

# TRESTLEBOARD

## Clearwater Lodge No. 127 F&AM

Published monthly—Zone 6, District 20—Chartered January 20th, 1892  
 705 South Hercules Avenue—across from Clearwater High School—(727) 447-5161  
 Web site [www.clearwater127.org](http://www.clearwater127.org) - E-mail [clearwaterlodge127@yahoo.com](mailto:clearwaterlodge127@yahoo.com)

### From the East



Brethren,

Our first month of 2007 is now behind us. The transitional period is over. I would like to thank all my Officers and the Brethren of Clearwater Lodge No. 127 for the support I have

received. Now is the time to concentrate on making the Lodge a meeting place where peace and harmony prevail. This task can only be accomplished when everyone works together for a common goal. I have an open door policy if you have any concerns, complaints, or suggestions please feel free to let me know.

I would like to take the time to give you a brief overview of the state of the Lodge. Our Am South account currently contains \$25,000.00 our Investment account contains \$52,981.00 at a 4.5% return. Due to diligent oversight and fund raisers from our Past Masters we have not had to withdraw any monies from our investment account. We will continue to fund raise so as not to use the investment account.

Our upcoming fund raisers for the first quarter of the year will continue to be our Saturday morning breakfasts. Bro. Marlin Marsh has done a comparison study and found that we are 28 % lower in our prices. Unfortunately we will need to increase our prices slightly to keep up with raw food costs. On Friday February 23<sup>rd</sup> W.: Frank Verderame will be bringing back his authentic New York spaghetti. Look for the flyer in this Trestle Board. March will find us at Ft. DeSoto park with W.: Jon Vonderau and a Bar-B-Que and in April W.: Steiner Humerick and W.: Bryant Davis will be frying FRESH FISH AND HUSH PUPPIES. You notice I have underlined the fish and hushpuppies. We will be purchasing fresh fish and breading it here at the Lodge. Some of the old timers can remember when the line for fish was around the corner. Ask W.: Humerick about the old house that used to be on our property and how many pieces of fish he has fried in his 43 years here at Clearwater Lodge.

In closing I would like to leave you with these thoughts. Clearwater Lodge No. 127 was chartered in 1892 in those 115 years it has seen its share of depressions, recessions, boons and busts at times the clouds have rolled in and darkness falls upon the Lodge. But the sun will eventually rise once again in the East and the Light of day will prevail upon the Brethren and the Lodge will once again glow in Peace and Harmony.

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

### From the West



Brethren,

With all the uproar about removing the Ten Commandments, etc., this is worth a moment of your time. I was not aware of this historical information.

On the aluminum cap atop the Washington Monument in Washington D.C., are displayed two words: Laus Deo. No one can see these words. In fact, most visitors to the monument are totally unaware they are even on there and for that matter, couldn't care less.

Once you know Laus Deo's history, you will want to share this with everyone you know. But these words have been there for many years they are at 555 feet, 5.125 inches high, perched atop the monument, facing skyward to the Father of our nation, overlooking the 69 square miles which comprise the District of Columbia, capital of the United States of America.

Laus Deo! Two seemingly insignificant, unnoticed words. Out of sight and, one might think out of mind, but very meaningfully placed at the highest point over what is the most powerful city in the most successful nation in the world.

So what do you think those two words, in Latin, composed of just four syllables and only seven letters, possibly mean? Very simply, they say "Praise is to God!" Though construction of this giant obelisk began in 1848, When James Polk was President of The United States, it was not until 1888 that the monument was inaugurated and open to the public. It took 25 years to finally cap the memorial with a tribute to the Father of our Nation, Laus Deo Praise be to God!

From atop this magnificent granite and marble structure, visitors may take in the beautiful panoramic view of the city with its division into 4 major segments. From that vantage point, one can also easily see the original plan of the designer, Pierre Charles L'Enfant. A perfect Cross imposed upon the landscape, with the Whitehouse to the north. The Jefferson Memorial is to the south, the Capitol to the east and the Lincoln Memorial to the west. A cross you ask? Why a cross? What about separation of Church and State? Yes a cross; separation of church and state was not, in the Constitution. So, read on. How interesting and, no doubt, intended to carry a profound meaning for those who bother to notice.

