirements for a Lodge to maintain their Charter current among many others.

My Brothers this is another reason why Masonic Education and Masonic Leadership Training are so important, these are the things you would learn, as your duties and responsibilities to your Lodge. Let us work together to improve ourselves in Masonry and in the spirit of Brotherhood work together to improve in all of our duties and responsibilities, your Grand Lodge and Grand Lodge Officers are ready, willing and able to assist you with any of the circumstances you may be in, with an honest assessments without prejudice.

Wishing everyone the measure of success, they so deserve, God speed and if we can be of any assistance please contact me.

Fraternally, I remain your most humble servant.

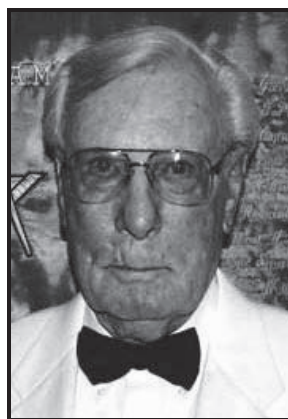


MASONIC MUSIC

Bro. Larry Duff

Junior Warden, Leesburg Lodge No. 58

Sitting the South you get a pretty good view of the Lodge Room. Minutes prior to the opening of our Stated Communications Meeting, our Brother W::Dr. Ronald J. Cottman caught my ear.



There in the Northeast corner of the Lodge Room, raised above the floor level and mostly hidden behind the organ, W:: Cottman was displaying what that organ and he can do with some pretty jazzy tunes.

As I set in the Junior Wardens chair I noticed a couple of fellow Brothers standing by the organ, several in seats bobbing their heads to the beat and a few feet keeping time.

W:: Cottman stopped playing when the Master took his position in the East to open the meeting. During the presentation of, and return of, the Flag of Our Country he played "God Bless America". During the

time we balloted on a petition for membership, he quietly played a tune.

In writing this I hope I said "Thank You" and hope other brothers did as well. Music has a long and glorious tradition in Freemasonry and it should not be lost as it adds so much to the Masonic experience when Brothers like Dr. Cottman grace the ivory's.

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART and Freemasonry

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was admitted as an apprentice to the Viennese Masonic lodge called "Zur Wohltätigkeit" ("Beneficence") on 14 December 1784. He was promoted to journeyman Mason on 7 January 1785, and became a Master Mason "shortly thereafter" Mozart also attended the meetings of another lodge, called "Zur wahren Eintracht" ("True Concord"). According to Otto Erich Deutsch, this lodge was "the largest and most aristocratic in Vienna. ... Mozart, as the best of the musical 'Brothers,' was welcome in all the lodges." It was headed by the naturalist Ignaz von Born.

Mozart's own lodge "Zur Wohltätigkeit" was consolidated with two others in December of 1785, under the Imperial reform of Masonry (the *Freimaurerpatent*, "Masonic Decree") of 11 December 1785, and thus Mozart came to belong to the lodge called "Zur Neugekrönten Hoffnung" (New Crowned Hope).

At least as far as surviving Masonic documents can tell us, Mozart was well regarded by his fellow Masons. Many of his friends were Masons.

During his visit to Vienna in 1785, Mozart's father Leopold also became a Mason.

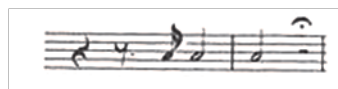
Mozart's position within the Masonic movement, according to Maynard Solomon, lay with the rationalist, Enlightenment-inspired membership, as opposed to those members oriented toward mysticism and the occult. This rationalist faction is identified by Katherine Thomson as the Illuminati, a masonically inspired group which was founded by Bavarian professor of canon law Adam Weishaupt, who was also a friend of Mozart. The Illuminati espoused the Enlightenment-inspired, humanist views proposed by the French philosophers Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Denis Diderot. For example, the Illuminati contended that social rank was not coincident with nobility of the spirit, but that people of lowly class could be noble in spirit just as nobly born could be mean-spirited. This view appears in

Mozart's operas; for example, in *The Marriage of Figaro*, an opera based on a play by Pierre Beaumarchais (another Freemason), the lowly-born Figaro is the hero and the Count Almaviva is the boor. However, Masonic scholars themselves, and non-Masonic scholars who have studied the matter more closely strongly dispute both the conflation of Freemasonry with Illuminati elements per se, and especially Mozart as Mason in relation to these elements.

