



TRESTLEBOARD

PHALANX LODGE NO. 31

Volume 213, Issue 7

<http://www.phalanx31.org>

July 2010

Message From the East

Brethren,

First, let me remind you that we do in fact have a July Stated on Tuesday, July 13; Dinner at 6:30pm with the Lodge opening at 7:30pm.

What a great four weeks since the last Trestle Board...first a well attended Stated on June 8th with a great meal and wonderful fellowship (we do miss seeing many of you at the Stated's, and would welcome your presence if you are able to attend). An Entered Apprentice Degree followed on June 22nd, and then on Saturday the 26th, five of us (joined by two Daughter's of the Nile) made the trek to the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford for the St. John's Day Celebration. We started at the Cobb Center, walking through the Historical Museum, and then previewing the new Colenda Gallery which was dedicated later that day. The Colenda Gallery contains displays featuring common themes that have shaped the history of North Carolina's oldest home for children, from sports and sewing to shoe making and printing. From there we joined a

tour of the facilities which included stops at the Print Shop (NC's longest continually operating print shop) and then to Eller Cottage. Our small group was greeted on the front porch by 10-year-old Courtney, who explained that she would be our 'tour guide'. Courtney promptly conducted us into the cottage that she shares with 3 other 9 to 12-year-olds and the House Parents, weaving through the great room and dining room and down a hallway to her bedroom. She beamed with pride showing us her posters and unicorn jewelry box and spoke of how much she enjoys living at MHCO. Brethren, meeting that little girl made the trip worth every mile and minute of it. We concluded the stay there with a delicious lunch in the cafeteria before heading back to Charlotte.

Brethren, at our June Stated Communication the "finance committee" returned a recommendation that Phalanx establish dues at a level of \$83.00, effective January 1, 2011. I want to thank that committee for their

careful consideration and evaluation of the current budget and our future needs with regard to operating expenses and potential one-time expenses. I support their consensus that this will insure that Phalanx Lodge is on a firm financial footing for the foreseeable future. Please note that the NC Grand Lodge per capita fee of \$17.00 that Phalanx pays for each member (excepting those with 50 years membership) is not included in this and will be added to that figure. This resolution was passed unanimously and has been forwarded to the Grand Lodge Committee on By-laws of Subordinate Lodges for approval.

Please mark your calendar for these upcoming dates: first a Fellow Craft degree on Tuesday, July 27th with a light snack at 6:30pm and the Degree at 7:00pm, then our August Stated on Tuesday, August 10th when we will be honoring those members due their 25, 50 and 60 year Masonic Service Awards. Brethren, we have 9 men in this group, who between them have accumulated over 360

years of Masonic membership. At this point, I have confirmed that we should expect three of our four 25-year recipients and one of our four 50-year recipients.

Lastly Brethren, I leave you with some wise words: *"He who would become an accomplished Mason must not be content merely to hear, or even to understand, the lectures; he must, aided by them, and they having, as it were marked out the way for him, study, interpret, and develop these symbols for himself."* – Albert Pike

I look forward to seeing you in the Lodge.

Fraternally,
Mike Hamrick
Master
Phalanx Lodge #31

*We look forward to seeing you the **Second Tuesday** of each month for our Stated Communication held at*

*Charlotte York Rite Temple
1229 N. Sharon Amity
Charlotte, N.C. 28211*



Message From the West

Brethren,

In the ancient world of Operative Masonry the masons were often required to move from job to job much as in our modern time. It was further explained that ancient master masons, just as first degree masons of today, were more likely to travel great distances than those who held a higher degree (FC & MM). Due to their experience (and today, usually a membership in the labor union representing the craft) they could move freely from job to job. Those doing so were normally members of a Ma-

sonic guild, whose members would, if known, vouch for the qualifications of (or recommend) another "traveling" mason.

In speculative masonry we as Master Masons may freely move from Lodge to Lodge (either visiting or moving membership) and upon proper avouchment or by testing be found worthy to attend another Master Mason Lodge. This is much the same as moving from one job to another or from one ancient Masonic guild to another.

Also, a Master mason is a

traveler from west to east, as east is where the sun comes up, hence the source of the light. This is why the master sits in the East. Because it is the source of light. Thus being a traveling man represents our journey from darkness to Masonic light (enlightenment). We "traveled" symbolically when we were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Remember the words, "It will be necessary for you to travel"? and the condition of the road we would have to travel?

