Chartered January 15, 1868

Vol. IV Issue XI

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

NOVEMBER 2010

Trestle Board



Leesburg Masonic Lodge
200 Richey Road, Leesburg, Florida 34748 352-787-5696

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)
,	Lodge
Senior Deacon	Richard Cartier (Frances) 315-1886
Junior Deacon	Jim Angelos
Senior Steward	Saul Goodkin (Joanne)
Junior Steward	Don Bierly (Elaine) 454-0164
Tyler	Andy Sheffield
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
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 20	005/2007^
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 R∴W∴ Glenn A. Reynolds Edwin Robbins Robert L. Welch R::W:: Forest Case* Barry Rosenthal Wayne Parks Fred Lint Raymond D Trudeau Paul Shires M∴W∴Joseph Brearley Dennis Managan James McBride ^ Past District Instructor

18th Masonic District

* Past DDGM

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

<u>Finance</u>

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

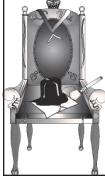
Chairman W∴ Ed Davidson, JW Larry Duff, Richard Tanner

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.

During the month of November we celebrate Thanksgiving. Nina and I wish all continued blessings, health and happiness. Thank You all for your support this year.

Congratulations to Brothers R:W:Forest A. Case who received a 50 Year Membership Pin and Certificate and Brothers Clinton J. Bartley and George Atz who received 60 Year Membership pins and certificates.

Congratulations to Brother Russ Jones who did an outstanding job in returning his Master Mason Catechism. R:W: Dennis Ricker presented Brother Russ Jones with his Apron.

We WELCOME the EUSTIS YORK RITE BODIES who beginning on December 10th, 2010 will begin holding their meetings at our Lodge on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the Month. As with our Lodge many of the membership can not get up and down stairs to a second floor Lodge room. Our Lodge beginning a single story fits their needs and we are glad to be able to assist them. Note on Page --- an announcement for their Christmas Observance all Masons and family members

are invited.

PETITIONS - For Dual Membership, Brother Wannie Lee Frazier, Union Lodge No.7, Junction City, Kansas, received, favorable report from the Investigations Committee and balloted into membership.

Petitions for Affiliation by transfer of membership from Brother Theodore H. Miller, Biscayne Lodge 124, Miami and Brother William P. Matthews, Sedalia Lodge 236, Sedalia Mo., was received, accepted by the membership and referred to the an Investigations Committee.

Petitions for Affiliation by transfer of membership from EA Brother Louis F. Joachim, Britannia Lodge 166, New York, with favorable report from the Investigations Committee was balloted upon and rejected for membership.

For the Three Symbolic Degrees of Freemasonry, Mr. Richard Claude Follett, Jr. who appeared before the Petitions Committee with favorable results and referred to the Investigations Committee.

CHARTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS - None this month. Charity account balance as of 10/19/2010 was \$365.16. We are attempting to rebuild 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.

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. If you can't party it up this year makes plans for next year.

From the Great Light - "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life." John 5:24 New Testament

Words to Live By: "Without knowledge, life is not more than the shadow of death." Moliere

Words to live by: "The way to patience is to think; 'Life is made up of a series of projects and goals. I will enjoy the involvement." Rabbi Zelig Pliskin

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 2, 2010

Tuesday Morning Coffee Klatch and Breakfast will not be held on this date as the Lodge Dining Room will be used as an Elections Voting location.

Coffee Klatch & Tuesday breakfast dates for November are the 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th.

Hope to see you there!



SOON TO BE MISSED

Reading through the October/November 2010 issue of the Florida State Association of Masonic High Twelve Clubs - Southern Division Newsletter, I noted the flowing sad information.

"Brother Jim and Lady Naomi Satterthwaite - in the summer of 2011 will be leaving Florida and returning to Michigan to reside in the Masonic home – when you see them – do thank them both for their many years of service to Masonry and all its branches – They have been the bench mark for us all – a great void will be created when they leave."



