

MANATEE LODGE NO. 31 F&AM

TRESTLEBOARD



JULY 2017



Lodge, New and Improved!

Look at that picture above, its an old picture. The front of the building has been landscaped beautifully by Bro. Tom Carter, come check it out!

If you have trouble making it to Lodge or need a ride please reach out to an Officer and we will try our best to get you here.

Manatee Lodge No. 31

402 15th Street East
Bradenton, Florida 34206

Letter from the Senior Steward

My Brothers,

Happy Independence Day, on this day 8 of the 56 men signed the Declaration of Independence who were Masons including Benjamin Franklin, who was the Grand Master of Pennsylvania in 1734.

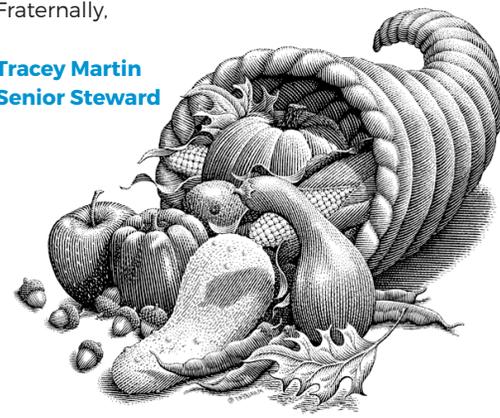
Masons have been an important part of our history here in the United States of America. I want to say that I am proud to be a part of such an active fraternity made of good men made better.

A little-known fact about our flag: Brother George Washington ordered The American flag. Betsy Ross, whose husband was a member of St. John's Lodge, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, sewed it (32°Masons, n.d). On June 24, 1717, The Grand Lodge of England was formed, so Happy belated 300th Birthday.

It has been a pleasure sitting in the Sr. Stewards chair. I took on many different chairs in our three degrees, which has allowed me to grow as a Mason. I have grown as a mason and as a man because of all the brothers here in the Lodge, thank you all for your support and encouragement to challenge myself and grow as a mason. I look forward to continuing to support the brothers and this Lodge.

Fraternally,

Tracey Martin
Senior Steward



JULY MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

Mark Atkinson	Michael Smith
Dorwin Pulford	Michael Bates
Charles Reibold	William Hawthorne Jr
Steven Hodgkinson	Paul Kramer
John Neri	Philip Mandzik Jr
Michael Terrell	Charles
Leroy Burns	Olin Staigerwald
Tommy Workman	Matthew Kiernan
Edward Kieffer	Norman Bush III
Michael Grimes	
Ray Oxendine	
John Sheffield	
Frederick Edwards	

OFFICERS

Florida Grand Lodge Officers

M.:W.: Richard G Hoover, Grand Master

R.:W.: Juan De La Rosa, DDGM

R.:W.: J.J. Albritton, District Instructor

Worshipful Master

Kyle B. Bachman 941-518-6081

Senior Warden

Tom Carter 941-993-7911

Junior Warden

Matt Steiner 941-742-8784

Treasurer

W.: Mike Olson - 941-724-2495

Secretary

W.: Doug Dobbs - 941-545-1726

Chaplain

W.: George Vomvoris - 941-524-8333

Marshal

R.:H.: George Benjamin - 941-713-7856

Senior Deacon

Nick Evans - 941-580-4075

Junior Deacon

Anthony DiMauro - 941-747-8865

Senior Steward

Tracey Martin - 941-561-4845

Junior Steward

TBA

Tyler

R.:W.: Ron Baber - 941-748-7938

Pulled Pork Challenge

Come Cheer on 31!

The Grand Master's visit to our district is quickly approaching, and with that comes a large cost to all the individual lodges of the district. As most of you may know each larged it charged a percentage to cover the cost of his visit/dinner, this percentage is determined by each lodges membership volume whether the attend the dinner or not. This year to help offset the cost, the members of the Master Mason's Association, have come up with a fund raising event.

The first annual Pulled Pork Challenge, in which the district lodges, appendent bodies, and groups will be competing. Each group will be cooking up their best recipies, and for a \$10 ticket at the door you'll get to sample all the amazing food. More then just eating, each ticket will give you the important task of voting for your favorite.

So if you are free Saturday, July 29th, from 12-2pm, come fill your belly and cheer on Manatee 31, as we fight for this Title all while saving the lodge and the district some money!