In Masonry we are told to seek light. Light in masonry is knowledge and from that knowledge comes information and understanding.

Fraternally,
Brad Hufeld
Senior Warden
Phalanx Lodge #31



I am Freemasonry

"I was born in antiquity, in the ancient days when man first dreamed of God. I have been tried through the ages, and found true. The crossroads of the world bear the imprint of my feet, and the cathedrals of all nations mark the skill of my hands. I strive for beauty and for symmetry. In my heart is wisdom and strength and courage for those who ask. Upon my altar is the Book of Holy Writ and my prayers are to the One Omnipotent God, my sons work and pray together, without rank or discord, in the public mart and in the inner chamber. By signs and symbols I teach the lessons of life and of death and the relationship of man with God and of man with man. My arms are widespread to receive those of lawful age and good report who seek me of their own free will. I will accept them and teach them to use my tools in the building of men, and thereafter, find direction in their own quest for perfection so much desired and so difficult to attain.

I lift up the fallen and shelter the sick. I hark to the orphan's cry, the widow's tears, the pain of the old and destitute. I am not church, nor party, nor school, yet my sons bear a full share of responsibility to God, to country, to neighbor and themselves. They are freemen, tenacious of their liberties, and alert to lurking danger. At the end I commit them as

each one undertakes the journey beyond the vale into the glory of everlasting life. I ponder the sand within the glass and think how small is a single life in the eternal universe. Always have I taught immortality, and even as I raise men from darkness into light, I am a way of life."

I am freemasonry.

Masonic Humor

A Candidate for initiation was to be picked up and driven to the Lodge, but before this could happen the car broke down. The Candidate said as it was no great distance he would go on his bicycle.

Just when he reached the top of the hill his chain broke. As the Lodge was at the bottom of the other side and all he needed was a backpedal brake, so he repaired the chain with a cord he had in his pocket and free-wheeled downhill to the Lodge.

Later that evening in reply to a toast in his honor, he said how proud he was to be a Freemason but could not understand, as he had told no one, how the WM knew that he had come on his own free wheel and a cord.



Jed Murphy, who had

been working hard all day on his farm, suddenly remembered that he was scheduled to be initiated at a small rural lodge.

Being already quite late in the day, he had no time to go home and change clothes. Rushing as fast as he could, he arrived at the lodge where another candidate was sitting on a bench outside the building waiting to receive his EA degree (the lodge building was very small requiring candidates to wait seated on the bench until the brethren were ready for them.)

Jed knew the other fellow as a used car salesman. After a few minutes, two men came out and Jed was chosen to go first, leaving the car salesman to wait his turn.

When Jed was alone in the preparation room (which

incidentally was on the second floor directly over the bench outside), after being instructed how to prepare himself, he suddenly remembered that earlier in the day he had been castrating hogs on his farm and had forgotten about the testicles in his pocket that he had planned to feed his dogs.

Frantically, he raised the small window of the preparation room, tossing the hog balls out.

Later, when they came out to get the next candidate, he was gone! Nobody ever saw him again!



It seems that another Mason, Master of his Lodge, went to Heaven and met with St. Peter.

He identified himself as a member of the Craft and St. Peter asked, "What

Lodge?"

Proudly the Master replied, "Old Adage Lodge #1."

St. Peter immediately took him to the Masonic Clock Room. The Master, in puzzlement, looked around the room which was filled with clocks. Each clock had a Lodge's name on a brass plate and, strangely enough, each clock was at a different time.

He asked why and St. Peter informed him that the hands only moved when someone in that Lodge made a mistake in the Ritual.

The Master then asked where his Lodge's clock was as he couldn't see it.

St. Peter replied, "Why, it's in the kitchen, of course."

"The kitchen," said the Master?

"Yes, you see, we needed a new fan."

Secretary's Corner

Brethren,

If you missed the Entered Apprentice Degree in June, you really missed something special. We had a visitor from India honor us by informing us of the similarities and differences between our lodge ceremonies and his lodge's ceremonies.

Although Worshipful Brother Shankar spoke with a heavy accent, it was with great interest that I listened to him and even though I haven't been a

Master Mason for very long, I've never cease to be amazed by the many meanings for various details of the ceremonies and I can honestly say that WB Shankar presented some that I had not heard or thought of, but upon reflection, were obvious.