ASSISTANCE NEEDED

By; Junior Warden Larry Duff

Let me begin by saying *THANK YOU* for your attendance at our October Sunday Dinner. The attendance was larger than expected. We noticed some new faces, and the return of a few of our northern Brethren and their ladies, WELCOME BACK. We hope you enjoyed the meal and the candy gift bags, and by the positive comments made to the kitchen crew you did, that's our objective.

Our regular attendees to our Sunday Dinners and Tuesday Morning Coffee Klatch and Breakfast have seen over the past three years the updating of the kitchen. Those who have or can not attend, have seen

these updates through photographs published here in the Trestle Board. The kitchen is basically done with the exception of replacing some aging pots and pans as needed.

HERE'S WHERE YOUR LODGE NEEDS YOUR ASSISTANCE. We would like to update the dinning room. This year a number of items have been purchased and donated to the kitchen/dining room in the form of decorations for our Sunday Dinners, roughly \$2,800.00 in value. These items were donated to enhance the appearance and functionality of the dining room during our dinners.

When your in the dining room, look up, we would like to replace the eight ceiling fans. Several have speed switches that don't work properly and some are rusting and the paint finish deteriorating. We would like to replace the ceiling fans with decorative, energy efficient fully functional fans. Pricing fans, we need about \$900.00 to accomplish this effort. As such YOUR LODGE is asking for your assistance.

Our goal is to provide YOU the member with an atmosphere that we are all proud of, one we want to bring our family and friends, one where we want to display to potential members, one where we can all come, relax and enjoy each others fellowship.

If you, an organization or club you belong to, would like to donate to this effort, please see Junior Warden Larry Duff. Check Donations should be made payable to the Lodge.

<u>UPDATE - November 14th Sunday Dinner,</u> looks like some Turkeys are coming to serve you along with some Indian Princesses and a few scarecrows helping out. Make your plans to attend with a friend(s).



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

November 16th - Lodge Officers Step-Up Night

to be your potential Lodge Officers for 2011.

December 7th - Election of 2011 Officers

January 8th, 2011 - Installation of Officers

nber 16th - Lodge Officers Step-Up Night
Come and meet and speak to those wishing
our potential Lodge Officers for 2011.

aber 7th - Election of 2011 Officers

y 8th, 2011 - Installation of Officers
Tentatively set for 9:30am with Lunch/
s served after Installation. Dinner served after Installation.

BE THE CANDIDATE

By: Dewey H. Wollstein, P.G.M. of the G.L. of Georgia

There is a danger line in every Mason's life. That is the point at which we cease to be the Candidate. It is when we become the audience of Masonry instead of remain-ing the participant. It is the point at which we lose the viewpoint of the Candidate and no longer seek a New Light.

We must witness the conferring of every degree through the eyes of one who has just knocked at the door of Masonry, and every word spoken to the Candi-date should strike a responsive note with us. It is in this way only can one hope to be progressive in Masonry, and to catch again and again the inspiration that he received when he was really the Candidate. Any Mason who truly seeks Light will find something new in Masonry every time a degree is conferred. But he must be the Candidate. He must have the freshness of mind, the eager seeking for Light, that was his when he first en-tered Masonry.

If we look upon the degrees of Masonry in an im-personal way, and consider the ceremonies only as cold repetitions, then we can gain nothing from them. If we attain a small spiritual insight and refuse to grow in vision and wisdom, then even that First Light becomes extinguished. We cease to grow when we no longer seek the source that inspired us at the beginning.

Forever we must have an open mind, the courage, the desire to advance, the longing for More Light, all that we had when we first offered ourselves as candidates for the Mysteries of Freemasonry.

Forever and ever we must be the Candidate.

In my early days, I was eager to Words to live by: learn and to do things, and therefore I learned quickly. Each man is good in the sight of the Great Spirit.

