

TRESTLE-BOARD



Volume 18, Issue 12

Ridge Masonic Lodge No. 398 Floral City, FL

December, 2015

[Our Website](#)

Facebook Page: [Ridge Masonic Lodge No. 398](#)

From the EAST



My Brothers,

It's that time of year again; family visits, friends congregating, the Holiday Spirit fills the air...but alas, this also brings a close to our year, and the end of my term serving as Master of Ridge Masonic Lodge. The year has passed with quickness, as do most years, but this one has offered a new awareness of just how quickly the sand passes through the hour glass. We all know this phenomenon, how time seems to accelerate past us, leaving us in awe.

Something has become evident throughout my time with you all, and it is that this Lodge is laying a foundation for the future of Masonry (in many of its endeavors), offering an alternative for Masons to remain active in an atmosphere that makes them comfortable, and at a time that suits their schedule.

Additionally by Raising new Masons, providing all of the tools necessary (upon request and if interested) to start a productive and enlightening Masonic journey. Look around your Lodge; there is so much experience here, priceless mentors, good Men and Masons who give everything they have to the causes of our Fraternity, tolerant of each other despite conflicting personalities and opinions, each one finding his place to make a difference in the community, our Lodge, and our Fraternity (ALL appendant bodies included.) It is my hope that this is just the beginning of my journey, and that God will give me many years to pursue the endeavors we serve...but mostly, I am thankful for the time already allowed, the present, and the opportunity given to meet and become a part of this Organization. THANK YOU to each and every one for your influence

and example.

There are many here who make this Lodge run efficiently...I would like to mention a few...

Buzz, the Secretary of Ridge Masonic Lodge, our anchor...without his precise submittal of documents and filings required by the State and our Grand Lodge we would not be operating, period. Thank you Buzz for the "well oiled machine" that runs this Lodge, please remember to submit your 7 year notice (when the time draws nigh), that we might have enough time to find a suitable replacement.

Lucky, for his mentoring in Masonic Ritual (displaying the beauty and perfection of Masonry), the memorization of Godly precepts unlocks and enlightens the mind, opening our eyes to God's purposes.

Slim, for doing anything and everything necessary to carry this Lodge in a forward direction.

All of the officers for their hard work, dedication, and support this year. Without all of you, we would not be successful.

But of course, we would not have a Lodge without our members. So, I thank each one of you for choosing Ridge Masonic Lodge as your home, you are the substance of our existence. Please continue to remain active, attend as many meetings as possible, bring new ideas and projects to our attention, GET INVOLVED, help keep this Lodge alive and vital to Masonry...our Country, our World...(whether they know it or not), needs Freemasonry NOW more than ever!

Fraternally and in Faith,
W.: Peter A. Carter

From the WEST



My brothers as we now enter December and start the Christmas season I wish every Brother and their Ladies very very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

What a great year we've had .Brotherly love and Friendship at Ridge Masonic Lodge has been outstanding. Cliff has fed us very well and I thank him very much for the great meals he gave us he helps me keep my girlish figure.

This month I will give you some Masonic trivia. I hope you like it.

1. The Master Mason ring and how it should be worn. In the state of Florida in the book of etiquette Master Masons where their ring anyway they want facing in or facing out there is no rule or regulation as to why or how we should wear our ring.

2. When entering cities across America, it is common to see signs bearing logos or emblems of fraternities and civic groups within that community. In the city of Apopka in Florida, the Masonic symbol of Square and Compasses is actually part of the city's official logo.

When Apopka was incorporated in 1882, the city fathers needed a center-point from which to measure out the city limits and layout streets. For their center-point, they chose Orange Masonic Lodge no.36, on what became main street. The city metes and bounds were laid out as a measured mile along the four cardinal directions from the Lodge. The lodge was organized in 1857, and still stands as the oldest original lodge in the "Sunshine State".

Masonic brothers were instrumental in the agricultural activities of the area. By 1912, the city had earned the nickname of "The Fern City". Today, Apopka is known as " The Indoor Foliage Capital of the World".

3. Three Letter and Four Letter Masons: in the 17th century, there was a rivalry in England between the two Grand Lodges. Eventually their differences were worked out, and they merged. By the time the union occurred, there were Grand Lodges in America that had received their charters from the different Grand Lodges and the 3-Letter and 4-Letter suffixes have remained in place. F.&A.M. is Free &Accepted Masons.

A.F&A.M. adds the word Ancient.