I have made a promise to myself that as I travel, I will make every effort to visit other lodges and more especially lodges in other countries.

Don't forget the needs of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. The Spring 2010 needs list is enclosed and don't forget that they will always accept money.

Fraternally,
Bill Stout
Secretary

Birthdays

Join us this month in wishing Happy Birthday to:

- 02 – Thomas A, Kirkpatrick Jr
- 02 – Eric L. Legvold
- 03 – Roy J. Vehorn
- 03 – Brad L. Hufeld
- 04 – Ralph W. Harkey
- 13 – Kenneth R. Caudle
- 13 – Theodore S. Little
- 19 – Jacques J. Oudin
- 21 – Michael P. Davis
- 24 – Christopher W. Cox
- 29 – Henry W. Mathis Jr.
- 29 – David J. Campbell

Stories From the South

Brethren,

I thought this story was very appropriate since our visit by Worshipful Brother Shankar of India who visited at our Entered Apprentice Degree for Brother James Contreras, Jr. on June 22, 2010. Think about its meaning...

RUDYARD KIPLING AND THE CRAFT:

Rudyard Kipling, the famous English author, was born in India of English parents. He was educated in England but returned to India in 1880. He was initi-

ated in Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782, Lahore, Punjab, India in 1886. A special dispensation was necessary as he was only twenty years and six months at the time.

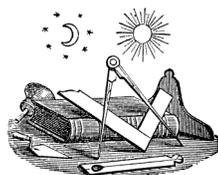
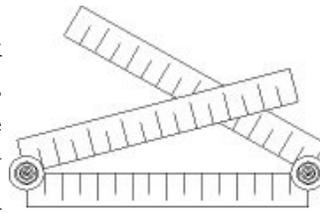
When he took the degrees, there were four Holy Books upon the alter representing the dominant religions in the area.

Upon his rising he was immediately elected secretary; and he prepared the minutes of that meeting himself.

Many years later he wrote: "I was secretary for some years of Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782, E. C., Lahore, which included Brethren of at least four creeds. I was entered by a member of B r a h m o S o m a j, a Hindu; passed by a Moham- medan; and raised by an Englishman. Our Tyler was an Indian Jew. We met, of course on the level, and the only difference anyone would notice was that at the banquets, some of the Brethren, who were debarred by

caste from eating food not ceremonially prepared, sat over empty plates."

Fraternally,
Ralph Harkey
Junior Warden
Phalanx Lodge #31



2010 LODGE OFFICERS

Worshipful Master	Mike Hamrick	704-724-8454
Senior Warden	Brad Hufeld	704-844-8976
Junior Warden	Ralph Harkey	704-614-6715
Treasurer	Ken Caudle, PM	704-502-8640
Secretary	Bill Stout	704-996-4110
Senior Deacon	George Ginn	704-291-9445
Junior Deacon	Kai Ferell	704-995-4676
Senior Steward	James Lofton, Jr.	704-488-1020
Junior Steward	Will King	704-400-3042
Chaplain	David Morgan, PM	704-882-6179
Tyler	Ralph Lee	704-661-3220

Upcoming Dates

Check the Website Calendar for the latest schedule!!

Thu., July 8 — Officer's Meeting — 6:30pm
Tue., July 13 — Stated 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens
Tue., July 27 — Fellow Craft Degree 6:30pm Light Snack, 7:30pm Lodge Opens
Thu., Aug 5 — Officer's Meeting — 6:30pm
Tue., Aug 10 — Stated 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens
Thu., Sept 9 — Officer's Meeting — 6:30pm
Tue., Sept 14 — Stated 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens
Thu., Oct 7 — Officer's Meeting — 6:30pm
Tue., Oct 12 — Stated 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens
Thu., Nov 4 — Officer's Meeting — 6:30pm
Tue., Nov 9 — Stated 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens
Thu., Dec 9 — Officer's Meeting — 6:30pm

Brother, if you've received this Trestleboard by mail, it is because we do not have a current email address for you. If you would prefer to receive this via email, and save the Lodge some expense, please email the Secretary at Secretary@Phalanx31.org.