Sitting Bull, Hunkpapa Lakota Sioux (Wiki quote: Eagerness)



Triangle Commandery No. 38 Knights Templar

EUSTIS YORK RITE CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE

December 10th, 2010 Dinner at 6:30 pm with 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

HOT AIR BALLOONING AND FREEMASONRY

By; S. Kenneth Baril, PM

Have you ever wondered what keeps a hot air balloon flying? The same principle that keeps food frozen in the open chest freezers at the grocery store allows hot balloons to fly. It is a very basic principle: Hot air rises and cold air sinks. So while the super-cooled air in your grocer's freezer settles down around the food, the hot air in a hot air balloon pushes up, keeping the balloon floating.

There are three major components of a hot air balloon: the envelope, the burner, and the basket. The basket is where passengers ride.

The burner is positioned above the passenger's heads and produces a huge flame to heat the air inside the envelope.

The envelope is the colorful fabric bag that holds the hot air. When the air inside the envelope is heated, the balloon rises.

Now, what does this have in common with Freemasonry? Let us make some comparisons.

Like the envelope, Masonic information is stored in our memories, and when we need information on a certain subject, we "turn up the flame" and extract what we need.

In order to keep the balloon in the air, hot air is needed. It is the driving force. In Masonry, strong leaders keep the Lodge operating, and is its' driving force. As we need to rise to certain challenges, we need to increase the heat in our memories to make the right decision.

The basket is in Freemasonry, is the area where the officers await their turn to step up to the next position. It is an area where they can contemplate their plans and execute their designs.

To descend the balloon, the pilot allows the air to cool, and the balloon becomes heavier than the air. The pilot has complete control of the up and down movements by controlling the heat in the envelope. So is the case with the Master of a Lodge. He controls the up and down of the attitude in his Lodge.

Once airborne, balloons just float with the wind. It is true that the pilot does not know where the balloon will land ahead of time, but that does not mean he cannot control the landing. In Freemasonry, the Master of a Lodge, in many cases, just let their Lodge "float with the wind." The difference is with a Master of a Lodge, is that HE CAN CONTROL THE DIREC-TION OF HIS LODGE, thereby being able to control where it will land.

Before the balloon is launched, the pilot knows which way the wind is blowing so he knows which way the balloon will go. The air is in layers, and the different layers may be moving in different directions. Although the pilot cannot steer the balloon, he can move up and down to find a layer of air that will allow the balloon to



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 Trio's, 3725 Old US Hwy 441 Mt. Dora, FL (formally The Greenhouse Restaurant)

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.



change direction.

In Freemasonry, a Master has the same options as the pilot of a balloon. If a situation arises and a solution is needed, the Master can find that "layer of air," which will allow him to change direction in finding that solution.

Before the balloon takes off, many things have to be done. This takes a team of individuals working together for the same purpose. In Freemasonry, every task has to be done by teamwork, from the operation of the Lodge to the maintaining of the premises. After the balloon lands, the crew packs the balloon back into the chase vehicle and everyone returns to the launch site.

Therefore, it is with Freemasonry. After the meeting is over, implements are stored away and we leave for our respective destinations. It is then we remember, that our balloon is our Lodge, and our memories of a great "Hot Air Balloon" ride is the true desire to return repeatedly, to enjoy, for however a brief period, the camaraderie and Brotherly Love that also "floats" within our Grand Fraternity.

"Authority without wisdom is like a heavy axe without an edge, fitter to bruise than to polish." Anne Bradstreet



Eggs, Pancakes, Sausages (Patty's or Links), Breakfast Potatoes, Grits, Sausage Gravy, Biscuits, Toast, Fruit Cup, Breakfast Dessert, Coffee, Orange Juice, Apple Juice and Lot an 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 Eustis Lodge No. 85, Eustis.