District 23
Master Masons
Association

First Annual
Pulled Pork Challenge

Saturday, July 29th 2017
Time: 12:00 - 2:00pm
Open to the Public

Sahib Shrine Center
600 North Beneva Road
Sarasota, FL 34232

Tickets: \$10.00 at the door

Ticket includes sampling all of the pulled pork entries plus coleslaw and Beans
P.S. The bar will open for beverage purchases

Come out to sample some of the best Pulled Pork to be found in the southeast and vote for your favorite team.

District 23 Masonic Lodges will be competing for the title of "Pulled Pork Masters"
Trophy will be awarded to the winning Team

GRAND MASTERS VISIT!!

Please Attend! It is a great night out.

August 12th, 5pm till 7pm at Sarasota Fair Grounds marks the Grand Masters Official visit to our Newly formed 23rd Masonic District. This is always a big event, which is a lot of fun. Dress up, and bring the signifiant other for fine dinning, she will be treated with fine entertainment while the brothers have a quick lodge meeting after the dinner. What is making this year's dinner extra

convinent is the lodge meeting will be held at the same location as the dinner.

If you're interested in attending please let Worshipful Bachman know soon so he can RSVP everyone. Remember the lodges pay a portion per member, so we've payed for you whether you come or not so take advantage!

July is the 7th Month...

Over the hump and into the fire.

My Brothers,

Its July, which means my "reign" in the East is past the halfway mark. Masonry has always been about learning and growing as a person, and I feel I've just started to get into the rhythm of being Worshipful Master. I've been given so much great advice, I have a hard working team around me, and we have been fighting to accomplish as much as we can. We're working hard, and more so we're trying to have some fun along the way.

While we have fought a lot of uphill battles and have had some wonderful successes, it is always leadership's job to worry. Being blinded by one success, can lead to disaster so I've had to keep my perspective and brothers I must admit I am worried, very worried. In the years since I've joined the lodge, meeting attendance the last few months has been at an all time low. The regulars are less regular, with so many of them having moved or committed to other things. The brothers who would pop in from time to time, seem to have larger and longer absences; and sadly we've lost so many to illness and to the beyond.

Talking to many brothers, my officers and I took note of all the concerns and ideas of what could improve attendance this year and we've implemented so much of these ideas but alas

empty seats. Not one meeting has gone past 9pm this year so far, we've had more masonic education and have done more family friendly things, instead of just spouting out dates and times we pass out handouts, and I've done my best to turn the meetings into more a "conversation" with the master, then me just being a benevolent dictator.

Brothers, I urge, I plea, I beg, come to lodge. You may think your absence isn't missed but it really is, and more so you are missing out as well. While the poor attendance in meetings does trickle into a lack of support in many of our endeavours this year it is more than that. The Fellowship, the community, the bonds, they're lacking with the empty seats as well.

Please understand I am not trying to shame you, I'm not saying your cable tow isn't worthy, or that lodge is more important to the important things, the point I am trying to get across is that if you CAN make the time to come then DO make the time. Use the DVR record your show, turn off the computer, cut the nap short, make 31 a slight priority, turn a Monday evening it to a Monday for Manatee.

Yours Faithfully,

W.: **Kyle B. Bachman**



MASON OF THE MONTH

The Mason of the Month for the Month of July is W.: Charlie Keeler. W.: Keeler has always been a beloved brother, he has acted as a mentor and guide for many masons. Most recently Worshipful Keeler was kind enough to source and donate pushbar hardware required for the new doors.

If there is a brother who you think should be Mason of the Month then please email your suggestions to Kyle@rev66.com.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

We have received a letter from the IRS in regards to our 501(c)(10) Tax Exempt Status, and gladly that status has been reinstated!

Brother Nick Evans has been updating and adding some great stuff to the lodge shop. Check it out, now in the Dinning Hall !

Dues notice's are going out! Please try and pay them as soon as possible. With the new system in place we are no longer able to "float" any one. NPD is automatic now, so please pay early!

Pay online or Contact the Secretaries!

AUGUST

1	TUESDAY	17	THURSDAY
2	WEDNESDAY	18	FRIDAY
3	THURSDAY	19	SATURDAY
4	FRIDAY	20	SUNDAY
5	SATURDAY - WORK DAY We need help Brothers please attend!!! 8am - 11pm	21	MONDAY STATED/ DINNER
6	SUNDAY	22	TUESDAY
7	MONDAY - STATED / STEAK NIGHT Masonic Education - Bro. Mike Mccullough!	23	WEDNESDAY
8	TUESDAY	24	THURSDAY
9	WEDNESDAY	25	FRIDAY
10	THURSDAY	26	SATURDAY
11	FRIDAY	27	SUNDAY
12	SATURDAY GRAND MASTERSS VISIT ! 5pm - 12pm - Robarts Arena / Please RSVP!	28	MONDAY'S FOR MANATEE Degree Practice, Clean up, Fun nights
13	SUNDAY	29	TUESDAY
14	MONDAY'S FOR MANATEE Come hang out, help out, see what's happening.	30	WEDNESDAY
15	TUESDAY	31	THURSDAY
16	WEDNESDAY		

