

# TRESTLEBOARD

## PHALANX LODGE NO. 31



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February 2014



Jim Lofton  
Master

Greeting Brothers!

It was so good to see everyone at our March stated communication, which was our official visit from the DDGM of the 32nd Masonic district. We had a terrific meeting and learned some good information about the Grand Master's plan for 2014. For those brothers that were not able to attend I did make an announcement regarding our Senior Warden. Unfortunately he was not able to fulfill his duties this year and did have to resign his position. Worshipful Brother John Harder has been gracious enough to step in and fill that role for us until we can hold an election.

Per code we have requested dispensation from the Grand Master, but I expect that we will most likely hold an election sometime later this spring. On a brighter note our three entered apprentices are doing well with their catechism and I expect we will have a second degree in the near future. I would encourage as many brothers as possible to attend once the date is published. I would also like all brothers to know that I have proposed the idea of spring fundraiser for sometime in May. There was a time when more than a handful of brothers participated in fundraisers and I am looking for a brother to champion a spring fundraiser for us this year! If you have an interest please let me know and I will offer all the support and help possible. I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Fraternally,  
Jim Lofton - Master



Mike Hamrick, PM  
Secretary

Brothers,

Please make note of the upcoming dates for Masonic happenings in the area on the next page. I would encourage you to mark your calendar now for the Fellowcraft degree for our Entered Apprentices.

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Brothers, as of this writing, we are still awaiting a 2014 dues payment from 70 Brothers. If you've misplaced that notice, please contact me as soon as possible. I will get another one to you. If you are unable to make payment, please contact me or the Master for what will be considered a confidential conversation. We do not wish to lose members who find themselves in difficulty.

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Finally, contributions to this monthly Trestleboard is certainly not limited to the Master, Wardens and myself. Should you have something to share in the way of an article of some kind, please do not hesitate to forward that to me for consideration.

Mike Hamrick, PM





Chris Crump  
Junior Warden

Brothers,

Hello Brethren,

I hope all is well...Spring is Here...I would like to ask all Brethren to please let me know if there are any areas of the Lodge building that you believe need attention. The Trustees are looking to do some upgrades this year on areas of need. If you have any ideas please do not hesitate to notify me. My cell number and email address are listed below in the Officer listing.

On another note, the School of Instruction is coming up in May, and I would like to see Phalanx Lodge have a good showing of members. Remember Brothers...We do best what we do most...

Fraternally,  
Chris Crump



### Upcoming Masonic Happenings

**Tue, April 8** - Stated Communication  
6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens

**Thu, April 24** - Grand Master Dalton W. Mayo District Meeting  
6:00pm Dinner, 7:15pm Meeting  
Temple Lodge - 3900 Litchfield Rd.

**April 25 & 26** - Scottish Rite Reunion

**Tue, April 29** - Fellowcraft Degree  
6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens



### 2014 OFFICERS

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### BIRTHDAYS

<b>APRIL</b>	08 - Edgar A. Miller Jr	16 - Tony Woodward	07 - Wayne Anderson	23 - Anthony Crosby
03 - Blair Carpenter	08 - Glenn C. Harrelson	20 - John L. Campbell	11 - Ben Honeycutt	24 - Phillip Kinmon
03 - Willie Brumbalow	10 - Boyce M. Brown	21 - Lewis Berryhill Jr	12 - James Mixson	24 - William Deaton
03 - Anthony T. Pressley	10 - David W. Morrison	22 - Dorsey Hardy	12 - Chris Crump	25 - Greg Strother
03 - William S. McGee	11 - John C. Donaldson	29 - Robert A. James	13 - Jones Thompson	28 - Thomas Weatherman
03 - Earl S. Stegall	11 - William W. Sealey	30 - Duane H. Burch	14 - Robert Goodson	28 - William Hodges
04 - Irwin Belk	13 - Larry J. Morgan		16 - Edward Norris	
04 - Allan Laymon	14 - David A. Holmes	<b>MAY</b>	19 - Bill Mooney	
04 - Warley M. Araujo	14 - Dale I. Gillis	02 - Robert Kirkley	20 - John Caudle	
05 - Ernest A. Morrison Jr	14 - Richard A. Vinroot	02 - Christopher Baxas	21 - William Whitlow	
07 - Timothy E. Pope	14 - Kai T. Ferrell	03 - Garland Coursey	23 - Harry Rice	
	14 - Walter E. Dickson	04 - Billy Garris	23 - Richard Armstrong	
		05 - Douglas Mann		



## THE GREAT SECRET OF FREEMASONRY

Recently I called at the home of a friend and found his wife reading a Masonic Paper. Since she and her people had long been a bitter anti-Masonic family, I asked her the reason for her change in reading material. She replied she had discovered the grand secret of Masonry; and related to me (*the original writer*) as follows:

“Soon after you were here last, I learned to my mortification, my husband had become a Mason. I felt it was because of you and I need not say how I felt toward either of you. I at once decided that my domestic happiness had come to an end. Sometime later a circumstance occurred that for the first time gave me reason to doubt his integrity. Late on one of the coldest nights last winter my husband came in and asked, “Margaret, can you do without your blanket shawl?” I answered yes and he asked me to get it, also a bed comforter. I handed them to him and he left the house to join a friend who was waiting for him with a very large basket. My husband returned shortly with no explanation, either then or later for his actions. I decided to watch for my shawl, for if I once caught sight of it I could unravel this whole mystery. Soon afterward a female whisked past me on the street wearing my shawl.

“The good for nothing huzzy, I thought; and excitedly started in pursuit. I followed closely from street to street and into the fourth story of a bindery. As she sat down to work I immediately set about locating her residence to get a clue to my husband’s perfidy. On arriving at her home I saw that I was not mistaken for I found my comforter there.

“The whole secret flashed on my mind at once, as clearly as if it had been written with a sunbeam from heaven. There I found a widowed mother in the last stages of consumption, and three children dependent upon the scanty pittance earned by the elder sister, whom I had followed. I learned from the dying woman a lesson, that in all my philosophy I had never dreamed of - such a tale of sorrow as I had never before listened to—and when she had related the deed of charity that had been the cause of all my unhappiness, I felt there was not room in my bosom to appreciate the disinterested benevolence of my husband. She said, “I do not know how we should have lived, but for the kindness of two persons who came here late one night, and left a basket filled with provisions, some bedclothes, a shawl and five dollars. They just opened the door and set in the basket, saying, “Accept this and ask no questions”; and left before I had time to inquire their names. I do not know who they were, and I have some doubts from where these things came. But I never forget in earnest prayers to Him, Who opened His hand and filleth the poor with bread, to ask, if these were men, He will keep them and theirs from the sorrows and afflictions with which I am visited. I left the house a better woman than when I entered it.”

“But the grand secret of Masonry...” said I, “I thought you were to tell me what it is.”  
She replied, “It is this - to do good and not tell of it.”