Praise be to God! Within the monument itself are 898 steps and 50 landings. As one climbs the steps and pauses at the landings the memorial stones share a message. On the 12<sup>th</sup> landing is a prayer offered by the City of Baltimore; on the 20<sup>th</sup> is a memorial presented by some Chinese Christians; on the 24<sup>th</sup> a presentation made by Sunday school children from New York and Philadelphia quoting Proverbs 10:7, Luke 18:16 and Proverbs 22:6. Praise be to God!

When the corner stone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1848 deposited within it were many items including the Holy Bible presented by the Bible Society. Praise be to God! Such was the discipline, the moral direction, and the spiritual mood given by the founder and first President of our unique democracy "One Nation Under God".

With Love for the Fraternity

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

### From the South



Brethren,

Contemplating the meaning of Freemasonry and what it stands for in 2007 I have come across this timely definition.

For centuries, millions of men of every race, color, creed, and political persuasion throughout the world have found in the Symbolic Lodges of Freemasonry the light to guide their search for answers to eternal questions: What is the meaning of life? The nature of God and man?

Freemasonry is a system of morality, veiled in allegory, illustrated by symbols. Not a religion but religious in character, it is a philosophy of ethical conduct which imparts moral and social virtues and fosters brotherly love. Its tenets have endured since man turned the first pages of civilization. They embody the understanding by which man can transcend ordinary experience and build "a house not made with hands" in harmony with the Great Architect of the universe.

Yet Freemasonry can never conflict with a man's relationship to God or fellow man. Sectarian religious or partisan political discussion in a Lodge is strictly prohibited. Every Mason stands equal among his Brothers regardless of walk of life, and none is turned away for financial need.

The purpose of the Ancient Craft of Freemasonry is to unfold a message where "Truth abides in fullness," invoking greater understanding of the inward life and a spirit of fellowship in which every Mason can also lead a better outward life.

Known worldwide as a symbol of character, charity, and brotherly love, the square and compasses are the emblem of every Blue Lodge, the foundation of Freemasonry.

Let us all strive to become more like our ancient Brethren, put all our pettiness and discord away when we enter our Lodge and concentrate on making 2007 a prosperous and productive year.

With my Brotherly Love to all of you,

Bro. Joseph Gondos  
 Junior Warden

OFFICERS	
<b>Worshipful Master</b> W.: James W. Eubanks P.M. 447-3216	<b>Senior Deacon</b> Glen Bishop 224-6991 bishoppb@gmail.com
<b>Senior Warden</b> W.: Jon Vonderau P.M. 586-2304	<b>Junior Deacon</b> Paul L. Smith 799-2182 psmith@tampabay.rr.com
<b>Junior Warden</b> Joseph Gondos 656-7231 jgondos@hotmail.com	<b>Senior Steward</b> Eric Reale 445-9776 h2odiver88@yahoo.com
<b>Treasurer</b> David W. Griffin 499-0042 Honest.lawyer@gte.net	<b>Junior Steward</b> Jess Mefford 224-6541 exquitzbuilders@yahoo.com
<b>Secretary</b> Russell P. LeMar 798-6126 ClearwaterLodge127@yahoo.com	<b>Tyler</b> David Soderland 531-2262
<b>Chaplain</b> W.: Bryant Davis P.M. 797-3033	<b>Musician</b> W.: Mark LeMacher P.M. 709-0585

