



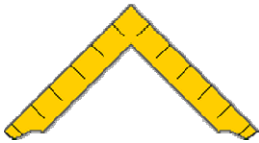
# The Trestle Board

Sinclair Masonic Lodge #154 AFM



July 2009

## From the East:



*Notes from the 2009 Worshipful Master*

Worshipful Master Steve Powers

Brethren,

July is upon us, this means that we are into the summer season. As you prepare for vacation and the fourth of July holiday please stay alert and practice safety. The summer not only brings hotter days, but also brings fewer members to the lodge for various reasons. We as a lodge, have the right to suspend the meetings for the months of July, August, and September. This would be okay at Sinclair, if not for the candidates petitioning our Lodge.

There is work to be done, and as with any Job or work, we need workers, and craft to share the journey the candidates will travel. In closing, wherever your travels take you, travel with peace and with safety. If you are led to the lodge, the doors will open to you. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Fraternally yours,  
Steve Powers W.M.

## Our New DDGM:

*Right Worshipful C. Gregory Shockley*

*District Deputy Grand Master for the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District*

Past Master of Oliver 133 located in Swansea.

His Official Visit will be October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Please come and join us in welcoming our new DDGM.

## Buddy Breakfast:

There was a good turnout at the Buddy Breakfast on Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009. There was good food, good fellowship and WB Joe Vasquez spoke about the importance of having a last will and testament and keeping it updated.





# Masonic Education:

## Fourth of July

Brother Acy Flora SD

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July! We are celebrating our independence this month and I felt that it was appropriate to point out some of the famous Masons who were instrumental in establishing this country. The following were Freemasons that were very instrumental in the American Revolution: John Adams, Ethan Allen, Edmund Burke, John Claypoole, William Daws, Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, John Paul Jones, Robert Livingston, Paul Revere, and George Washington. There were 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence and 8 of them were known Freemasons. These are Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, Joseph Hewes, William Hooper, Robert Treat Payne, Richard Stockton, George Walton, and William Whipple. The Constitution was signed by 9 known freemasons. These are Gunning Bedford, Jr., John Blair, David Brearly, Jacob Broom, Daniel Carrol, John Dickinson, Benjamin Franklin, Rufus King, and George Washington. Our first president George Washington was a Freemason and is considered the father of American Freemasonry. He was sworn in by Robert Livingston who was at that time the Grand Master of New York's Masonic Lodge. The bible used when he took his oath was the one from his own Masonic Lodge. There have been 15 presidents that were Freemasons they are George Washington, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson (Past Grand Master of Masons in Tennessee), James Knox Polk, James Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, James Abram Garfield, William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft (Mason at Sight), Warren Gamaliel Harding, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman (Past Grand Master of Masons in Missouri and 33rd degree), Gerald L. Ford, Jr, and Lyndon B. Johnson (EA only). As you can see from the list of distinguished brethren that Freemasonry built this wonderful country that we live in. I know we may be going through some tough times now with the economy and wars that we are engaged in but we live in a wonderful country. A country we all want to live in, a country that gives you the freedom to worship freely and openly without fear. Please remember all those who have made this possible and protect and lead us so that we may continue to enjoy these privileges that sometimes we may take for granted. Have a safe and happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Business Meeting

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

Time: 6:45 PM

Eat at 6:45. Gavel Drops at 7:30. Hope to see you there!

### Entered Apprentice Degree (3 Candidates)

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: July 9th, 2009

Time: 6:30 PM

EA Degree (Note: Tentative Pending Ballot)

### Practice

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Time: 6:30 PM

Practice and Masonic Education.

### Master Mason Degree

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: July 23rd, 2009

Time: 6:30 PM

Master Mason Degree (Note: Tentative Pending Ballot)

### Practice

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Time: 6:30 PM

Practice and Masonic Education.

### York Rite Concealed Weapon Permit Class

Place: York Rite Building

Date: July 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Time: 8 am on the 11<sup>th</sup>, Range times scheduled for the 12<sup>th</sup>  
Class costs \$80. See any York Rite Member for details.

### Business Meeting and Grand Master Official Visit

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009

Time: 6:45 PM

Eat at 6:45. Gavel Drops at 7:30. Hope to see you there!

### Business Meeting and DDGM Official Visit

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009

Time: 6:45 PM

Eat at 6:45. Gavel Drops at 7:30. Hope to see you there!

### Ladies Night

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: November 2009 (Date TBD – 7<sup>th</sup>?)

Time: TBD

Bring your lady and come enjoy in the fellowship and a great meal.

## From the West:



*Notes from the 2009 Senior Warden*

Brother Richard Gates

What attracts young men to Masonry?

That question has come to my mind as I have talked to many young men about the craft. I have expressed that we as Masons are not measured by our monetary value, employment title, clothes we wear or the car we drive. We are all on the level within the Lodge. Selflessness is our motto. Each of us is willing to give our love, compassion, support or even a dollar amount in the support of a distressed worthy Brother. We have faith in God and a longing to be near the Heavenly Father thus we strive to be better men. Mainly what attracts young men are the following three:

- Honor and Trust
- Belonging and Friendship
- Self Development

The feeling of belonging and being a part of something bigger than you are. Regrettably as told to me by several young men, the internet is not such a reliable source for accurate information into Masonry. Being ignorant to the facts one may become discouraged when they read the false information that Masonry is a cult or even worse. A web search for Masonry details simple exaggerations to the ridiculous. Since its founding, masonry has had both its proponents and its opposition.