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

Golden Triangle Council No. 28—Royal & Select Masters - Meets on the third Friday of each month at 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 NOVEMBER 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Ocala SR 7:30 pm DeMolay 7:30 pm Eustis Lodge Boy Scout Troop 1	2 Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 7:30 am Leesburg Lodge Stated Meeting	3 Tri-County Hi-12 La Hacienda Recreation Center, The Villages 10:30am	4 Leesburg Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 84 - 7:30 pm	5	9
7	8 Mid-Florida Lakes Hi-12 meets at Mid- Fla. Lakes Clubhouse at 11:30 am	Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 7:30am Hawthorne Hi-12 Golden Coral Leesburg 11:00am	Ocala York Rite (Chapter) Plantation Masonic Club 11:00am At Plantation Oaks	-	Triangle Commandery No. 28 7:30 pm @ Eustis Lodge	Tall Cedars, No. 200 at Leesburg 10:30 am
Sunday Dinner 11:30—1:15 pm Turkey or Chicken	15 Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm	16 Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 7:30am Leesburg Lodge Stated Meeting	District Association Tavares 7:30 pm	18 Tavares Hi-Twelve Trio's Restaurant Mt. Dora 11:00 am	Golden Triangle Council & Chapter 7:30 pm @ Eustis	20
21	DeMolay Chapter Meeting 7:30 pm at Eustis Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm	Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 7:30am Hawthorne Hi-12 Golden Coral Leesburg 11:00am	Ocala York Rite Commandery District Instruction Tavares 7:30 pm	Leesburg Hi-Twelve Club, Meeting at Taste Tempters 9:00am	26 Orlando Scottish Rite 7:30 pm	27
28	29 Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm	30 Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8:00 am	Happ		namksg	iving



Ancient Greeks carried a Sprig of Acacia as an emblem of innocence and to protect themselves against temptation.

The first Masonic Book

in America was published by Brother Benjamin Franklin in 1734. It was an edition of Andersons Constitution.

Workman, making repairs on the White House in the summer of 1935 found a Masonic emblem carved on the base of a Keystone of an arch under the floor -

North Portico. The design is a six-pointed star, Seal of Solomon, characters representing one of the scared names of Deity, which Jews were forbidden to pronounce.

A Town named for a Masonic Watch Charm! Keystone, South Dakota, lying in the heart of the Black Hills near Mt. Rushmore, was so named by a gold prospector in 1877 for his Chapter Watch Charm.

The use of Black Balls in Balloting may be traced as far back as the ancient Romans.



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 M∴W∴ Joseph & Anna Brearley

Mr. Tubalcane Betsy Jordan George Shoemaker **Delores Duff** R∴W∴Dennis & Ginny Ricker Larry & Brenda Duff

Gene & Dolores White W∴ Charles & Marlene White John Dean

Dan Bluxom Leo Blum W∴ Jack Holloway

Jim & Dorothy McBride Garth & Molly Phillips R∴W∴ Kenneth Graves Dean & Linda Sever W∴ Don & Nina McIntyre Paul & Delores Shires Richard Tanner Ken Hamilton Dick & Jackie Frazier John Parfumore

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 Pedro Perez 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

Jim Angelos Joseph Schlegel Bill & Sharon Aston Holt & Libby Whatley R∴W∴Gary Smith Tom & Bev Wright

Bob Rowden Arnold Arthurton John Gammon David Octeni Ken Hamilton Richard Tanner Patrick Brunt

A Kitchen Helper W∴ Edwin & Wanda Robbins

W∴ Richard Ecott

Ed & Cathy Sowden Ray & Jan Trudeau

W∴ Dr. Ronald & Cele Cottman Michael Maravich

Pete & Nancy Taylor W∴ Frank & Pat Peregrin

Hawthorne Masonic Hi -12 #547 Bill Kerakos

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!

