



TRESTLEBOARD

PHALANX LODGE NO. 31

Volume 215, Issue 5

<http://www.phalanx31.org>

May 2012

Message From the East

Greetings from the East,

As always, I hope that this edition of the Phalanx Lodge #31 Trestle Board finds you doing well.

As always, Phalanx Lodge #31 is staying busy. You will be happy to know that we are in the process of coaching two Entered Apprentices for advancement to the Fellowcraft Degree. You will also be happy to know that these two brethren, Mike Mangum and Hasan Latif, have come back into the fold after an absence. As the old saying goes, "better late than never". Brother Mangum is an attorney here in town and Brother Latif is in an entrepreneur in the food industry. Our thanks to Worshipful Brother Bob Braswell and Brother Chris Crump for their dedication to the Craft and these two brethren. We are looking forward to seeing our Senior Warden, Brother Kai Ferrell sitting in the East to advance these two men. Stay tuned for more to come on the Fellowcraft Degree conferral.

Speaking of "looking forward" things are getting into gear for our June 16, 2012 fundraiser featuring Hall of Fame Musician Joe Edwards. I should say, Illustrious Sir Joe Edwards since he is a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, as well. Brother Joe is a noted Nashville musician and entertainer. As a side man in the music industry for over 50 years, he has accompanied many of the legendary names in Country music. Artists such as Patsy Cline, Ray Price, Minnie Pearl, "Jumping" Bill Carlisle, Ferlin Husky and "The Father of Bluegrass" Bill Monroe are just a few. He opened the Grand Ole Opry each Saturday night with a fiddle tune for 32 years and his version of "Saturday Night Hoe Down" is still used on WSM 650AM radio's "Opry Warm Up Show" which airs each Saturday night prior to the Grand Ole Opry performance. Joe along with his wife, Jan, are looking forward to bringing their variety show to Phalanx Lodge as a fundraiser for our Masonic Charities. It will be a variety show with music appealing to everyone. Preceding the show will be a spaghetti dinner. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan on attending. In order to properly prepare, please let me know if you plan to attend. We would love to have you! I can be reached at (704) 614-6715.

In addition to this fundraiser, our Auto Bell fundraiser proved to be quite successful. We managed to sell all of the tickets and raised approximately \$750 for the Masonic Charities. Fundraising has seem to have become a focus this year. While we are not as entrenched and successful as some of the other area lodges like Mint Hill Lodge with their Fish Fry and Steel Creek Lodge with their car show and fish fry, we do try to do what we can. This year, since our merger with Joppa Lodge, we will be combining our BBQ fundraising efforts. I have been told that Joppa has a great BBQ each year so we are looking forward to making it the best one ever as we combine the talents of some great brethren from each lodge.

Our Tuesday night ritual rehearsals are growing in number. Since we decided a couple of months ago to begin meeting each Tuesday night for ritual rehearsal, items of interest and general fellowship I have seen a marked increase in the number of attendees. It is a great time for understanding what we do during the business meeting and our degrees. It also gives us time to get to know each other better. Currently, we are rehearsing for the Fellowcraft Degree which is on the horizon. I'll have to say, I had so much fun on one of the last Tuesday night's that I laughed until I cried. You really develop a bond with your brothers during these times but, "you must be present to win" as it is said. Make it a point to join us. It is understandable if you can't make them all...we aren't asking you to. Just join in and enlighten those in attendance with your experience in Masonry and life. We look forward to seeing you!

Finally, brethren, as you may or may not know by now, Worshipful Brother Angus Mercer has tendered his resignation as Treasurer of Phalanx Lodge #31, effective May 8, 2012. It was with mixed emotion that I accepted his request. Brother Angus has become a good friend since my joining the fraternity 7 years ago. His dedication to the fraternity combined with his sense of business has lent itself well to accomplishing our financial goals. Please join me in saluting Brother Angus on a job well done. With this in mind, we will be holding an election for Treasurer at the May 8, 2012 Stated Communication. Come out and let your vote be counted.

Until next time, "may the blessing of Heaven rest upon us and all regular Masons. May brotherly love prevail and every moral and social virtue cement us."

Travel safely, my brothers...