A.F.M. in South Carolina is Ancient Free Masons.

F.A.A.M. in Washington, D.C. Is Free And Accepted Masons .

My brothers I hope you enjoy this little bit of trivia and if you like it I will have some more. I will be doing the history of America

and Freemasonry next year. If any brother has anything to offer on trivia or Americanism please get it to me or you can give it yourself in Lodge. I have a few things Brothers have given me, I just haven't had the time to do them out in lodge.

S.W. Dennis Suarino

2015 Trestle-Board Boosters

Fred & Dottie Basehore
Buzz & Gwen Bernard
Whitey & Margie Cassell
Mike & Elaine Cota
Gary Cronau
Ed DeVita
Sam & Donna Douglas
Gunnar Erickson
Bill & Jean Harms
Ron & VJ Hatton
Al & Ruth Mason
Hank & Loretta McInturff
Slim & Anita Owen
Ernie Polk
Pete & Mary Raymond
Wayne & Barbara Reedy
Ken & Jan Rowe
John & Carol Ross
Tom & Jean Stratford
Bob & Gert Taber
Chuck Taylor
Bill & Ellie Wilcox



From the SOUTH

LAP Day for December 15

Will be at

Pecks

In

Ozello



Anyone wishing to contribute to the
“T-B Booster”

program for 2016, please turn in funds to our secretary. A \$10 donation will **ensure** your name is displayed for the year.

Please remember your annual dues are due and payable on or before Dec. 27. \$63.30 covers everything except T-Booster. Please make checks payable to Ridge Masonic Lodge No. 398.

This has been a very successful year for the South, 2 Steak Dinners, Rifle Raffle, great meals at every meeting and coffee & donuts at every practice. A hearty “Thank You” to all who participated.

Please plan on attending our Installation of Officers” on Dec. 28. Dinner at 6pm, installation to follow.

Merry Christmas & God Bless America!

R.:W.: Slim Owen 33^o

Officers 2015

Worshipful Master	(352)345-0461	W.: Peter Carter
Senior Warden	(352)527-6847	Bro. Dennis Suarino
Junior Warden	(352)746-6936	R.:W.: Robert Owen 33 ^o
Treasurer	(352)726-8714	Bro. Robert Taber
Secretary	(352)628-0668	W.: Robert Bernard
Chaplain	(352)795-9561	R.:W.: John M. Lee
Senior Deacon	(352)445-2422	Bro. Mike Cota
Junior Deacon	(352)637-5073	Bro. Ben Edney
Senior Steward	(352)697-3763	Bro. Chris Edney
Junior Steward	(352)634-1255	Bro. Ray Thompson
Marshall	(352)860-2385	W.: Pete Raymond
Tyler	(904)490-2375	Bro. Richard Floyd

The Chaplain’s Corner



DISASTER RELIEF APPEAL ISSUED
 CAROLINA FLOODING:

The Masonic Service Association has established a Disaster relief Fund for South Carolina, following a weeklong drenching of rain, causing rivers to overflow, dams to burst, roadways to flood, homes and businesses to be inundated with water, resulting in major damage or destruction.

Officials said billions of dollars of destruction to roadways and bridges, in addition building damage, in this historic flooding.

In the Columbia area, one Lodge building has been virtually destroyed. It is a Lodge whose membership is heavily composed of active military personnel. Other Lodges, plus homes of Masonic members, have been seriously damaged, and the toil to life and property is still growing and being assessed.

Please forward to the MSA such donations that you feel are appropriate to help our devastated Brothers, their families and others in the stricken jurisdiction. Please make checks payable to MSA Disaster Relief Fund and send them to: Masonic Service Association, 3905 National Drive, Suite 280, Burnsville, MD 20866.

When remitting funds to MSA, please mark checks, “South Carolina Appeal.”

Also, donations may be made on MSA’s Webpage—www.msana.com—with the use of a credit card. This allows funds to reach their destination faster. MSA is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS:

LETS KEEP JEREMY O’DELL IN OUR PRAYERS

ALSO BILL WILCOX,

JIM ROACH

BOOGIE STEVENS

DON WAGONER

PAUL ROSSER

All of our Military Personnel and any others that you can think of.

R.:W.: Lucky Lee

Happy Birthday To:



Wayne Reedy

Dec. 12

Jesse Renfroe Jr.

Dec. 14

Fred Basehore

Dec. 26

John Grace

Dec. 27