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



"VOLUNTEERISM"

R∴W∴ Jorge Alardo Senior Grand Warden, Grand Lodge of Florida "DISCOURSE" Volume 1, Issue 4 October 13, 2010

My Dear Brothers;

Comedian Joan Rivers for many years opened up with the line "Can we Talk". That my Brothers is exactly what I would like to do with you, have a dialogue, a conversation just simply "can we talk."

Although we have over forty five thousand plus very important people (VIP) I would like to have a conversation with the 891 Worshipful Master's, Senior Warden's and Junior Warden's that compose each Lodge's principal Officers, the 594 Treasurers and Secretaries, and the 2,079 Appointed Lodge Officers of all 297 Lodges in our State. The other Forty two thousand plus of the best members we have are more than welcome to join us on the sidelines and listen to our conversation. There is something here for everyone who loves the Fraternity.

My Brothers, I don't know how many of you have seen the movie entitled "A Few Good Men" with Jack Nicholson & Tom Cruise, and the scene where they are in a court martial and the Jack Nicholson is being questioned by the prosecutor to tell the truth and he answers "you want the truth, you can't handle the truth." Well you may be wondering where am I going with this, well my Bothers contrary to the line in the movie "I firmly believe that you not only deserve the truth, but that you CAN handle the truth."

Can we talk; I say we can have an open and frank discussion that we may better understand where we are and where we need to go. I hope that at the end of this discussion you will have a better understanding of what "WE" need to do.

First, I would like to dispel a myth that has lead us to some misunderstanding and even a misconception that continues to harm our Fraternity today, and that is the use of the term "volunteer." Do we understand the meaning of that word? Wikipedia describes volunteer, volunteers and voluntary as follows.

"In general terms, volunteering is the practice of people working on behalf of others or a particular cause without payment for their time and services. Volunteering is generally considered an altruistic (selfless) activity, intended to promote good or improve human quality of life (well being of individuals and societies), but people also volunteer for their own skill development, to meet others, to make contacts for possible employment, to have fun, and a variety of other reasons that could be considered self-serving (the precedence given in thought or deed to self)." (was added by this author).

Volunteering takes many forms and is performed by a wide range of people. Many volunteers are specifically trained in the areas they work in, such as medicine, education, or emergency rescue. Other volunteers serve on an as-needed basis, such as in response to a natural disaster or for a beach-cleanup.

The dictionary further defines volunteer as 1. A person who voluntarily offers himself or herself for a service or undertaking. 2. A person who performs a service willingly and without pay.

Frankly speaking, the reason for the definitions is to demonstrate that volunteerism has nothing to do with the notion that volunteering is for when an individual has spared time. When there are no ball games on the TV, when we are not hunting, fishing, riding etc.

Volunteering is for the individual that makes a selfless commitment to help others or society without compensation. I ask you to follow me with this analogy.

Think of a Volunteer Fire or Paramedic Department of many small communities across the country, can you imagine just for a minute if there were an emergency and the volunteers were out hunting, fishing or riding. At a card game or golf tournament. On a weekend taking in a game and there was no one to answer the emergency call after all they are volunteers. (Based on our perception of volunteers they do it when they can or want to) Would this sound okay to you if it were your home that had the emergency? Of course not, they made a commitment to serve and protect your home and there was no exceptions, like except when they are at home watching a game, hunting or fishing season. No sir, they volunteer to arrange their schedule or work around one

that all the volunteers could take days off and still serve their fellowman while maintaining their work schedule, their family life, and even their places of worships. What they do is more than volunteer, yes sir, they sacrifice of themselves to serve others, a concept that is loosing its meaning today, SACRIFICE.

You see volunteering brings commitment, caring, dedication, selfless, a sense of service. It brings out the best in everyone that participates. It is one of the most demonstrative types of Charity a person can give.

Of course prioritizing is paramount in the concept of volunteering since decisions must be made between its duties to its commitment to the volunteer cause and the times spent on self-indulgence.

