



# TRESTLEBOARD

## PHALANX LODGE NO. 31

Volume 215, Issue 7

<http://www.phalanx31.org>

July 2012

### Message From the East

Greetings from the East!

At the time of your reading of this article, we are in the heat of summer. Make a note for Tuesday, July 10th...WE ARE NOT DARK! Things have gotten "hot", in terms of activity, at Phalanx Lodge #31.

On June 16th, we welcomed Guitar Thumbpicker Hall of Famer Joe Edwards and his lovely wife Jan for a fundraising event supporting the Masonic charities. As of this writing, we are calculating the final total to be donated. From first glance, we are in the neighborhood of \$500. That amount includes the 10% additional that Joe and Jan donated from their merchandise sales the night of the event. If you were in attendance, "Thank You" for your support! If you were not there, you missed a fantastic event complete with a spaghetti dinner, salad and rolls. Desserts for the evening were provided by the Daughters of the Nile Latona Temple #154. They were able to raise \$75 toward support of the Shriners Hospitals for Children. Joe and Jan have expressed interest in coming back to visit us. Upon their return to Nashville, they met with the Secretary for the Scottish Rite Valley of Nashville to express their interest in performing other events for the Masonic entities around the country. I think we left a great impression, brethren!

One of the best things that came out of our fundraiser is the meeting and greeting of some new acquaintances. We were lucky enough to have Michael R. Fowler, 2007 Past Potentate of Mohammed Shrine Temple-Illinois. He is in town on business and has been searching for Masonic activities in which to participate. He is also looking for a Blue Lodge with which to affiliate. He seemed to have a toe tapping good time with us, too. Another acquaintance was the attendance of one of our neighbors from Regency Apartment Homes right next door. When the advertising went out for the event, I received a call from a gentleman inquiring about event details. I introduced myself and found that he was a non-Mason. I welcomed his attendance. He came to the event and brought his wife. They both had a great time. It is my understanding that he is interested in learning more about our fraternity.

I would like to thank Terry Lawson, who spoke during dinner at the fundraiser, as well. Terry is the facilitator, along with Worshipful Brother Mack Wilson, of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford annual ski outing. Terry enlightened us on the "home" and how it operates and assists those in need. She should know because she was a resident...She moved many of us to tears with her story of how she came to be associated with the "home". Brethren, this is part of our obligation. Ask yourself, earnestly..."Am I doing my part?" I know I fall short from time to time so, let's step up for both of our charities. Even if it is with a phone call, a card or a visit. The unexpected makes the best gift sometimes.

We have also been fortunate to have advanced Brothers Hasan Yousif Latif and Charles Michael Mangum to the degree of Fellowcraft. These two brethren are on track to be raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by the end of the summer. I encourage each of you to reach out to them, and any of our newer brothers, to continue on with their education and commitment to the Craft. Stay tuned for the date of the degree. We are looking at a Saturday morning so we will not be as pressed for time as we would in an evening. It also gives us the opportunity to have a great fellowship breakfast together.

Brethren, keep me in the loop on happenings. Sometimes you hear more than I do...after all, there is no "I" in "TEAM", and that is what we are.

Fraternally,  
Bro. Ralph Harkey, Master 2012  
Phalanx Lodge #31

## Message From the West

Brethren,

On July 2nd, 1776, the vote for the United States to become independent from Great Britain took place, and on July 4<sup>th</sup> 1776, the Continental Congress of Philadelphia formally approved the document, the "Declaration of Independence." This year, 2012, marks this country's 236<sup>th</sup> year as an independent nation.

Also, on October 4th, 1779, Phalanx lodge was first formed under a regimental warrant issued by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to the Fourth North Carolina contingent in the Continental army for the formation of Lodge No. 20. As you know, Phalanx was a traveling lodge and

through various relocations down our winding path of existence, our lodge formally became Phalanx Lodge No. 31, A.F.&A.M. on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1797. This year, 2012, marks this lodges 215<sup>th</sup> year as an independent lodge.

Sometimes we forget our rich history, and that in fact, Phalanx Lodge, as it stands today, is only 21 years younger than this great nation we live in.

Hope you all have a happy Independence Day!!

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

## Secretary's Corner

Brethren,

What a great June it was, with a productive Stated, a fundraising spaghetti dinner and show by Joe Edwards, and lastly a Fellow Craft Degree for two who returned to us, both after a multi-year absence. With a Master Mason Degree in the upcoming weeks, and at least one petition to be received in July, your Lodge is busy and vibrant. If you haven't joined us in months, or perhaps even years, please consider the option of the good fellowship and genuine Masonic brotherhood that we enjoy every time we gather.

And now, once again the appeal...for 2012 dues. Brothers, we have 37 who have not yet made their

dues payment, representing over \$3,200.00 in expected, but unrealized, income for the Lodge. This does not include 9 whose 2012 dues were previously remitted. This shortfall has a great potential to place the Lodge in a difficult financial position if not reduced considerably. Please check your dues card to insure that it says "2012". If you need another 2012 dues statement, or if you are making difficult decisions in this economic climate that we find ourselves in, please do not hesitate to contact me so that necessary action can be taken.