The Freemasons used music in their ceremonies, and adopted Rousseau's humanist views on the meaning of music. "The purpose of music in the {Masonic} ceremonies is to spread good thoughts and unity among the members" so that they may be "united in the idea of innocence and joy," wrote L.F. Lenz in a contemporary edition of Masonic songs. Music should "inculcate feelings of humanity, wisdom and patience, virtue and honesty, loyalty to friends, and finally an understanding of freedom."

These views suggest a musical style quite unlike the style of the Galant, which was dominant at the time. Galant style music was typically melodic with harmonic accompaniment, rather than polyphonic; and the melodic line was often richly ornamented with trills, runs and other virtuosic effects. The style promoted by the Masonic view was much less virtuosic and unornamented. Mozart's style of composition is often referred to as "humanist" and is in accord with this Masonic view of music.

The music of the Freemasons contained musical phrases and forms that held specific semiotic meanings. For example, the Masonic initiation ceremony began with the candidate knocking three times at the door to ask admittance. This is expressed musically as a dotted figure:



This figure appears in Mozart's opera *The Magic Flute* in the overture, suggesting the opening of the Masonic initiation. According to Katherine Thomson there are many other examples of specific musical symbols taken from the Masonic rites that appear throughout Mozart's compositions. These include the use of suspensions to indicate friendship and brotherhood; the use of three-part harmony to emphasize the special significance of the number three in Freemasonry; and special rhythms and harmonies to signify fortitude and other attributes.



NOVEMBER SUNDAY DINNER

If you didn't make our November Thanksgiving Sunday Dinner, you missed some great fellowship with 160 of your fellow Masons, their families and friends.

From the Kitchen Crew, ***THANK YOU*** for being there, it makes all the hard work more than worth the efforts.

Brenda, Tonda and I wish all a joyful and healthy Holiday Season and we hope to see you again in December at the Lodge dinner.

***Larry Duff
Junior Warden***





Leesburg Masonic Lodge No. 58 F & AM
PO Box 985
Fruitland Park, Florida 34731

NONPROFIT
US Postage
PAID
Permit#1040
Leesburg, FL
34748

Celebrating 142 years (1868 — 2010)
in Leesburg, Fla. "The Lakefront City"

SUNDAY DINNER — DECEMBER 12th, 2010

11:30 a.m. TO 1:15 p.m.

Menu items:

BAKED HAM or TURKEY BREAST

Sweet Potato Casserole, Baked Seasoned Potatoes

Vegetable Medley, Raisin Sauce, Garden Salad, Dinner Rolls

Homemade Deserts (Sugar Free / No Sugar Added) and Drinks

Suggested donation \$8.00 per person, Children under 14 years of age \$4.00



PLEASE call the Lodge, or sign the guest list in the foyer, provide the number of guests attending with you, this ensures enough food is prepared for all. **ALL MASONS**, their families, friends and guests are invited to our Second Sunday Dinners and breakfasts. Menu items subject to change due to availability and cost.



**HELP THE CHARITY FUND
LEESBURG 58 COFFEE CUPS**

W.: Richard Ecott (Jr. Past) purchased 150 coffee cups. These cups are cobalt blue with a gold square and compass and Leesburg 58 embossed on them. The cups are available for a donation of \$7.00 each. Your donation will be deposited into the Charity Fund for charitable projects by the Lodge. Get one while they last and help someone in need.