



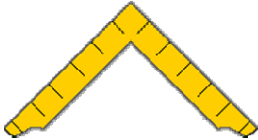
The Trestle Board

Sinclair Masonic Lodge #154 AFM



October 2009

From the East:



Notes from the 2009 Worshipful Master

Worshipful Master Steve Powers

Our Masonic Responsibilities (Continued)

Brethren,

Last month, we spoke of Masonic Responsibility to the Lodge and beyond. Going beyond the Lodge.

WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO OUR COUNTRY.

I quote from the charge given in the Entered Apprentice Degree: "In the state, you are to be a quiet and peaceful subject, true to your government and just to your country; you are not to countenance disloyalty or rebellion, but patiently submit to legal authority, and conform with cheerfulness to the government of the country in which you live."

We can say with the Psalmist, "I have a goodly heritage." We enjoy the greatest freedom of any nation on the face of the earth but I have the feeling we are fast losing it: Some deliberately, some by complacency and some by simple default. We must wake up to the dangers that face our nation and do something about them. As to the words of Daniel Webster who said, "God grants liberty to those who love it and are always ready to defend it." We must let the world know that patriotism and love of freedom and individual liberty are not dead in this country. Those who lived before us were proud of their citizenship. They guarded their heritage. They defended their freedom. They kept the Torch of Liberty burning. They kept the Liberty Bell ringing. They kept the Light of Freedom shining. We

should be equally proud of our citizenship, guard our heritage and defend our freedom. We must keep the Liberty Bell ringing, the Torch of Liberty burning and the Light of Freedom shining.

WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO GOD

I quote again from the charge given in the Entered Apprentice Degree. "There are three great duties which, as a Mason, you are charged to inculcate - to God, your neighbor, and yourself. To God, in never mentioning his name but with that reverential awe which is due from a creature to his Creator; to implore his aid in all your laudable undertakings, and to esteem him as the chief good." Masonry is not a religion but a Mason is religious, a man who believes in God. He must acknowledge his belief in God before he can be made a Mason. Everything in Masonry has reference to God. It implies god, speaks of God, points and leads to God. Every Lodge is erected to God and dedicated to Holy Saints and labors in God's name. No initiate enters a Lodge without first kneeling and confessing his faith and trust in God. A true Mason is a Godly man. A Mason is man who believes in prayer. We are to implore His aid in all our laudable undertakings. We are taught never to begin any great or important undertaking without first invoking the blessings of Deity. One of the greatest privileges God ever gave to mortal man is the privilege of prayer. "Ask, and it should be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."(Matt 7:7) One of the greatest unused powers in the world today is the power of prayer. Prayer is the key that unlocks the storehouse of God's bounty. One of the greatest tragedies is that men fail to exercise the privilege of prayer, "ye have not, because ye ask not." We not only need to pray but we need to live as we pray.

Steve Powers W.M.



From the West:



Notes from the 2009 Senior Warden

Brother Richard Gates

Brothers,

Sinclair is moving forward and increasing in numbers. Something else wonderful is happening also. New rising Brothers are giving the working tools and various charges to new candidates. The spirit of Masonry is alive in our Lodge. The devotion and dedication of these new Brothers makes my heart glad.

A friend asked me the other day, what is so special about a Masonic Lodge. I quickly answered without even thinking. "I can go to my Lodge and enjoy friendship and brotherhood without someone back stabbing." "I can trust my Masonic Brothers." In reflection on my quick answer, I really thought about what I had just stated. I am noted to be a worried type individual. At work, pressure mounts, employees tell falsehoods, pass blame for their own mistakes. I, as a Manager, take the brunt of the blame for these errors. Someone else always wants to boot you to the side to further their own advancement. I feel that when I step into Sinclair Lodge, these worries are not necessary. I thank each of you for that. Let none of us ever hold a grudge, speak ill of another Brother. If something is ever taken out of context, or if a Brother has a concern with another, let us discuss it. We are human and are prone to mistakes. What would the Lord have us do in these instances?

Gentlemen, when any great idea or task is undertaken a group may be formed. This group has various discussions. Goals and objectives are then set. A plan is set into action. From that single idea, came a group, a plan, a goal, and finally a movement. How far reaching that movement will be is up to you. The United States of America was founded on a single idea, a vision, and finally a movement. It took perseverance and dedication to the cause. Organizations are formed with a purpose in mind however simple or complex they may be. What is the vision and purpose of Sinclair? We are

spreading Brotherly Love and Affection. We assist others in their distress. We have fundraisers for scholarships and other worthy causes. What will be our greatest legacy as a Lodge? Masonry has strengthened my faith in God. I firmly believe that Masonry would benefit the younger generation in an unimaginable, very positive way. We need all of our Brothers, that are able bodied, to participate in Sinclair Functions. Show your light to others.

I imagine a society of true friendship and trust, one without the worry of backbiters.

Richard Gates
Senior Warden

Cookbooks:

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



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

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.

From the South:



Notes from the 2009 Junior Warden

Brother Bill Rentiers

Brothers,

It seems like 2009 has flown by. We have only about 90 days left in this year. I marvel at where this year has gone, and I wonder what good I have accomplished with my time.

This year I have had a number of occasions for thoughtful reflection. As many men do, I think often of my children, my spouse, my sisters, my mother, cousins, in-laws, and other family - how their lives are progressing and what I can do to help them. I have also prayed daily for you, my Freemason brothers, that the Lord might lift your many burdens and heal the infirmities of you and your families.

