

TRESTLEBOARD

Clearwater Lodge No. 127 F&AM

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 705 South Hercules Avenue—across from Clearwater High School—(727) 447-5161
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From the East



Brethren,

I would like to take the time and educate the Craft of our Masonic Medical Research Laboratory located in Utica New York. Most of our newer Brothers probably have never heard of the Laboratory. The Masonic

Medical Research Laboratory was founded in October 1947 and was the vision of M. W.: Raymond C. Ellis P.G.M. New York Grand Lodge. During its sixty years of service the lab has developed such cardiac devices as pacemakers, implantable cardioverter pacemakers, and automatic external defibrillators. Its mission is to provide a healthier tomorrow for all of us. Their scientific breakthroughs have helped to provide physicians the means to better diagnose and treat cardiac defects. The fact that the Masonic lab is responsible for inventing the pacemaker is one reason we should support this important research lab. They are currently working to increase their endowment by \$15 million dollars.

Congratulations to our newest obligated Brother Allan Millard. Bro. Glen Bishop did an excellent job sitting in the East. It is refreshing to see our younger Brothers stepping up to the plate and learning the work of our time honored fraternity. Look for our current line officers doing more of our degree work this year.

We have a B.B.Q. scheduled for the end of the month at Fort Desoto Park in South St. Petersburg. W.: Jon Vonderau has made inquiries about holding a Past Military Master Mason Degree next year at Fort Desoto. He has talked to the Rangers and surveyed the Fort. His vision is to have Clearwater Lodge No. 127 do an annual Master Mason Degree on the scale of Fort Clinch. Please support this B.B.Q. and show W.: Jon that his vision can become reality. Look for our flier in this edition of the Trestle Board.

Our competition team under the direction of R.: W.: Ed Phero will be competing at the zone level on March 17th. We have several new competition team members this year. The competition will be held at the Scottish Rite building in Tampa at 8:30 am. Please come out and support your Lodge.

I had the pleasure of attending the opening ceremonies of our Masonic youth Challenger Little League Team. They are the current World Series champs in the Challenger division. Our team plays every Saturday. What better way to spend a Saturday than to have breakfast at the Lodge and then go enjoy America's favorite past time. Our own Brother Doerbecker has dedicated his time and energy to coach our team for many years. His dedication does not go unnoticed by the Lodge. I would ask that every member try to make one game this season. Our team needs your support.

On The Square,
 W.: James Eubanks P.M.
 Worshipful Master

From the West



Brethren,

Some times Pride and Ego stops a person from doing their best work or performance. Sometimes we don't even know that our personal feelings can reduce the effectiveness of the hard work that we can do or

have done.

We all know of people who have done outstanding work in our nation, our fraternity, our Masonic Lodge, and in our personal lives. We all have met more than one person who has touched our lives and attained in our own opinions excellence.

What we may not even have given a thought to consider is how we could utilize that knowledge to our own benefit. There is not one of us who could not use some form of improvement. We all can follow footsteps of others and make the right choices to improve ourselves and make the choice to help others with their goals or ambitions.

Sometimes Pride or Ego stops a person from doing their best work or performance. Sometimes that work or performance is helping coach a Brother, set up the Lodge room, wash dishes, offer to bring a Brother to Lodge, the Doctor, a grocery store, or just sit and visit with them. Sometimes it's as simple as saying "I'm sorry" even if you say it to yourself and no one knows it. Then an improvement can begin.

Sometimes Pride or Ego can stop us from being the Mason we should be. We should at all times, meet upon the Level, act upon the Plumb, and part upon the Square. Thus should our Masonic conduct be our everyday conduct and not just a suit coat we put on for special occasions.

I will be hosting a BBQ at Fort Desoto Park in St. Petersburg's Bay Way on March 31st at 4:00 PM. Next Year I hope to have a Past Masters degree in the Fort. I ask that you Please support this fund raiser I would like to judge the interest for next year. The cost is just \$8.00 per person.