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<b>BREAKFAST</b> Marlin Marsh 441-2543	<b>INVESTIGATION</b> W.: Jim Eubanks 447-3216 W.: Arthur Barker 446-4210 Eric Reale 445-9776	Paul L. Smith 799-2182	<b>LIBRARIAN</b> Kenneth Fietz 443-6307
<b>BOARD OF RELIEF</b> W.: Jim Eubanks 447-3216	<b>REFRESHMENT</b> Joe Gondos 441-2110	<b>PROGRAMS</b> W.: Jim Eubanks 447-3216	<b>PUBLICITY</b> Russell LeMar 447-5461
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<b>FUND RAISING</b> W.: Jim Eubanks 447-3216			
<b>HOSPITALITY</b> Glen Bishop 224-6991 Paul L. Smith 799-2182			
<b>HOUSE</b> W.: Arthur Barker 446-4210 Craig Knight 442-2586			

## From the Secretary Desk

Brethren,

For me Clearwater Lodge and Freemasonry is not just a building or Fraternity in which I am a member. It is a way of life. So often we find ourselves caught up in the politics of the Lodge. Which group will be in power and which are taking a lesser roll. An us verses them mentality regarding Grand Lodge. Sometimes it is important to take a step back and reevaluate our obligations we took at our Sacred altar. Particularly number 2 of our Masters obligation. Freemasonry has given to me much more than I could ever give back I have found my voice, self confidence, and purpose in Life for that I am eternally indebted to the Lodge. I came across this article by an unknown Masonic Brother and it really hit home the obligations I took at the altar. It is entitled "The Test" we could all learn something from this "Test".



Several years ago, the story is told of a Mason who always wore his Masonic ring and lapel pin in public. On some occasions, he rode the bus from his home to the downtown area. On one such trip and when he sat down, he discovered the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change.

As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, "You'd better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it. Then he thought, "Oh, forget it, it's only a quarter; who would worry about this little amount." Anyway, the transit company gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a "gift from God" and keep it quiet.

When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door then handed the quarter to the driver and said "Here, you gave me too much change." The driver with a smile replied, "I noticed your Masonic ring and lapel pin. I have been thinking lately about asking a Mason how to join. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. You passed the test. Can you tell me how to become a Mason?"

When the Mason stepped off the bus, he said a silent prayer, "Oh God, Grand Architect of the Universe, I almost sold you out for a mere quarter."

Our actions are the only Masonic creed some will ever see. This is a great example of how people watch us Masons and may put us to the test even without realizing it! Always be diligent, whether it be at the theater, restaurant, grocery, service station or just driving in traffic.

Remember, whether it be a lapel pin, a ring, or an emblem on the car, you carry the name of our great fraternity on your shoulders whenever you call yourself a Mason. You can never tell who might be watching! Good men search for Freemasonry; freemasonry makes them better.