We as Masons are to be a guiding Light to others, to inspire and cause others to reflect. This is what will attract young men, and when approached what will you say? We all know that these are troubling times for America. This is the most opportune moment to shine your Light.

Richard Gates, SW

We now have the following items for sale at the lodge.

- Square & Compass neck ties: \$20
- Square & Compass car emblems.: \$5 Each
- Square & Compass polo shirts: \$26 Each



## Birthdays:

*The following brothers are celebrating their birthdays this month.*

Happy Birthday!

Stephen Tracy Lown	July 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Benne Rufus Hutto	July 3 <sup>rd</sup>
John William Adams	July 5 <sup>th</sup>
Thomas William Walker, Jr.	July 5 <sup>th</sup>
James William Joy	July 7 <sup>th</sup>
Jack Dillard Sharpe	July 8 <sup>th</sup>
Andrew Allen Rowe, Jr.	July 9 <sup>th</sup>
Robert Arthur Goff	July 10 <sup>th</sup>
Matthew Owen Williams	July 10 <sup>th</sup>
Woodrow James Lankford	July 12 <sup>th</sup>
Kevin Darrell Richmond	July 12 <sup>th</sup>
Walter Thomas Lybrand, Jr.	July 13 <sup>th</sup>
Eldon Arvel Bailey	July 15 <sup>th</sup>
Marion Clyde Mitchell	July 15 <sup>th</sup>
Charles Kenneth Rhodes, Jr.	July 15 <sup>th</sup>
William E. Robinson, Jr.	July 16 <sup>th</sup>
Kermit Walter Brown	July 17 <sup>th</sup>
Adam Paul Bigony	July 19 <sup>th</sup>
Clarence Trudell Hall	July 20 <sup>th</sup>
James Mitchel Baughman	July 21 <sup>st</sup>
Donald Dewey Johnson	July 21 <sup>st</sup>
Bruce Lewie Merchant, Jr.	July 21 <sup>st</sup>
Robert Bertram McCracken	July 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Lawrence Rhett Hook	July 24 <sup>th</sup>
Kenneth Stephen Kelsay	July 25 <sup>th</sup>
Robert Walton Phillips	July 26 <sup>th</sup>
Edwin Brewer Griffin	July 28 <sup>th</sup>
George Euripides Melonas, Jr.	July 31 <sup>st</sup>
Addison Graves Wilson	July 31 <sup>st</sup>



## From the South:



*Notes from the 2009 Junior Warden*

Brother Bill Rentiers

Brothers,

July is here, which means we are now in the back half of 2009. So much has been accomplished so far this year and there are many things yet to be done. Plans are being made for Ladies Night later this year. We have another fundraiser to plan and execute. Some suggest we do another CWP class, others prefer a fish fry, a barbeque, a yard sale or some other type of event. If you have ideas, please do not hesitate to bring them to the Stewards or me. We are always open to new ideas that will help us advance Freemasonry and Sinclair lodge.

If you have not been to the lodge in awhile, I ask that you do your utmost to come and share a meal and a meeting with your brothers one day soon. Not only will you enjoy the usual fellowship with your Sinclair brothers, but we also benefit from your friendship and brotherly love. You possess a wealth of knowledge and guidance that is needed by a number of your newly made brothers. Having been raised only 2 years ago, I know that I personally would benefit from your friendship and mentoring. Won't you join us?

Bill Rentiers  
JW

## Website:

For the most up to date information please visit our website:  
<http://www.mastermason.com/sinclairmasoniclodge/>

To be included on the Sinclair email list please email the secretary your email address. [sparky154@gmail.com](mailto:sparky154@gmail.com)

## Newsletter:

If you would like to see something added to the newsletter or would like to contribute anything. Please contact Acy Flora or email [acflora@bellsouth.net](mailto:acflora@bellsouth.net).

## Cookbooks:

Don't forget we have plenty of cook books for sale. They are \$15 each and make a great gift for every occasion.



## PRAYER LIST:

- Pray for W. Bro. Ed Lown and family who are mourning the sudden loss of their son Scott.
- Bro. Riley Thomas is having pacemaker problems. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Mrs Dot Mullinex - mother of Brother John Bearden, PM.
- Mrs Marian Owens - sister of Brother John Bearden, PM.
- Mr Bill Price - father of Marcia Watford.
- Mrs Gladis Turner - neighbor of Brother John Bearden, PM.
- Mrs Dot Jones - neighbor of Brother John Bearden, PM.
- Miss Payton Owens - a 3 year old battling some health problems.
- Tommy "Mater" Storey - brother-in-law of Brother Steve Powers, WM.
- Linda Willams - wife of Brother Frank Williams.
- Bro Frank Sivik is in the Augusta VA hospital with heart problems. We are told that he has 2 major blockages.
- Mary Skelton, wife of late Bro. Sam Skelton and mother of Bro. Bennie Skelton. She is 81 years old, a diabetic with failing eye sight, living alone. Masonic visits are appreciated.
- Please keep the wife of Bro. Curtis W. Wright in your prayers.
- Mary Janette Elliott, mother of Shelton Elliott, is in Lexington Hospital Room 520 with fluid around her lungs.
- Please keep David Easley and his family in your prayers.
- Brother Frank Sivik is facing the possibility of a second heart surgery.
- Elizabeth Reese Wallington, niece of WM Steve Powers.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list please send an email to: [rentiers@yahoo.com](mailto:rentiers@yahoo.com).