Jackson Lodge No. 17



Volume 1 issue 116 Regular Communication Second Thursday Every Month

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From the Master Bill Kesterson

"Brothers and Families!!"

Let us congratulate the Robertson's (Lyman, Jaqui and Halley) on the arrival of their twins, Eyan and Ian. We are really happy for all of you and look forward to seeing everybody when time permits.

We had our first officers meeting on January 3rd. The topics covered were:

- 1. Brotherhood (all brothers and families)
- Making strides to encourage a family friendly environment in our lodge.
- 3. Start a clean-up session
- 4. Officer responsibilities
- 5. Help the Temple Board wherever we can.

There was very good participation with a lot of suggestions and committees formed to follow-up on those suggestions

The following is a question survey for Jackson Lodge No. 17:

- 1. Do you regularly attend lodge meetings?
 - A. If No, what would you like done to help you get there more?
- 2. If Yes what changes would you like to see?
- 3. Would you like the dinners to be held before or after the regular communications?
- 4. Would you like to have a family or a spouse dinner once a month before regular communications?
- 5. How would you feel about a potluck dinner once a month?
- 6 Would you be willing to bring a passing dish on the potluck night?
- 7. Is there any other changes that you wish to see on anything?

Name _

Please contact Matt Rubert (787-6717 or 812-6604 or email him at djmattrubert@yahoo.com or any officer of the lodge.



Thurs.

Jan. 31 - DARK

Thurs.

Feb. 7 - DARK

Thurs.

Feb. 14 - Regular Communication - 7:30 p.m.

Thurs.

Feb. 21 - Entered Apprentice Degree - 7:00 p.m.

Officers please wear tuxedoes or dark

suit.

Thurs.

Feb. 28 - Social and card night - 7:00 p.m.



Dave Rood, P.M. has just received his 60 year pin from Secretary, Jerry Williams, P.M. at Vista Grande Villa, Trellis Garden on Thursday, January 17, 2008.

After our visit with Dave Rood, George Otis, P.M. and Jerry Williams, P.M. met W.M. Bill Kesterson at the home of **Herb Howell** and his lovely wife Lola. We had a very enjoyable visit with them.

P.M. Todd Rubert has been selected as "**Mason of the Year**". A potluck and cookout will be held in his honor on the 22nd of May. The location has tentatively been set for the Temple, in case of rain or other bad weather.

2007 NEEDY CHILDREN'S FUND REPORT

Last holiday season, the Needy Children's Fund provided food, clothing and Christmas gifts to a family from the Jackson Public Schools community. The family consisted of a single mom, and 4 children ranging in ages from 2 to 13. This family was very appreciative, the young girls, especially, hugging the legs of the 5 adults that delivered the boxes to them.

For the 2007 holiday season, the Needy Children's fund Committee has chosen to work with 4 families from the Vandercook Lake community.

The Greziekowski family has recently suffered the loss of their home burning down and being left with nearly nothing to show of their lives. While other community Groups have been assisting them, their need was for a nice Christmas dinner for the 5 family members.



Happy Valentines Day.

Take your sweetheart out to dinner
On the 14th and as you are already dressed and
out and about, come to lodge and enjoy the fellowship of your brothers. Also, if you have an email address, please send it to your secretary for
his files. We can communicate up-coming events
to you quicker and cheaper by e-mail.
williamsgl@comcast.net

Brother Eric Cole has volunteered to do a **Pig Roast** for the lodge sometime this summer.

P.M. "Chip" Williams will be in charge of the **MiCHIP program** (Spring and Fall) this year. He will announce the times and places as soon as they are in place. Brothers please plan on helping, this is a very worthwhile cause.

We are also planning on having a **Table Lodge** this year, with the time and date to be set later.

along with the chance to purchase a new ornament for each kid for the Christmas tree that was donated to them by friends. For this family we put together a nice dinner basket along with a gift card for the kids to go and pick out an ornament.

The second family is on the verge of losing their home to the bank. The grandmother has recently undergone bypass surgery and dad's income is barely enough to pay the water bill. This family had the most need and for them we purchased gift cards to Wal-Mart, Kohl's and Meijer. We also gave them an artificial Christmas tree with lights that was donated by one of the brothers.

The third family also has a single parent income, barely enough to make ends meet. Currently they are living with family and were in need of clothing. For them we purchased gift cards to Wal-Mart, Kohl's and Meijer

The last family like the others is down on luck and money, but high on need. The father is still recovering from an accident 2 years back that left him unable to work for quite some time. They were most in need of means to purchase presents for their children. We purchased gift cards for them as well and got them to the mother so that she had time to go get the things she thought her children would need most.

All the items were picked up and delivered by the members of the committee with help from their spouses. The members are: Past Master, Chip Williams, Brother Dan Hyliard, Junior Warden, Albert Rossner and Brother Lyman Robertson.

The Beacon Project: Jackson Lodge No. 17 has been working with Parkside Middle School to offer a mentor program for students. This program began in September 2007 and met weekly for 1 hour per week lasting a total of 8 weeks. The purpose was to create an environment in which lodge members could mentor middle school youth in an area of interest held by both parties, extending the tenants of Free Masonry within our local community.

This past theme at Parkside was "small engines", planned by brother Dan Hyliard and brother Albert Rossner. Students were exposed to the operation of a small engine and worked various parts of the engines to see how they operate and are assembled. I would like to see the Beacon Project program grow and am looking for volunteers to join and help plan where we can be most effective in our local schools for the future. If you are interested please contact Albert Rossner @ 517-740-4973 or 517-531-7097 (home).

Jackson Lodge #17 is currently starting on this year's ritual work for degrees. We need all the help we can get, so please step up and do your part.

Also, Congratulations to our very own Stephen Vining, P.M. elected to serve as our DDI.