With Love for the Fraternity

W.: Jon P. Vonderau, P.M.
 Senior Warden

From the South

Brethren,

What do we know of Stones in Masonic tradition? In Masonic rituals and legends, stone plays a leading role, beginning with the Entered Apprentice, who is enjoined to polish the rough stone with hammer and chisel, and culminating with the variously-shaped stones appearing in diverse Master Mason and Royal Arch Degrees. There is hardly a ceremony in symbolic Freemasonry which is not connected in some way with stones.

After completion of the initiation ceremony, The new Mason is placed in a particular position within the Lodge and is usually told that he represents the cornerstone on which Freemasonry's spiritual Temple must be built.

In the course of his advancement, the Entered Apprentice eventually becomes a Master Mason, and then he plays the part of the victim in a crime that, has little connection with cornerstones.

However, a possible explanation for this is that it too, refers to a ritual sacrifice, designed to provide a human soul for King Solomon's Temple. In the initiation ceremony, a person plays the role of the cornerstone, while in the builder's ceremony, the stone plays the role of a human victim.

The Masons work is thus described in the Dumfries No. 4 (c.1710): "to work in all manner of worthy work is stone: Temple, Churches, Cloisters, Cities, Castles, and all other worthy buildings of stone". In the same manuscript we find a reference to the two pillars of stone one that would not sink and one that would not burn, which held the noble art of science.

The Mason himself, as we have noted, is likened to a stone. In Long Livers, a book published in London in 1722 we find this definition: Ye are living stones, built up a spiritual House, who believe and rely on the chief Lapis Angularis, which the refractory and disobedient builders disallowed.

The reference, of course, is to Psalm 118. A porphyry stone is used in the place of the Volume of the Sacred Law. This refers to one of the myths connected to Noah, which is his discovery of a cave on Mount Moriah in which he found a mysterious stone with certain mystical characters engraved thereon.

In conclusion, the deep and various meanings of stone as a physical object and as an allegory makes it easy to understand why the art of a builder should have been selected as the appropriate vehicle to convey the philosophical and mystical teachings of speculative Freemasonry in its different manifestations.

The Mason, the stone carver is seen to share many attributes with the ancient priests, which in Platonic philosophy represents the Architect who fashions the sensible world.

On a lighter note I will leave you with our menus for our March meetings. 3/13 Chicken Paprika, 3/20 Ham casserole, 3/27 Hamburgers.

With my Brotherly Love to all of you,

Bro. Joseph Gondos
 Junior Warden

OFFICERS		Senior Deacon	
Worshipful Master		Glen Bishop	224-6991
W.: James W. Eubanks P.M. 447-3216		bishopgb@gmail.com	
Senior Warden		Junior Deacon	
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Clearwaterfodge127@yahoo.com			
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From the Secretary Desk



Brethren,

In the recitation of our ritual, phrases fall from the tongue with the ease of long practiced familiarity. This very familiarity is what gives comfort to hearing the ritual spoken correctly, and with clarity and feeling. However this familiarity can obscure meaning. That is particularly true of the "Charge" the summary of the teaching of each degree. For those listening to those familiar words, the lateness of the hour, and anticipation to get home, may cause us to pay less than normal attention to the words. And yet there is a powerful message in each of our Charges. A distillation of important Masonic teaching which deserve to be pondered.

The Charges of the three degrees of Masonry are the membership rules. They are those things which are the indispensable demonstration that a Mason is a member of our ancient fraternity. With the observance of these rules a man demonstrates to the world at large, and to his brethren, that he is a Mason. Without the observance of these rules, he demonstrates the opposite. A dues receipt is evidence that he has paid his dues to his Lodge, or holds a lifetime membership therein. But how he lives is his evidence that he is a Mason.

What are our membership rules? They are easy to list, when we stop to look carefully at the charges of the three degrees of Masonry. Here is a simple list from our First degree of Masonry. The marks of a Mason by which we will know him to be such.