Volunteering should never be taken lightly because if not handled properly and prioritized correctly their will be a lot people unhappy with you. On the other hand, I can tell you that it is not impossible to do;

I along with millions of others do it each and every day of our lives and we are the best for it. For there is no greater service, than to help others unselfishly without compensation a true labor of love.

We are all Masons and I hope you feel as proud of it as I do. Just think for a moment if your Grand Lodge Officers would take the same attitude of volunteerism that many in our Lodges have today. Of not showing up at the meetings, not practicing our lines, not performing the obligations we swore to at our various stages through our Masonic carriers, and even more at our last installation according to our Office. What would you think of that Officer? Would you give him a pass? Would you make excuses for him? After all, he is just a volunteer, he may not have much time, his cable tow must be short, family and business first, etc. These are some of the many excuses we hear at the local level, would this be okay for the Grand Lodge Officers too.

I, will tell you how I would answer the questions above, I would not think much of an Officer that is derelict in his duties. I would not give him a pass, I would not make excuses for him, he is a member of a volunteer organization, that made a commitment, who dedicated himself, who obligated himself, who was charged with certain responsibilities, which he accepted out of his own free will and accord to perform the duties and responsibilities of that office. As an intelligent man and leader, he should have known the undertakings and if he does not know or chooses not to know then he should resign, step down and not embarrass himself, his fellow members, his Lodge, Grand Lodge or whatever organization he may be a volunteer of. Volunteering is not for the faint of heart, it takes commitment, dedica-

tion and plenty of love.

I would like to share with you a section of the Digest of Masonic Law of the State of Florida that addresses this very same thing we are discussing here today, you will find it in Chapter 1 entitled MASONIC LAW, TRADITION AND POLICY, LANDMARKS AND CERTAIN LAWS OF FREEMASONRY. Section 1.08 is found as Duties of Officers and I quote:

"1.08 Officers of Lodges, Grand and Particular, are by the nature of their contract with the fraternity, required to be prompt and faithful in the discharge of their official duties. Culpable negligence and dereliction on their part tend to discourage the Brethren, whereby the normal force or influence of the Lodge is weakened or destroyed. Such conduct is therefore censurable, and the Brethren should not be slow in seeking effectual fraternal remedy."

As you can see in the above Regulation, our predecessors took their responsibilities seriously, so much so that they made negligence and dereliction of duty censurable, because this they realize would tear at the fabric of our Fraternity, to the point where it could destroy it.

To the Worshipful Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer, Secretaries and Appointed Lodge Officers at your last installation of Officers you made a contract with the Fraternity to be prompt and faithful to the discharge of your respective duties. Be the man and Mason to whom your word means something, be the man and Mason that takes his responsibilities serious, be the man and Mason you can be proud of, be the man and Mason that your peer emulates and look up to.

If you perform the duties and responsibilities, to which you swore to uphold you will be respected and loved by your Brothers, your Lodge and our Fraternity would be the better for your participation and leadership in your Lodge.

Now I would like to share a word to the forty-two plus thousands who have been listening on the side lines. Remember that you too have taken several obligations as a Master Mason, to assist the officers in the discharge of their duties should be your constant care and at the installation you were charged to be of a generous dispositions and not envy the preferment of your Officers. You were also charged that the association between the Officers and the Brethren be formed and perfected in so much union and harmony that will cause great rejoice among the Craft. That your kindness and Brotherly Affection distinguishes your conduct and lastly that the tenets of our profession be transmitted through your Lodge, pure and unimpaired, from generation to genera-

tion.

My friends and Brothers this is the truth of where we are and what we need to do, to get to where we want to be. In my heart of hearts I know we are up to the task, I know you can handle the truth and even more I believe your love of Fraternity is such that you with the assistance of your Brethren will do what ever it takes to get the job done. We as Grand Lodge Officers commit our time and resources to assist the Brothers and Lodges that request assistance in an effort to turn their Lodges around.