In Peace and Harmony  
Russell LeMar  
Secretary

## PAST MASTERS OF CLEARWATER LODGE NO. 127

1892 * W.F. WHITE	1943 * GRADY SULLIVAN	1994 MICHAEL LAFOLLETTE
1893 * C.F. THOMPSON	1944 * WATSON RICKS	1995 GEORGE D. BENHAM P.D.D.G.M.
1894 * JOSEPH ELDRIDGE	1945 * KENNETH LIPPINCOTT	1996 LEE HAMILTON
1895 * J.M. MATCHETT	1946 * WILLIAM L. RANDOLPH	1997 RONALD G. LORH
1896 * JOHN H. WARLICK	1947 * OTIS MCFARLAND	1998 ROY W. BAKER
1897 * H.L. SNYDER	1948 * FRANCIS MIDDLETON	1999 LARRY BOWLING
1898 * W.Y. WILSON	1949 * L. LESTER SELLERS P.D.D.G.M.	2000 PAUL NEWMAN
1899 * H.L. SNYDER	1950 * GLENN ALLAN	2001 SAM LAMPSON P.D.D.G.M.
1900 * W.Y. WILSON	1951 * J. COHEN HARDY	2002 MEL HINKLEY
1901 * JOSEPH J. ELDRIDGE	1952 * LESTER PLUMB P.D.D.G.M.	2003 FRANK VERDERAME
1902 * JOSEPH J. ELDRIDGE	1953 * LEWIS SCRUGGS	2004 JOSEPH W. DUHAMEL
1903 * W.D. KIMBALL	1954 * HAROLD WALLACE	2005 MARK BIRENBAUM
1904 * W.D. KIMBALL	1955 * PAUL CASSEL	2006 SAM LAMPSON, P.D.D.G.M.
1905 * W.D. KIMBALL	1956 * REGINALD MILLER P.D.D.G.M.	2006 ART BARKER
1906 * LEROY BRANDON P.G.M.	1957 * MARVIN DYAL	
1907 * LEROY BRANDON P.G.M.	1958 * ROY H. JAMES	<b>AFFILIATED PAST MASTERS</b>
1908 * R.H. PADGETT	1959 * EDWARD C. CALVIN	1967 JOHN CAREY
1909 * R.H. PADGETT	1960 * GERALD L. WHITE	1973 WILLIAM RITTERBUSCH
1910 * R.W. HINES	1961 * RICHARD E. DUPUY	1977 EDWARD PHERO P.D.L. P.D.D.G.M.
1911 * LEROY BRANDON P.G.M.	1962 * KNUTE A. ODEN	1978 RONALD J. EVANS
1912 * LEROY BRANDON P.G.M.	1963 * WILLIAM F. SHURTLIFF	1980 BEN KEITEL
1913 * S.N. DILLARD	1964 * FRED J. HASLINGER	1981 JAMES EUBANKS
1914 * S.N. DILLARD	1965 * FRANK R. COLVIN	1985 MARK LEMACHER
1915 * J.P. EMERSON	1966 * JAMES J. ALMONY	1985 REED RUE P.D.D.G.M.
1916 * LEROY BRANDON P.G.M.	1967 * LELAND BEEBE	1987 EDWARD AVANCE
1917 * E.E. COPELAND	1968 * HAROLD A. RODENBERG	1988 RONALD J. EVANS JR.
1918 * H.W. BIVENS	1969 * JOHN S. DIAMOND	1989 JOE SIPOS
1919 * H.W. BIVENS	1970 * ARDEN F. FLEISHER	2001 JOHN BRIMSON
1920 * LOUIS FRANK	1971 * STEINER M. HUMERICK	
1921 * S.T. WICKENS	1972 * CARL E. ELWOOD	<b>* DENOTES DECEASED</b>
1922 * JOSEPH A. WRIGHT	1973 * N. FISHER GROVES	
1923 * L.E. JOHNSON	1974 * JAMES H. DIEPHUIS P.D.D.G.M.	
1924 * S.T. WICKENS	1975 * JAMES T. OGLE	
1925 * CHARLES SHAW	1976 * DAVID A. MARTIN	
1926 * S.T. WICKENS	1977 * ROBERT L. TROGLEN	
1927 * CHARLES F. MASON	1978 * TRAVIS MCLEMORE	
1928 * CHARLES F. MASON	1979 * WILLIAM KURTZ	
1929 * D.W. CULP	1980 * JERRY PATTERSON	
1930 * NILS A. ANDERSON	1981 * JERRY COLE	
1931 * JOHN M. GORE	1982 * WAYNE PELLEY	
1932 * EVAN H. JONES	1983 * THOMAS C. LITTLE	
1933 * WILLIAM A. MOREE	1984 * BRYANT S. DAVIS	
1934 * B.T. GRIFFIN	1985 * RONALD LOHR	
1935 * JOHN C. POLHILL P.D.D.G.M.	1986 * MARTIN A. RYAN	
1936 * ARTHUR C. GRISELMAN	1987 * ARDEN F. FLEISHER	
1937 * WILL C. RODGERS P.D.D.G.M.	1988 * JAMES H. DIEPHUIS P.D.D.G.M.	
1938 * HERBERT GRICE	1989 * GRANVILLE T. LEMAY	
1939 * W. PAUL HARRIS	1990 * LUDVIG C. CHRISTENSEN	
1940 * J. MERLE KELLOGG	1991 * RICHARD J. CORNWELL	
1941 * JAMES C. ROBERTS	1992 * RICHARD CORYELL	
1942 * FORREST SCARLOTT	1993 * JACK STABLER P.D.D.G.M.	