He regards the volume of the Sacred Law as the great light in his profession as a Mason. Freemasonry does not specify that volume only a mans religion can do that. But we expect him to live a life that demonstrates that he holds his particular faith sacred. The emblem of which is the Sacred Law upon which he is obligated as a Mason.

God for a Mason is not an oath uttered in frustration, but the name of the Supreme Being whose love created the world and who holds all Masons in the hollow of his hands. He will act with his neighbor on the Square. In doing so he will demonstrate a commitment not only to justice, but to mercy. He will take care of himself morally and spiritually. He will use the talents God has blessed him with. He will be an exemplary citizen. He recognizes the burdens of such an allegiance require an active commitment of practice of that citizenship. He is not a hypocrite, his public image is untarnished, and his private life reflects it perfectly. He is faithful to every trust committed to him. He keeps the promises he makes especially those promises he entered into as a Mason.

Membership in Freemasonry is not about joining a Fraternity, being in good standing or length of time served. Membership is the Living proof that a Mason exhibits each day to his family, his Lodge, his community and his world that he is a Mason. This is what really makes a man a Mason.

In Peace and Harmony
Russell LeMar
Secretary

PAST MASTERS OF CLEARWATER LODGE NO. 127

1892 * W.F. WHITE	1937 * WILL C. RODGERS P.D.D.G.M.	1982 WAYNE PELLEY
1893 * C.F. THOMPSON	1938 * HERBERT GRICE	1983 THOMAS C. LITTLE
1894 * JOSEPH ELDRIDGE	1939 * W. PAUL HARRIS	1984 BRYANT S. DAVIS
1895 * J.M. MATCHETT	1940 * J. MERLE KELLOG	1985 RONALD LOHR
1896 * JOHN H. WARLICK	1941 * JAMES C. ROBERTS	1986 MARTIN A. RYAN
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1898 * W.Y. WILSON	1943 * GRADY SULLIVAN	1988 JAMES H. DIEPHUIS P.D.D.G.M.
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1931 * JOHN M. GORE	1976 DAVID A. MARTIN	1999 JOE SIPOS
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1933 * WILLIAM A. MOREE	1978 * TRAVIS MCLEMORE	
1934 * B.T. GRIFFIN	1979 * WILLIAM KURTZ	* DENOTES DECEASED
1935 * JOHN C. POLHILL P.D.D.G.M.	1980 JERRY PATTERSON	
1936 * ARTHUR C. GRISELMAN	1981 JERRY COLE	

IN MEMORIUM

Bro. France Bennett Bishop, February 7th, 2007
Bro. Charles Wilson Emerson, February 7th, 2007

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

BRO. BILLY BUSHART	1
BRO. JACK ANTHONY	1
BRO. RICHARD KESSLER	2
BRO. RICHARD WATLEY	2
BRO. RONALD REGA	2
BRO. LYNN STEVE	7
BRO. WILLIAM BURGESS III	7
BRO. GEORGE FOSTER	8
BRO. ERIC REALE	10
BRO. ERNEST SINCLAIR	10
R.: W.: GEORGE BENHAM	10
BRO. FRANK NOVAK JR.	12
W.: BRYANT DAVIS	13
BRO. FREDERICK LAUPER	13
BRO. DONALD HUMPHREYS	14
BRO. JOHN RAWLINGS	14
BRO. CARL FRIEDMAN	15
BRO. JOHN MEEK SR.	16
BRO. RICHARD KNIGHT	18
BRO. ROBERT NOELL	19
BRO. PAT MARGAS	20
BRO. ALFRED HARVILLE	22
BRO. DONALD KERR	22
BRO. JASON AMIR	22
W.: JOSEPH DUHAMEL	22
BRO. JOHN LAILIOS	27
BRO. STEVE NOUMAS	28
BRO. WALTER BRITAIN	28
BRO. JESS MEFFORD IV	29
BRO. JESSE PHELPS	31
W.: ROY BAKER	31