SEPTEMBER

1	FRIDAY	16	SATURDAY
2	SATURDAY V	17	SUNDAY
3	SUNDAY	18	MONDAY - STATED / DINNER
4	MONDAY - DARK! DUE TO LABOR DAY Labor Day	19	TUESDAY
5	TUESDAY	20	WEDNESDAY
6	WEDNESDAY	21	THURSDAY
7	THURSDAY	22	FRIDAY
8	FRIDAY	23	SATURDAY
9	SATURDAY	24	SUNDAY
10	SUNDAY	25	MONDAY'S FOR MANATEE
11	MONDAY'S FOR MANATEE	26	TUESDAY
12	TUESDAY	27	WEDNESDAY
13	WEDNESDAY	28	THURSDAY
14	THURSDAY	29	FRIDAY
15	FRIDAY	30	SATURDAY

LIVING PAST MASTERS

1965 John G. Collins
1967 Wallace R. Davis
1968 Glen E. Boeschen
1973 James P. Sellers
1976 George V. Benjamin
1978 John G. Breese
1983 Riley M. Hardy
1984 Dozier K. Walker
1987 Thomas A. Simpkins
1989 Gary E. Carter
1990 George J. Vomvoris
1993 Byron P. Barton
1994 Marc B. Gilner
1996 Ronald E. Baber
1998 Earl T. Hasenflu
2000 Charles M. Reibold
2001 Elwood H. Williams
2002 Joseph S. Rowland
2003 Theodore R. Simpkins
2004 Wilbert L. Anders
2005 Richard A. Cooper
2006 John E. Hokanson
2007 Charles A. Keeler
2008 Robert Coverdale
2009 Albert Thurman
2010 Brian Johnsen
2011 Earl Dennis
2012 Mike Grimes
2013 Les Ruggiero
2014 Joe Fenton
2015 John Steiner
2016 Douglas Dobbs

DEGREE STATUS

E.A.'s:

Andrew Brady, Colin Snowball, Gordan Govalet, Bill Shuttleworth, Michael Glasgow, Curtis Mahoney, Joseph Shannon, Nicholas Pryor, Ryan Widden, James Hudson

F.C.'s:

Joseph Fairbothem

MM's PREPARING PROFICIENCY:

Zachary Joseph Humphries, Andy J. Richardson
Donald Ray Simmons, Shawn J Long.

2017 BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Advertise here and support the Trestle Boards.

For only \$25, your listing will run in all of the
2017 Trestle Boards.

SEND CHECK AND YOUR DESIRED LISTING
INFORMATION TO:

Manatee Lodge #31, P.O. Box 9304, Bradenton, FL
34206

or bring them to the lodge and see the Worshipful
Master or Secretary

SILVER CLUB

\$25 - \$49

Make your Donation today to help the Trestle Board.

GOLD CLUB

\$50 - \$74

BILL DALGARNO

PLATINUM CLUB

\$75 +

KEN & KAREN AMMONS

INTERESTED IN FUN AND FROLIC IN A FAMILY SETTING?

**JOIN SAMOOR GROTTO WHERE THE
WHOLE FAMILY PARTICIPATES!**



Founded - 1890

WHEN DO WE MEET?
Third Thursday of the Month @ 7pm
Sahib Shrine 3rd Floor
600 North Beneva Road
Sarasota, Florida 34232