You see my Brothers when we start to take our Masonry seriously; when we start to take our Obligations serious, when we start to take our Responsibilities serious, when we start to take Volunteerism serious, that will be the day that Masonry will turn around. That will be the day we will start to see personal growth. That will be the day we will start to become better men. That will be the day we will start to be better human beings. That will be the day we will start having palpable quality. That will be the day we would have started a rebirth of our beloved Fraternity.

My Brothers, keep in mind that someone else stood up before you and those Brothers with more hardship, with less conveniences then today, made it happen for you, will you make it happen for those that will be coming after you, or are you of the mind set that think together we can move mountains.

Will you be the ones that will make it happen? Are you ready to rise to the occasion? My Brother stand up and be counted. ARE YOU WITH ME?

Respectfully and Fraternally Submitted, I remain your most humble servant,

Jorge L. Aladro Senior Grand Warden.

If you would like to receive, these newsletters make request at email below if you would like to forward to your list of friends you have my permission and thank you in advance. "My Brothers, the newsletters are intended to be thought provoking, to get you to think creatively, to get you thinking what if?, to dare you to improve yourself and your Lodge."

Note: If you would, like to have any of these presentations made at your Lodge or District Associations feel free to call.

JORGE ALADRO - jlageorge@bellsouth.net

"Masons always rise to the occasion"



A FREEMASON

2005 Article - The Masonic Traveler

A Freemason is a man who, in searching for life's ineffable questions, finds his way into the company of fellow seekers. Comprised of men from every nation, races, social and economic level, all hold similar ideals and beliefs. The uniting idea is a faith in the divine founded in the certitude in an afterlife. This "belief" is grounded by certain landmark tenants and virtues which ultimately lead in exploration of those invisible questions, leading ultimately to the betterment of all mankind.

Traditionally a male organization, Freemasons exist in most every country around the world guided by three principals: Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. The Fraternity is open to all men, with a belief in the divine, a passion towards humanity, and a desire to better themselves. Foremost is the practice of Brotherly Love, not just towards fellow Freemason's, but towards all mankind for the purpose of unity and cooperation. Within the lecture of the Entered Apprentice Degree we hear, Masonry regards no man for his outward appearance.

Within the lodge, the bonds made through fellowship are vitally important steps towards a better understanding one another. Outside of the lodge, Brotherly Love leads to a greater degree of understanding and compassion towards all men. Coming to the aid of those in true need, Relief is a second light that serves as a sanctuary for the weary and distressed, whatever the cause to those in need, whether it be poverty, infirmity or whatever their ailment. And Truth, whose search is unending, becomes its own virtue by relating to the nature of man and his transcendental state. Truth does not conform to any specific dogmatic practice of law instead accepting all faiths as sacred. Freemasons nurture and grow the divine spark in humanity through the tenants of Brotherly love, Relief and Truth.

But, why exist for the betterment of mankind? For too long man has looked through varying degrees of authority for the answers to those unanswerable questions, "what is our nature and purpose" asked since time immemorial. By looking to answer those questions, Freemasons have found, instead the virtue in which the answers reside. To help frame the questions, Freemasons rely on four of the cardinal virtues, which are Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice. Temperance to suppresses our personal extremes, and promote modesty,

Fortitude to keep good faith and careful watch ourselves, Prudence which keeps the perils of corruption in mind, and Justice which gives each their sense of due not stealing from another. By applying these virtues, the questions become transparent and unanswerable in terms of everyday ideas, instead they take on internal meaning, answerable only in the personal application of the virtues. The idea of personal growth this way is paramount to the craft, taught through lessons in allegory and symbols. The significance of learning this way is to convey their meaning symbolically, fostering individual introspection of their meaning. Exploration of these virtues is only part of the foundation of a Freemason with more enumerated throughout the allegorical degrees, all working to shape those who seek its light.