Bro. Ralph Harkey, Master 2012

Phalanx Lodge #31

Message From the West

Brethren,

As I sit here working at my desk, my mind wanders from time to time at how life used to be. I look over to my left, and on the wall is a Wells Fargo calendar, and the photo is of a stage coach being drawn by 6 horses. They are traveling in what I can only guess is a valley in Montana or Colorado. It's a wide open country scape, and in the background are snow covered mountains. Then I'm drawn back to my job where I sit at a computer all day in a small cubicle surrounded by an ocean of cubicles. A never ending sea of workers locked into a small area frantically typing away in a fluorescently lit arena. You may be asking yourself, "What does all of this have to do with Masonry?" Well, long ago life may have seemed much easier, when in reality it was a harsh world and you had to work for

everything you had. By that token, the tenants of Masonry are simple in nature, but grandiose in design.

Masonry teaches us meet on the level, act by the plumb, and part on the square.

We meet on the level because we are all brethren, from all walks of life, and once together, we are all equals. We act by the plumb because we walk upright among men and Mason's and are true to each other. And we part on the square because we are taught to treat each other with dignity and reverence. These may seem like simple gestures, but just image if the world at large could follow these same tenants. Masonry takes good men and makes them better, and the world judges Masonry by the individual members they come into contact

with.

It's the simple things in life that we do which makes the most difference as a whole. It may not always seem like it at the time, but every day we have a chance to make a positive change, even if that change may seem so small in nature, it's still a difference.

Fraternally,
Bro. Kai T. Ferell
Senior Warden
Phalanx Lodge #31

Secretary's Corner

Brethren,

I am still holding a number of 2012 dues cards...please check the date on yours, and if it is not 2012 then you should have received a reminder from me in March. I will be sending out second delinquency notices during the summer.

Also a reminder that if you have an email address, and would like to receive your Trestle Board electronically, please let us know by dropping me an email at secretary@phalax31.org. By doing so, the Lodge will save money on printing and mailing costs, as well as reducing waste. Lastly, through the Phalanx Lodge web site you can keep up-to-date with Lodge events. Look for us on the Web at www.phalax31.org.

Fraternally,
Mike Hamrick, PM
Secretary

Message From the South

Brethren,

I had an extremely eye opening experience since our last trestle board was published. It came during my attendance to the Grand Masters visit in Matthews last month. The Grand Master conveyed to us an extremely emotional and interesting story about his son's path to becoming a Master Mason.

He told us that his son had wanted to be a Mason for some time, but since his

father had never really talked to him about it, he was rather nervous to broach the subject with him. He wasn't really sure how to say to the man he had looked up to all his life, that he too wanted to be a part of the fraternity that his dad so loved.

If my memory serves me correctly, it was his daughter who eventually said something to her father, and soon his son's Masonic journey soon began.

The Grand Master was so proud to tell us this story, which has now culminated in his son serving as Grand Tyler for this year's line of Officers.

The morale of the story is one that I feel like it was important to share. While our fraternity does not advertise or invite members, we can make sure that our sons, brothers, cousins and friends all know how to become a Mason, and more importantly they can see how much we enjoy

being Masons. It is our job as active Masons to act as stewards of our fraternity, and while I think we do a wonderful job, it is always good to be reminded that there are always more good men out there who may be interested in joining.

Fraternally,
Jim Lofton
Junior Warden
Phalanx Lodge #31

CHARITY BENEFIT

-----featuring-----

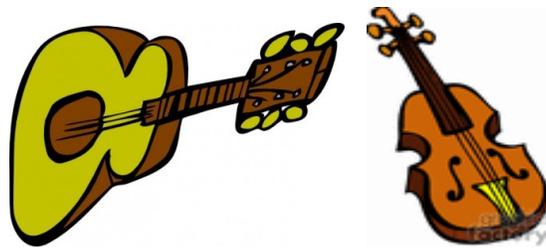
HALL of FAME MUSICIAN

JOE EDWARDS

SAT JUNE 16 2012

5:30pm DINNER 7:00pm SHOW

\$10 ADULTS \$8 CHILDREN 12 & UNDER



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PHALANX #31 MASONIC LODGE
500 N. SHARON AMITY RD
CHARLOTTE NC

www.phalanx31.org

FOR MORE INFO & RSVP CALL
704-614-6715

Birthdays

Join us in wishing Happy Birthday to:

May

02 - Robert Kirkley
 02 - Christopher G. Baxas
 03 - Garland P. Coursey
 04 - Billy A. Garris
 05 - Douglas E. Mann
 07 - Olive W. Anderson
 11 - Ben R. Honeycutt
 12 - James H. Mixson
 12 - Christopher W. Crump
 13 - Jones P. Thompson
 14 - Robert M. Goodson
 16 - Edward D. Norris
 19 - William R. Mooney
 20 - John H. Caudle
 21 - William H. Whitlow
 23 - Harry W. Rice
 23 - Richard T. Armstrong
 23 - Anthony S. Crosby
 24 - Phillip R. Kinmon
 24 - William A. Deaton
 25 - Gregory F. Strother
 27 - James M. Wozny
 28 - Thomas E. Weatherman
 28 - William D. Hodges

June

03 - Dirk R. Baxter
 03 - Brent M. Simpson
 04 - Billy E. Smith
 04 - Neal T. Saunders
 05 - John M. Dwelle
 07 - Stanley P. Lathrop
 07 - David B. Neale
 11 - Wade L. Mangum
 11 - Edward L. Keller
 11 - Robert W. Golibart
 12 - Russell W. Kruse
 14 - Scott M. Shelton
 15 - William T. Snow
 15 - Larry S. Martin
 18 - Jerry E. Cohen
 18 - Roger A. Huse
 20 - Christopher E. Farmer
 21 - Paul L. Whitfield
 29 - Jerry R. Mccorkle
 29 - William B. Ross
 30 - James G. Shore

In Memoriam

John Plummer Kirkpatrick

Born: 02/07/1929
 Staunton, VA
 Initiated: 03/08/1960
 Passed: 03/22/1960
 Raised: 04/12/1960
 Died: 03/23/2012

A Brother who lived
 respected and died
 regretted.

Farewell until we meet
 again

Jack Reid Worley

Born: 07/26/1918
 Charlotte, NC
 Initiated: 11/08/1940
 Passed: 11/29/1940
 Raised: 12/20/1940
 Died: 04/02/2012

A Brother who lived
 respected and died
 regretted.

Farewell until we meet
 again

Donald Patrick Parker

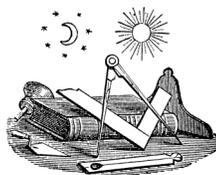
Born: 07/13/1931
 Charlotte, NC
 Initiated: 04/09/1971
 Passed: 09/24/1971
 Raised: 10/15/1971
 Died: 04/05/2012

A Brother who lived
 respected and died
 regretted.

Farewell until we meet
 again

2012 LODGE OFFICERS

Worshipful Master	Ralph Harkey	704-614-6715
Senior Warden	Kai Ferell	704-995-4676
Junior Warden	James Lofton, Jr.	704-488-1020
Treasurer	Angus Mercer, PM	704-542-1422
Secretary	Mike Hamrick, PM	704-724-8454
Senior Deacon	Steven Porter	704-361-7185
Junior Deacon	Bill Clark	704-756-0343
Senior Steward	Bill Stout	704-996-4110
Junior Steward	Chris Crump	704-913-1568
Chaplain	David Morgan, PM	704-882-6179
Tyler	Michael Davis	704-957-6046



Upcoming Dates

Check the Website Calendar for the latest schedule!!

Tue., May 8 — Stated Communication
 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens

Tue., Jun 12 — Stated Communication
 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens

Sat., Jun 16 — Fund Raiser—Joe Edwards
 5:30pm Dinner, 7:00pm Lodge Opens

Tue., Jul 10 — Stated Communication
 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens

Tue., Aug 14 — Stated Communication
 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens

Tue., Sept 11 — Stated Communication
 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens

Tue., Oct 9 — Stated Communication
 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens

Tue., Nov 13 — Stated Communication
 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens

Tue., Dec 11 — Stated Communication
 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens



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.