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Bro. Paul Smith Raises son Roger Brothers from l-r W.: Jon Vonderau, W.: Warick Taylor, Bro. Paul Smith, Bro. Roger Smith, W.: Johnny Walker, & Rex Baker



R.: W.: Jim Mason and wife at our installation



Our favorite Treasurer and daughter



Bro. John Brown and his wife at our installation

RECYCLING CANS AND NEWSPAPER
 Clearwater Lodge is pleased to support a program of collecting Aluminum cans. The Lodge turned in 65 lbs, and the owner donated extra funds to help our Lodge. Please rinse cans prior to bringing them to the Lodge and place them outside the back door of the Kitchen for collections. Remember also to bring your newspapers and leave them in the bright RED container in the parking lot. Funds collected from Aluminum cans and Newspapers help pay for repairs to parking lot.

BREAKFAST FUND RAISING REPORT
 BRETHREN WE HAD A RECORD NUMBER OF PATRONS IN FEBRUARY. HOWEVER OUR PRICES WILL BE GOING UP THIS MONTH RELATED TO THE COST OF OUR RAW FOOD PRICES THAT ARE ON THE INCREASE. I THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.
 HERE IS A CHALLENGE I FOUND AND WOULD LIKE TO SHARE IT WITH YOU.
 I WILL DO MORE THAN BELONG- I WILL PARTICIPATE, I WILL DO MORE THAN CARE- I WILL HELP, I WILL DO MORE THAN BELIEVE- I WILL PRACTICE, I WILL DO MORE THAN BE FAIR- I WILL BE KIND, I WILL DO MORE THAN FORGIVE- I WILL FORGET, I WILL DO MORE THAN DREAM- I WILL WORK, I WILL DO MORE THAN TEACH- I WILL INSPIRE, I WILL DO MORE THAN EARN- I WILL ENRICH, I WILL DO MORE THAN GIVE- I WILL SERVE, I WILL DO MORE THAN LIVE- I WILL GROW, I WILL DO MORE THAN BE FRIENDLY- I WILL BE A FRIEND, I WILL DO MORE THAN BE A CITIZEN- I WILL BE A PATRIOT.
 FRATERNALLY,
 BROTHER MARLIN MARSH
 CHEF & KITCHEN MANAGER



GIFT STORE:
 Come see Additional new selection of new items available in our Gift Shop to buy. If you have not had the opportunity to stop by the Gift Counter recently, please do so and see the larger selection of Masonic and Eastern Star merchandise that can be purchased. Gift Shop Hours when Lodge is open. *Brother Paul Smith*



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MARCH 2007 EVENTS

Our March fund raiser will be hosted by W.: Jon Vonderau and his wife Marita at Fort Desoto Park. The cost is \$8.00. Please look for the flyer in this edition of the Trestleboard. All are welcome for an afternoon of fishing, eating, and socializing. We will start enjoying our BBQ at 4:00 PM on March 31st, 2007.				1	2	3 Fellowship Breakfast 7-10AM
4	5	6 Officers Practice 7:30	7 Competition Team Practice 7:30 PM	8	9	10 Fellowship Breakfast 7-10AM White Shine 7:30 PM
11	12	13 Stated Meeting 7:30 Dinner 6:30	14 OES 7:30 PM	15 Brothers and La- dies Night Out at Stacy's 6 PM	16	17 Fellowship Breakfast 7-10AM Zone Competition 8AM OES Installation St Patrick's Day
18 Masonic Home Board Meeting 11am	19 EA Degree Prac- tice 7:30	20 EA Degree 7:30 Dinner 6:30	21 Competition Team Practice 7:30 PM	22	23	24 Fellowship Breakfast 7-10AM MM Degree @ Joppa Lodge
25	26	27 Stated Meeting 7:30 Dinner 6:30	28 OES 7:30 PM	29	30	31 BBQ @ Fort Desoto 4PM