But the quest for answers is not lead by virtue alone. What many outside consider a barrier, is instead one of the strongest aspects of Freemasonry. Open to all faiths, Freemasonry has certain "landmarks" by which they live. One landmark in-particular is an acknowledged faith in God. Seeing the true nature of man through his works, a Freemason finds divine nature to be majestic in its meaning. But, to discuss faith, it would be problematic to not acknowledge the role of religion in the craft. Without any rule or requirement, Freemasonry neither prescribes to nor inflicts doctrinal controls over a member's beliefs, ideas, or duties, but instead builds on the nature of good men; it only requires a simple profession of faith.

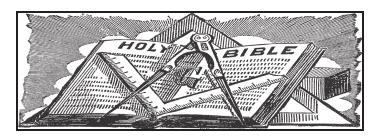
Within Freemasonry there are no cannons of absolute law or moral leader as with a church congregation. Instead within each body of Freemasonry, democracy rules along with the sacred books of law, as prescribed to by each member's faith. These books represent the backgrounds of the membership and the foundations from which they come, serving to link Freemasons to the transcendent. However, within the lodge, the conflicts of the sacred volumes are shunned, instead to embrace their celebration of the divine. What this represents is an open democratic society governed by mutual respect, advocating unity and harmony. Nowhere is their represented malice or disunion, instead, men of all faiths are encouraged to make a harmonious fellowship.

As such, the inclusion of all faiths has made tremendous enemies. The diligent observer can easily find dissent from all faiths about the brotherhood of Freemasonry. Some examples are as recent as tracts written by the Pope of the Catholic Church, denouncing membership as being in disharmony with Christian faith. Also, standing against the gentle craft are imams of Islam, pastors of protestant Christianity, and rabbi's of Judaism.

The unique thing to all these groups is their agreement that their members should not join the fraternity and shun it as heretical. Their reasoning is that Freemasonry acts as a surrogate to religion, replacing their doctrines of faith. But reason shows us otherwise, as masonry builds on the tenants of all faith, embracing the primitive aspects of each faith, in that all faiths are sacrosanct.

Freemasons work to smooth the rough stone edge indifference to create a vibrant and living craft. Neither libertines, racists, nor atheists by creed, Freemasons should not suffer it to exist within its body. Therefore, it is accurate to say that masons are not irreligious; to the contrary their mandate is a belief in the divine. The obligations taken as Freemasons do nothing to stand in the way our family, our religion, or our civic participation, instead it necessitates our participation in all of these and more by advocating charity through brotherly love. Of this, love of our neighbor is to be paramount in our mind. We are, in fact, encouraged to perform our duties to God, our neighbor, and ourselves daily. Our fraternal bonds are made sacred by oaths and obligations between men, making us stronger and united in purpose. Those oaths make the bonds stronger and the bonds make the men stronger.

Freemasonry strives in its membership to bring like minded men together to explore the four cardinal virtues in hopes to glimpse the divine transcendence of God. Existing in all lands membership relies on the members own free will and accord, each in his search for illumination through the hands of the divine. A freemason believes in the brotherhood of man and fatherhood of a compassionate deity. Surrounded by like minded men, masons are dedicated to Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, believing in their universality of the sacred and divine for the betterment of mankind.





OCTOBER SUNDAY DINNER

Thank You to all who attended.

The October dinner was themed as a little Fall and Halloween with Candy bags for all who attended.

Notice the pictured bottom left, here's proof that our WM and Past WM have a little devil in them.

A Fairy Princess and our Ladies who work the floor again out did themselves.





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 Sakefront City"

Address Service Requested

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<u>SUNDAY DINNER — NOVEMBER 14th, 2010</u> 11:30 a.m. TO 1:15 p.m.

Menu items:

TURKEY or CHICKEN With STUFFING MASHED POTATOES, GRAVY, GREEN BEANS Raisin Sauce, Garden Salad, Dinner Roll 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 in-*vited 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.