Fraternally,  
Mike Hamrick, PM  
Secretary

## Message From the South

Brethren,

For the brothers that attended the Fellowcraft degree the other night, I am sure you noticed the multi generational candidates we passed. Our two newest brothers consisted of one in his thirties and another in his fifties, but we also assisted Temple lodge by passing one of their brothers who is in his early twenties. Seeing these three good men of all ages standing before us it

made me think about the universality of Masonry. The multi generational experience we had the other night is proof to me that the teachings and lessons that we learn are valuable to all good men, not just one specific demographic. Knowing that this is the case it is important that we continue to view Masonry as a melting pot of ideas and opinions with all of us having the one primary goal of making good men

better. As I became a Master Mason in my late twenties it has been a time of introspection and learning, and Masonry has played a huge part in helping me understand how I view the world. It has helped reinforce my understanding that like we say in our closing charge, every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. As evidenced by our candidates, we have ability to affect every generation

and make an impression on anyone around us, so we must therefore remain vigilant in our duties to be good stewards of our lives and of our fraternity to the community so that we continue to demonstrate the good that Masonry does every day. I look forward to seeing you all our upcoming stated communication and degree work.

Fraternally,  
Jim Lofton  
Junior Warden

Signers Of The  
**Declaration of Independence**

Known Masons

Bengamin Franklin  
John Hancock  
Joseph Hewes  
William Hooper  
Thomas McKean  
Robert Treat Payne  
Ricard Stockton  
George Walton  
William Whipple  
John Witherspoon

Evidence of Membership/Affiliation

Elbridge Berry  
Lyman Hall  
Thomas Jefferson  
Thomas Nelson Jr.  
John Penn  
George Read  
Roger Sherman

Signers Of The  
**Constitution of the United**

Known Masons

Gunning Bedford, Jr.  
John Blair  
David Brearly  
Jacob Broom  
Daniel Carrol  
John Dickinson  
Benjamin Franklin  
Rufus King  
George Washington

Evidence of Membership/Affiliation

Abraham Baldwin  
William Blount  
Elbridge Gerry  
Nicholas Gilman  
Alexander Hamilton  
Thomas Jefferson  
John Lansing, Jr.  
James Madison  
George Mason  
George Read  
Robert Morris  
Roger Sherman  
George Wythe

Later Became Masons

William Richardson Davie, Jr.  
Jonathan Dayton  
Dr. James McHenry  
John Francis Mercer  
William Patterson  
Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer

## Birthdays

Join us in wishing Happy Birthday to:

### July

02 - Thomas A. Kirkpatrick Jr  
 02 - Eric L. Legvold  
 03 - Brad L. Hufeld  
 04 - Rockwell S. Boyle Jr  
 04 - Ralph W. Harkey  
 05 - Garry W. Krueger  
 08 - Charles W. Dekrafft  
 10 - Richard C. Bohart  
 13 - Tommy R. Blacka  
 13 - Kenneth R. Caudle  
 13 - Theodore S. Little  
 16 - Robert L. Denton  
 17 - William S. Bradley  
 19 - Zaccues J. Oudin  
 21 - William M. Archer  
 21 - Edward W. Goodyear Jr  
 21 - Michael P. Davis  
 22 - James H. Eskridge  
 22 - Robert R. Hall  
 23 - Harry L. Burns  
 24 - Daniel E. Lawing  
 24 - Christopher W. Cox  
 25 - John W. Cain Jr  
 28 - Ronald J. Mellow  
 29 - Roscoe Lindsay  
 29 - David J. Campbell  
 31 - Theodore L. Davis  
 31 - John W. Cain III

### August

01 - Robert D. Elf  
 01 - Billy Howard  
 01 - Eugene L. Poore  
 03 - Albert T. St. Clair  
 03 - George A. Ginn  
 04 - David M. Wilson  
 05 - James L. Gibson III  
 08 - Mihran K. Hamamgian  
 10 - Charles W. Whitmire  
 10 - Ronnie H. Long  
 11 - Warren M. Miller  
 12 - David A. Austin  
 14 - Josie L. Smith  
 15 - Robert E. Welch  
 15 - James J. Faulk  
 15 - James S. Corne  
 16 - Charles E. Boggs  
 18 - Larry E. Glasson  
 19 - Boyce H. Roberts  
 19 - Harry B. Hood  
 20 - Albert J. Morton  
 20 - Jeffrey W. Stegall  
 21 - Walter Moody  
 21 - Richard K. Wagoner Jr.  
 24 - Craig Dougherty  
 24 - Jeffrey M. Britt Sr  
 28 - Kevin M. Stegall  
 28 - David J. Potts  
 29 - John C. Knox

## In Memoriam

### Keith Nance

Born: 08/22/1934  
 Monroe, NC  
 Initiated: 01/14/1983  
 Passed: 02/18/1983  
 Raised: 03/11/1983  
 Died: 06/22/2012

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., 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](mailto:Secretary@Phalanx31.org).