



The Light

Newsletter of Normal Lodge #673



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

March 2007

Master's Word

Greetings Brethren-

The year is coming to end quickly and the annual elections will be here before we know it. It has been a pleasure serving the lodge as it's Worshipful Master. It has been challenging but also very educational.

We are still negotiating with the Town of Normal and have attended Town Council meetings to keep an eye on the uptown development. We are only waiting on the architect to give us a building estimate and a final decision will be made. I am hopeful that we will see this resolved before the current Masonic year is over. This has been a long road, but we will see it through.

Our degree work continues to be active with nearly 20 men working towards their third degree. We had a blue lightening on March 24, and it included one man from our lodge with seven other area lodge candidates. While we prefer the traditional method this allowed us to bring a young man in who was leaving for military service.

The annual Past Master's dinner is coming up, and I am hopeful that we will have a good turnout. The community and lodge builders awards will be given out that evening also. I look forward to visiting with all of our Past Masters.

I have appreciated the help that so many of the members and Past Masters have provided me over the year. Without your input, counseling and advice this year would have been more difficult. Thanks.

If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas I welcome all brothers to contact me. I hope to see you all at the upcoming events, and I extend a special invitation to brothers who have not made it to lodge in a while!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the lodge.

W.M. Charlie H. Ross, Jr.

Calendar of Events

April

5	Eastern Star	7:00 PM
9	Dinner	6:00 PM
	Stated Meeting	7:00 PM
19	Eastern Star	7:00 PM
23	Stated Meeting	7:00 PM

May

3	Eastern Star	7:00 PM
5	Past Master's Dinner	6:00 PM
14	Dinner	6:00 PM
	Stated Meeting	7:00 PM
	—Annual Elections	
17	Eastern Star	7:00 PM
27	Annual Installation of Officers	2:00 PM
28	Stated Meeting	7:00 PM

June

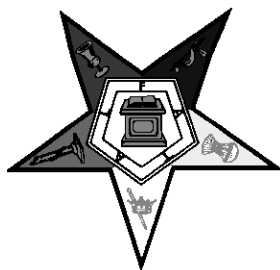
7	Eastern Star	7:00 PM
11	Dinner	6:00 PM
	Stated Meeting	7:00 PM
	—Annual Meeting	
21	Eastern Star	7:00 PM
25	Stated Meeting	7:00 PM

Lost Members

In our journey towards more light, we have lost track of a few good brothers. If you know where the lodge can contact these brothers, please contact the lodge secretary:

Frank Keith Harrold, Jr.
Erik Olson
Steve B. Roberson

Felicity Chapter News



Felicity Chapter #387 is preparing for the Official Visit of Sister Jean Davis, Worthy Grand Matron and Brother Matt Ring, Worthy Grand Patron on Thursday, May 3 at 7:30 p.m. That evening will also be the reception for our Worthy Matron, Sister Lola DeVore, as we celebrate her January appointment as the Grand Representative of Louisiana in Illinois. Sister Lola will serve in this capacity through December, 2008. Congratulations Lola!!

We are also looking forward to the Advance Night, which has been rescheduled for July 5. This is the night that we will be honored with a visit from Sister Meg March, Associate Grand Matron, Brother Phil Koukol, Associate Grand Patron, Sister Gretchen Burgess, Grand Conductress and Sister Susie Lonzerotti, Associate Grand Conductress. The line officers in the chapter will each advance to the next station for the evening. The remaining offices will be filled by Associate Matrons and Associate Patrons from throughout the state.

On July 19 we will be observing Past Grand Officers Night. On this night, Sister JoAnn Darnall, Grand Adah of 2006 will preside in the East. Our Guest of Honor that evening will be Sister Patricia Keller, Worthy Grand Matron in 2006. The guest officers that evening will be other Grand Officers and Grand Escorts of 2006 or Past Grand Officers from years prior to 2006. Please join us for a great night full of fun.

The Order of the Eastern Star is the largest fraternal organization in the world to which men and women can belong. The only requirements for membership are that you are a Master Mason in good standing or are the female relative of a

Master Mason, living and in good standing, or in good standing when deceased. You must also believe in the existence of a Supreme Being.

Eastern Star is a social order comprised of persons with spiritual values but it is not a religion. Its appeal rests in the true beauty of the refreshing and character-building lessons that are so sincerely portrayed in its ritualistic work. A deep fraternal bond exists between its members. It is the wholesome relationship of sisterly and brotherly love brought about through high principles exemplified in our lives which make us near and dear to each other.