Masonic Home for Children at Oxford—Current Needs—Spring 2010

Master Mason Cottage

- Roaster
- Yard Tools
- Couch pillows
- Kid pictures
- Kid area rugs
- Electric Skillet
- Long Handled Duster
- Bird Bath for Yard

Alumni Cottage

- Lego's (age 7 and up)
- Wii games
- Queen size sheets
- Pillows
- Large Area Rugs
- Towels and Wash Clothes
- T.V.

Temple Cottage

- Grill Cover
- Rocking Chairs (4)
- Boy's Comforters
- Kitchen Towels
- Picture Frames
- Wii Games
- Duffle Bags
- Axe Body Wash

Gray Cottage:

- 4 Slice/Bagel Toaster
- Vacuum Cleaner
- Digital Camera
- Shoe Shine Kits
- Outdoor Furniture
- Beach Towels
- Gift Cards
- Vacuum Cleaner

Eller Cottage

- Outdoor Grill
- Griddle
- Bath Mats and Matching Towels
- Outdoor Swing for Patio
- Patio Furniture
- Living Room Lamps
- Bedroom Lamps
- Comforters Girls Room (age 9-12)
- Wii Games
- PG Movies
- Vacuum
- Rake, Shovel, Hoe, and other tools for Gardening
- Blower

Williams Cottage

- Croc Pot
- Serving Platters
- Serving Bowls
- Throw rugs for girl's rooms
- Wii Games
- Cereal Containers (3)
- Bread Container
- Kitchen Dish Rags
- Large Wok Skillet
- Large Cooking Pot
- Patio Furniture
- Outdoor Water Hose Reels

Clothing Department:

- Beach Towels
- Flip Flops
- Pajamas
- Laundry Baskets

Bemis Cottage:

- Blender
- Pictures to hang on walls

Cottage 7

- Outdoor Shed
- Large Plastic Storage Containers
- Board Games (Taboo/Don't be a dork)
- Wii Games
- Wii Controllers
- Gift Cards

Parham Cottage:

- New Living Room Furniture or professionally cleaned or recovered
- Plastic food storage containers (no extra large ones) preferable stackable
- Plants, flowers, vegetables, herbs
- Cooler (picnic)
- 3 Rods and Reels
- Tackle Box
- Hose and Nozzle
- 2 Plastic pitchers
- 2 large cereal containers

Recreation Department:

- Beach Towels
- Flip Flops
- Sunscreen
- Pool Toys
- Goggles
- Handheld Weights

Direct Care:

- TI - 83 calculators (10)
- TI - 84 calculators (10)
- Disposable Camera's
- Scrapbook supplies
- Board games
- Holiday/Seasonal Decorations
- 2" - 3" Binders
- Money for Educational Material for Summer Enrichment Program

Card Supplies:

- Cardstock paper
- 12x12 Scrapbook Paper
- Double sided tape
- Brads
- Craft gift cards
- Rubber stamps

For Our Volunteers:

- Needs in Clothing Dept
- Needs in Ceramics
- Needs in Recreation
- Needs in Card Making
- Sponsorship of Summer Trips
- Sponsorship of Individual Children for Sumer Camps
- Repair of Tennis Courts
- Preparation of a Volleyball Court
- Preparation of a Horseshoe area w/ supplies

Contribution to The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford

Amount: \$ _____

Phalanx #31

Gift Type – (mark one)

General Gift _____ Designated Gift _____ Sponsorship _____ Gift-In-Kind _____

Pledged Gift _____ \$ _____ a _____ for _____ (weeks/months/years)

Memorial/Honor Gift _____ Person to be memorialized/honored _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Payment Method

Cash/Check _____

Credit Card _____ Type: Visa _____ MasterCard _____ No. _____

Expiration Date: ____/____/____ Signature (required): _____

Mail Donations and this form to:

The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford
600 College Street
Oxford, North Carolina 27565

For More Information Contact:

The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford
(919)693-5111/1-888-505-4357
Visit www.mhc-oxford.org

The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford is a licensed, residential foster home and a federally recognized 501 (c)(3), (Tax ID No. 56-0603924) not-for-profit charity. All contributions are tax-deductible as prescribed by law. Pursuant to the Internal Revenue Service, donors do not receive any goods or services in return for contributions to MHCO. MHCO prescribes to all ethical and legal practices of fundraising as outlined by the Association of American Fundraising Professionals. All gifts to MHCO are kept confidential. Donor's names, but not donations, may be publicized, unless donor notifies MHCO. Financial Information available on request.