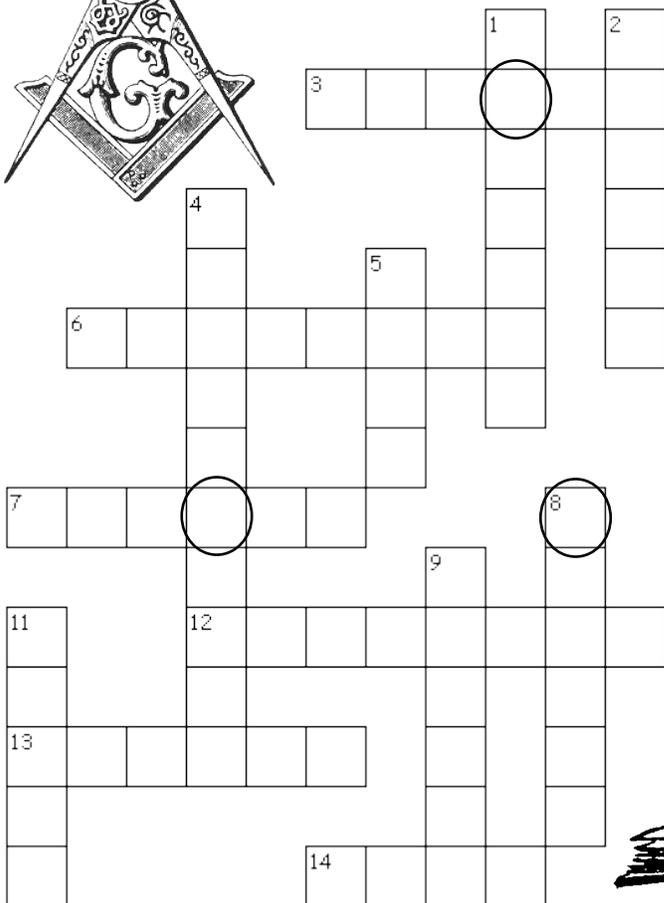


HELP US PUT SPECIAL SMILES ON
CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

Pursue it thru our many units:
Clown, Motor Corp, Camping and Hospitality units.

Follow us on Facebook

Building Blocks

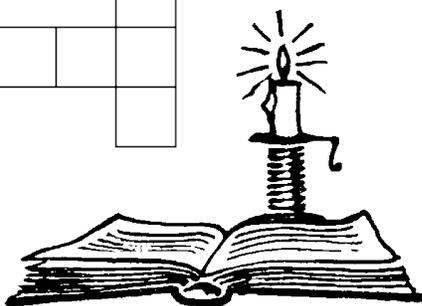


Across

- 3. A number multiplied by itself.
- 6. Of Midday
- 7. Alleviation of pain.
- 12. ___Of the Ring
- 13. Finely dressed masonry.
- 14. Ancient Port of Lebanon

Down

- 1. Permit
- 2. Level of Education
- 4. Honorable
- 5. Industry in Masonry.
- 8. Tesseral design
- 9. The Hat that beats all others?
- 10. Solomon's Pet (1Kings 10:22)
- 11. Haricots?



**Unscramble the Circled Letters to Answer:
"Whats missing from Lodge?"**

PERPETUAL MEMBERS

- Kenneth E. Ammons
- Wilbert L. Anders, Jr.
- Mark A. Atkinson
- Ronald E. Baber
- George V. Benjamin
- Brady W. Chapman
- John G. Collins
- Robert B. Coverdale
- Earl W. Dennis, Jr.
- Douglas W. Dobbs
- Michael R. Dobbs
- Joseph K. Fenton
- John E. Hokanson
- Earl M. Grimes
- Edwin T. Holman
- Ryan P. Johnson
- Hutton G. Lewis
- Stanley Preston
- Kenneth Reese, Sr.
- Joseph S. Rowland
- Alessio Ruggiero
- Nicolas A. Ruggiero
- Thomas A. Simpkins
- Theodore R. Simpkins, II
- Robert J. Springer
- Billy Staffiles
- Kyle B. Bachman
- Andrew Gluchov



Southeastern Guide Dogs

Fund Raising Drive.

We will be raising money in front of the Publix in the Lockwood Commons, located at SR-70 and Lockwood Ridge Rd. from 8am till 4pm on Saturday July 22nd. Brother Tom Carter has been working closely with Southeastern who has assured us they will have either dogs or puppies there for the drive.

It is a fun and easy event and I would love to see some unfamiliar faces helping out.

We need man power to cover shifts of time, so If you have time available please contact Brother Carter.

PERPETUAL PASSED PAST MASTERS?

Worshipful Dobbs has kicked off a campaign to start purchasing Memorial Perpetual Memberships for the Past Masters of Manatee 31. W.: Dobbs purchased the first Memorial Perpetual for W.: Franklin Branch our first Worshipful Master. If you are interested in donating for the next master, the cost is \$200, please contact W.: Dobbs for any questions or inquiries.

Manatee Lodge No. 31 F&AM

P.O. Box 9304
Bradenton, Florida 34206

Return Service Requested

**DISTRACTIONS DESTROY ACTION
IF IT DOESN'T MOVE YOU TOWARDS PURPOSE LEAVE IT BEHIND
~JERMAINE RILEY**

TRESTLE BOARD

JULY 2017



MEETING THE 1ST AND 3RD MONDAYS
DINNER AT 6PM, MEETING AT 7:30PM
SEE YOU THERE!!!!