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS			
W.: LUDVIG	C. CHRISTENSEN	3	
BRO. EDWIN	B. BALLANTYNE	6	
BRO. JAMES	A. STONER	6	
BRO. JEFFERY	V. COFONE	7	
BRO. WALTER	W. MANNING	8	
BRO. JOSEPH	GALLUCCIO	11	
BRO. RUSSELL	TURVY	13	
BRO. BRUCE	C. LITTLER	14	
BRO. DONALD	D. COCHRAN JR.	14	
W.: JAMES	T. OGLE	14	
BRO. RODNEY	S. FISCHER	14	
BRO. DEREK	A. TRACY	16	
BRO. LAWERENCE	H. BRAND	16	
BRO. JOHN	C. TSACRIOS	17	
BRO. RICHARD	P. STYPE	17	
BRO. DONALD	J. BANKS	18	
BRO. GLENDLE	A. NEAL	19	
BRO. MARK	A. SMITH	20	
BRO. RALPH	W. GOODWIN	20	
BRO. RUSSELL	P. LEMAR	23	
BRO. WILLIAM	F. VALLOREO	23	
BRO. DAVID	L. LAKE	24	
BRO. EDWARD	C. CASTAGNA JR.	25	
BRO. GARY	O. DUFFIELD	25	
BRO. ROBERT	A. DAVIS	25	
BRO. WAYNE	T. KING	25	
BRO. WILLIAM	D. PAUL II	28	

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# Our 2007 Officers



**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**  
 ATTENTION BROTHERS DUE TO THE INCREASING COST OF SUPPLIES PURCHASED FOR BREAKFAST WE WILL NEED TO INCREASE OUR PRICES. AFTER COMPARISON AT AREA DINERS WE ARE 28 % LOWER IN OUR PRICES. OUR BREAKFAST IS OUR BIGGEST FUNDRAISER FOR THE LODGE. WE WILL BE INCREASING THE PRICES STARTING IN MARCH. LOOK FOR OUR NEW MENUS IN NEXT MONTHS TRESTLE BOARD. I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT OUR BREAKFAST RAISED \$5916.19 FOR THE YEAR 2006. ON BEHALF OF THE KITCHEN STAFF I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR PAST AND CONTINUED SUPPORT.  
 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*



**Clearwater Lodge No. 127**  
**Free & Accepted Masons**  
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 www.clearwater127.org

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## FEBRUARY 2007 EVENTS

<b>BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND W: FRANK VERDERAME'S AUTHENTIC NEW YORK SPAGHETTI. FRIDAY FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup> CLEARWATER LODGE NO. 127 WILL BE HAVING AN ALL YOU CAN EAT SPAGHETTI DINNER FOR THE SMALL PRICE OF \$ 8.00. WE WILL START SEVRVING AT 5:30 PM. BRING YOUR FAMILIES FOR THIS INCREDIBLE MEAL. LOOK FOR OUR FLIER IN THIS TRESTLE BOARD.</b>				1	2	3 Fellowship Breakfast 7-10AM
4	5 E.A. Degree Practice 7:30 PM	6 E.A. Degree 7:30 PM Dinner 6:30 PM	7 Competition Team Practice 7:30 PM	8	9	10 Fellowship Breakfast 7-10AM White Shine 7:30 PM
11	12 Lincolns Birthday	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
18	19	20	21 Competition Team Practice 7:30 PM	22 W:. George Washington Birthday	23 Spaghetti Dinner 5:30 PM	24 Fellowship Breakfast 7-10AM
25	26	27 Stated Meeting 7:30 Dinner 6:30	28 OES 7:30 PM	<b>Brethren — Please support our advertisers!! Tell them you saw their ad here!</b> <b>SPOTS ARE AVAILABLE!</b> Advertise your name, goods or service to other Masons and friends! See the Lodge Secretary for more information		