While this is an Order composed of people of deep spiritual convictions, it is open to all faiths, except no faith. The personal welfare of our members is vital to all of those in the Eastern Star and it is considered a privilege to help another member whenever we can.

Each jurisdiction is governed by its own Grand Chapter. Most Grand Chapters are governed by the General Grand Chapter. Worldwide, there are approximately 1 million members under the General Grand Chapter.

If you aren't a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, we encourage you to give it serious consideration. Felicity Chapter #387 meets bi-monthly at the Masonic Temple in Normal on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. We are very proud of the charitable work that we do. The proceeds we realize through serving dinners and working concessions at Illinois State University we are able to support our Grand Chapter as it supports many national and local charities.

Annual Elections

The annual election of officers will occur on Monday, May 14, 2007 at our regular stated meeting at 7:00 PM. Come and join us in electing the leaders of our lodge for the coming year.

50 Year Presentations

Weldon Elliot Fogle
Warren Lloyd Miller
William Edward Rich

Annual Installation

The annual installation of officers will occur on Sunday, May 27, 2007 at 2:00 PM. Come and join us in celebrating the installation of the leaders of our lodge for the coming year.

Email List

If you would like to be added to the Normal Lodge Email list please send your Email Address to John Dorner at normal673@gmail.com. Notification of meetings, degrees and other Normal Lodge information is distributed with this List.

Masonic Homes Appeal

Brethren I would like to take a moment to remind you of our Brethren living in our Masonic Homes. These homes provide a service, we should help provide for them. Please consider a donation to the Masonic Homes Endowment Fund. No gift is too small, and all the funds raised will go to support the quality Masonic Homes in Illinois, so that they may continue to provide a much needed service. Contact the Worshipful Master, Bro. Secretary, or the lodge liaison with any questions. Thank you and God Bless

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C/O John Dorner
312 Victoria Dr
Normal, IL 61761

Lodge Blood Drive

The lodge in conjunction with the Valley of Bloomington, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, conducted our annual blood drive. The event was well supported by members of the lodge and we were able to collect 14 pints of blood for the American Red Cross. To those who came out and donated, Thank You. We hope to see you again next year.

University Masons

This program continues to be successful in bringing younger men into the Fraternity. This year we have already brought six university students into the lodge. In addition, one of our members, David Horstein, has been elected as Student Body President. Please congratulate Dave when you see him.

Lodge Night Out

The lodge has been attending Bloomington Thunder hockey games as a group over the last several months. While those who attended had a great time, the tickets were donated by one of our brothers. This allowed us to use the tickets to raise money for our Coins for Children fundraising. We are planning on attending several Arena Football games also.

Relief Committee

The combined Relief Committee of Normal Lodge and Felicity Chapter wish to thank all who supported our relief program this past Thanksgiving and Christmas season. We were able to deliver 15 food boxes at both Thanksgiving and Christmas, which were graciously received by the families. Our hope is that we will be able to continue this program in the future. We are planning to have at least 15 food boxes at Easter time.

Again we **THANK YOU** and the families' thank you.

Past Master's Night

The annual Past Master's Night will be held on May 5, 2007 at 6:00 PM. The evening will start with a dinner followed by entertainment in the lodge room. The event is open to all members and officers of the lodge, not just our past masters.

The meal will be at a cost of \$8.00 per person and significant others are welcome.

Reservations can be made with Jeff Fox 309-219-1427, John Dorner 309-452-3109 or Charles Ross 309-532-4020. Please call before May 2, 2007 to make sure we have enough food for the event. We hope to see you in attendance.

Also at this event will we will be presenting the annual lodge builder's award and the community builder's award.

Our Newest Master Masons

Jeffrey A. Combs
Andrew Erickson
Wesley L. Logan
John Mullins
William P. Oliver
Brett Schnepfer
Dwayne L. Smith
Auston Weinberg

Brothers Who Have Passed to the Grand Lodge Above

George A. Hickrod
Wallace "Wally" C. Hope
Harley D. Mc Clure
Robert E. Smith
Onel Odell Reed

If you would like to update your address or provide us with your email address, you can send them to
John Dorner, Lodge Secretary, 312 Victoria Dr., Normal, IL 61761
or email them to : normal673@gmail.com