I thank Almighty God that He has blessed my life and

my family so thoroughly. Too many times, I take for granted that it is He who watches over our heath, our safety, and our finances. It is He alone whose hand protects us from danger, disease and disaster. We owe our Creator unending respect, reverence, worship and gratitude for the many mercies He has daily shown each of us.

Lately, I find myself re-examining whether or not I have done enough to increase in skill with the Working Tools of life. Is my work truly square? Am I living by the plumb of rectitude and acting on the level with my fellow man? Do I continually work to divest myself of vices, as my Creator expects of me? Have I given sufficient time to God, my family, my neighbor, and my employer? Have I attempted to spread the cement of brotherly love and affection among my fellow man? I truly hope so.

My brothers, some of you I know well, others just a little, and still others not at all. But I have much I wish to learn about you and from you. Each of you possesses qualities I should learn to emulate. If you have not been to the lodge in a while, please consider coming to share a meal with your brothers again soon. Won't you join us?

Bill Rentiers
Junior Warden

Ladies and Awards night is scheduled for Saturday November 7th this year at Sinclair Lodge at 7:00.

Presently we plan on having Beef roast, potatoes, veggies, dessert, drink and finger food.

Please let us know if you will attend Ladies and Awards Night by filling out the slip below so that we may plan space and food. The cost is \$15 a couple, or \$ 10 for single. *Please respond by October 15th at the latest please.*

+++++ CUT +++++

Please respond by October 15, 2009

Ladies and Awards Night

November 7th, 2009

7:00 Saturday evening

I will attend

Name _____ # attending _____

Please respond by October 15th at the latest if you are coming.



Do you know what to do if someone stops breathing or their heart stops beating?

If not, Sinclair Masonic Lodge will be hosting a **CPR** class on November 9th, 2009 at 6PM.

The class will be held at Sinclair Masonic Lodge
1104 "B" Avenue
West Columbia, SC 29169

The cost of the class is \$20.00 and all proceeds will go to our Scholarship Fundraiser, which \$250 will be given to a senior student from both Airport and Brookland Cayce High Schools.

If you are interested please contact
Dan Crews at (803) 518-5715
to reserve your spot.

Someone's life may depend upon you!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Business Meeting and DDGM Official Visit

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: October 1st, 2009

Time: 6:45 PM

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

Entered Apprentice Degree

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: October 8th, 2009

Time: 6:45 PM

EA Degree (Note: Tentative Pending Ballot)

Buddy Breakfast

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: October 10th, 2009

Time: 8:30 AM

Come join us for breakfast and bring a friend!

Rusty Nail Degree

Place: Pacific Masonic Lodge

Date: October 13th, 2009

Time: 6:45 PM

Degree to welcome back those who may have been gone for a while.

Fellow Craft Degree

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: October 15th, 2009

Time: 6:45 PM

FC Degree (Note: Tentative Pending Ballot)

York Rite One Day Festival

Place: York Rite Temple

Date: October 17th, 2009

Time: 6:30 AM

York Rite One Day Festival

Master Mason Degree

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: October 22nd, 2009

Time: 6:45 PM

MM Degree (Note: Tentative Pending Ballot)

Scottish Rite One Day Festival

Place: Scottish Rite Temple

Date: October 24th, 2009

Time: 6:30 AM

Scottish Rite One Day Festival

Ladies Night

Place: Sinclair Masonic Lodge

Date: November 7th 2009

Time: 7:00 PM

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

PRAYER LIST:

- Mr Bill Price - father of Marcia Watford.
- Miss Payton Owens - a 3 year old battling some health problems.
- 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.
- Please keep the family of our departed brother EJ Self in your prayers.
- Bro. Riley Thomas is having health problems. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Please keep Beth Powers, wife of WM Steve Powers in your prayers. She is having health problems.
- Please keep Mrs. Bennie Jackson in your prayers. She is now living in Spartanburg with her son, still having some health problems but doing ok.
- Please pray for Candy Powers, sister in law of WM Steve Powers, who is having health problems.
- W. Bro. Dan Crews is having health problems. Please keep him in your prayers.

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



October Birthdays!



Happy Birthday!

Marchant Meetze Harmon Jr	1st
Jack Anderson Self III	1st
Hubert Sandy Williams	2nd
Clyde Nowlin Walker	3rd
Edward Thompson Williams	4th
Charles Albert Wooten Jr	4th
Lester Boyd Ferguson Jr.	5th
William Wayne Hutto	6th
Jacob E. Rauch	7th
Hasford B. Watts	7th
O'Neal Linwood Cassidy	8th
Murray Wayne Campbell	13th
Johnny Ray Crosland	13th
Herman Washington Rentz	13th
Jackie Birch Dinkins	14th
James Dean Strickland	14th
Ronald F. Mankin	17th
Francis Nathaniel Jones	18th
Richard Calvin Key	18th
Doris Eugene Fletcher Jr.	19th
Otis Millon Stewart	19th
James Lewis Stone	20th
Benjamin Martin Reaves Jr	21st
Larry Daniel Hall	22nd
Glenn Myles Williams	22nd
Curtis Odell Coleman Jr	23rd
Henry Benjamin Galloway Jr	23rd
Joel Barry Neely	23rd
Daniel Heward Spires	23rd
Howard Albert Mew	24th
Thomas Durham Jeffcoat	25th
Malcolm Lawson Turner	25th
Oscar Burlie Baker	28th
James Willie Outlaw	28th
Boyce Legrand Sturkie	30th
Paul Gerald Bryant	31st