

# TRESTLEBOARD

## PHALANX LODGE NO. 31



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May 2014



Jim Lofton  
Master

Greeting Brothers!

Brothers we have a lot going on in May and it should make for an exciting month. I would ask that as many brothers as possible attend our May stated as we will be electing a Senior Warden to fill the post for the rest of the year. We will also be holding a service award night on May the 27th for several brothers receiving service awards. We will also honor our military veterans that night with a certificate presentation to all present who have received one from the Grand Lodge.

We look forward to seeing you all for these two dates in May. We will continue to be active during the early part of June with a Saturday morning third degree. We don't have a date set yet for this event, but it will be sure to be a great event! We had discussed doing some sort of a spring festival fundraiser, but with time slipping away, and no one to take the reins it looks like we may not be able to bring it all together. We will still be doing our Autobell tickets that we do in the spring though. I do look forward to seeing everyone soon and hope that many of you will be able to attend our May stated.

Fraternally,  
Jim Lofton - Master



Mike Hamrick, PM  
Secretary

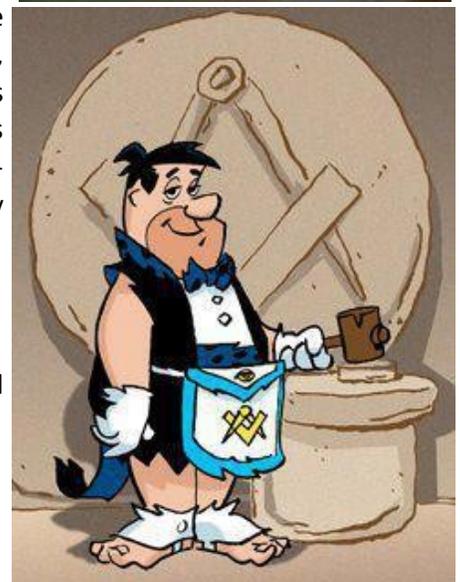
Brothers,

I find that I run across a number of unusual tidbits of information or even pictures or videos in my almost daily Masonic research. I had seen these two images before, but not really taken time to look at some of the detail. Many of us will recall that Fred Flintstone and Barney Rubble were members of the Loyal Order of Water Buffaloes Lodge No. 26 (ironically, the Elks may have been named the Buffalo had the votes been different). As we have three Fellowcraft working now toward their catechism, I seem a little more 'tuned' to that degree and it's lectures, charge and signs. If you'll look carefully, while presumably a Water Buffalo and not an AFAM, the square and compasses configuration on Fred's apron might suggest he is also a Fellowcraft. Of note, is that the voice of Barney, Mel Blanc ("The Man of a Thousand Voices"), was a Mason, member of Mid Day Lodge #188 in Oregon, and an Al Malaikah Shriner. By the way...both of these images are 'doctored' and not from the actual cartoon.

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As you read above in the Master's message, our May Stated Communication will be quite busy. We look forward to seeing you in the Lodge.

Mike Hamrick, PM



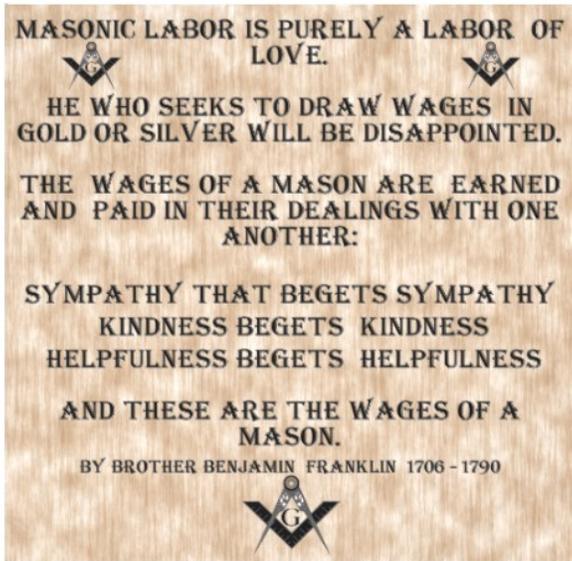


Chris Crump  
Junior Warden

Hello Brethren,

First I would like to say I am thankful that our local area was not impacted by the tragic storms that ripped through the western parts of our state and destroyed areas of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana. I believe that we should all keep those people in our prayers. Their lives have likely been forever changed by these storms. Remember brothers, that things can change at a moments notice, and I believe that tragedies such as this point out the value of our fraternal ties and friendships. So please reach out to other brothers and their family's...try to encourage them to visit the lodge more often and remember if anyone of you need anything please don't hesitate to call me.

Fraternally,  
Chris Crump



**Upcoming Masonic Happenings**

**Tue, May 13** - Stated Communication  
6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Lodge Opens

**Tue/Wed, May 20 & 21** - Spring School of Instruction  
Temple Lodge & Steele Creek Lodge  
6:30pm Dinner, 7:15pm Work begins

**May 27** - Service Awards & Military Certificate presentation

**Tue, June 10** - Stated Communication  
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 Garriss	23 - Richard Armstrong	
		05 - Douglas Mann		



## YOUR PLACE

Have you found your place in lodge yet? Why did you join the lodge? This thoughtful article may offer you some light.

**Masonic Ritual:** Masonic ritual teaches us lessons around which Freemasonry evolves. Some members choose to learn, excel and "master" Masonic ritual. These members may go on to become Masonic lecturers, helping others to learn ritual or may be requested to become a Grand Lecturer who teaches Masonic education to lodges. If education and teaching is your forte; there is a place for Masonic instructors and mentors within every lodge.

**Fraternal Brotherhood:** Much like a university degree, others join the fraternity for both the social aspect of life-long brotherhood as well as the fellowship enjoyed by its members. College or university degrees prepare students for a lifelong career in their chosen field; your Masonic degrees will not enrich you, monetarily. The enrichment you will find is in the spiritual practice of the tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, each day of your life, and as you attempt to help others do so as well.

**Masonic Charity:** Members of the fraternity believe in and actively participate in Masonic charity to various and innumerable worthwhile causes which creates a satisfying feeling of "giving back" to their local communities. There are many avenues for participation in the activities of our lodge to "give back."

**Masonic Participation:** There are a variety of ways to serve and to benefit,...a period of duty as a Steward, waiting on the brothers who have previously waited on you, learning to participate as a sidliner in the degree work until you are comfortable to help in the work; supporting the Lodge simply by regular attendance at Stated and Special Meetings, calling on a brother who is ill; bringing wives, families and friends to social functions, taking up the study of Masonic research, and, of most special importance,... partaking of all the good fellowship which is available to you through our Lodge.

**Lodge Officers:** Some take the path toward ascending through the Masonic officer chairs to ultimately arrive "in the East", which is to be elected as the Worshipful Master of the lodge, and whose chair sits in the East. They fulfill roles having to do with not only the ritual work of each specific officer's position, but lodge officers govern lodge operations including audits and budgets and insure that peace and harmony prevail both within the lodge room and outside its walls.

Have you found your place in lodge yet? Why did you join the lodge? Come on out to lodge and let's talk about it.

