

# TRESTLE-BOARD



Volume 19, Issue 1

Ridge Masonic Lodge No. 398 Floral City, FL

January, 2016

[Our Website](#)

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

## From the EAST



I would like to thank you for voting me in and having the trust to let me be the Worshipful Master of the greatest daylight lodge east of the Mississippi.

I am looking forward to a year with education, fellowship and brotherly love. Your generosity was able to have 25 Thanksgiving baskets to give out to families that truly appreciate it.

Christmas baskets there are so many organizations giving out Christmas baskets we were able to get a part of them and I believe we've got about 15. The toy giveaway went very very well the children got some great presents. We have been reaching out to get more toys to give to his many children that we could , unfortunately the toys did get there but a day or two late so we're gonna try to give some of the toys away at the time when the adults pick up the Christmas baskets and we do have a list of the children the ages of them so we will get out some of the toys that we got in we're not gonna give them all out because we have Easter coming up that we can help the children out and anytime somebody in the area they get burned out dispossessed homeless will be able to help them.

In 2016 we will be working with the Marines with the toys for tots and be able to expand it to the two lodges both floral city and which and maybe next year will also be able to give some of the presents that any child no matter what their financial thing is if they're sick or extremely sick in the two hospitals in this county.

Speaking with a lot of the brothers from our lodge the food drive and the money that we put out the \$750 that we collected plus the brothers that put in the money for the hams and turkeys believe it or not we will be getting a lot of that money back I'll be turning it in to our secretary at our first

business meeting of the year for the board. This is such a great thing that the one brother that came to me and at this time he wants his name kept out of it and we got this all set up more toys than we ever believe that we could've gotten. Give a big thank you for the Marines reserve toys for tots what a great organization .

The two miniature pillars on the pedestals, representing Jachin and Boaz respectively. These emblems did not exist in 1723 Masonry. They first appeared circa 1760 in London Masonry . At the time, the Wardens carried them into the Lodge in the same manner as the Marshall carried his baton, under them left arm. None of the dozen exposures of Masonic ritual prior to Three Distinct Knocks, in 1760 mentioned the columns. A Lodge in Chester, England catalogued within its 1761 inventory, "Two tuncheons for Wardens". Some Irish and English Logis still refer to these columns as luncheons.

My brothers anybody this year wants to give talks on Americanism or if they have something for Americanism please give it to me and we will get it out into the lodge . Anyone that wants to do it please step forward and you can do it for the year . If not I will continue to do it .

In closing I would again like to wish everybody a very Happy Blessed New Year .

May you and your family and all your loved ones find 2016 is a very happy and healthy year this I pray for all my brothers and their ladies and families. May God be with us all and may God watch over our humble Lodge.

W.:M.: Dennis Suarino

## From the WEST



Starting the New Year off with a bang. Attendance at our meetings seems to be holding, if not improving as time goes by. If you are not attending, perhaps you should come by and see what everyone is talking about. After all, we are the Best Daylight Lodge in District No. 19.

Getting on to other things, Masonically Speaking, we are always trying to improve ourselves in our version of the Florida Masonic Ritual. We have a practice almost every Wednesday at 9 AM at the Lodge Hall in Floral City. Any and all Master Masons are more than welcome to come and lend a helping hand, sharing their Masonic Wisdom with us, and just enjoying a few hours of good fellowship.

Our Membership numbers around 75, slowly increasing each year as we do indeed grow. It is true that we do not initiate many new Masons, but those we do, get the full treatment, leaving nothing out that would detract from their Masonic Experience.

Three times each year we recite our obligations, just to keep in mind what we have sworn to uphold, to refresh our minds of that day/night when we knelt at the altar and heard those words for the first time, and the feeling of fellowship that lies deep inside each and every Mason, from that time forward. It is hard to put into words everything that runs through your mind and unless you have witnessed it first hand, you have no idea the comradery that is present at those times. The months of April, September and December are when it all takes place. Mark that on your calendar as a "must-one".

At our December meeting I gave credit to several of our members for their dedication and service "above and beyond" the call of duty for all their

efforts in making 2015 a successful year. If anyone got overlooked, my apologies, corrections coming this fall.

The annual "Installation of Officers" on December 28<sup>th</sup> went off without a hitch. All advanced as planned and all but three were installed, two were on vacation and we do not as yet have a Tyler, interested in going through the chairs, give me a call.

R.:W.: Gerald O'Dell informed me that we are now the second largest Lodge in Dist. 19, second only to Zephyr. (They have more "Old Folks Homes" than we do.)

**R.:W.: Robert "Slim" Owen**

### 2016 Trestle-Board Boosters

Please let me know if you have paid your \$10 Booster Donation and your name will magically appear next month, ad infinitum.

All I have is one name, and it isn't yours.



## From the SOUTH

**LAP Day for January 26**

**Will be at  
Crackers  
In  
Crystal River**



Brothers, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you from the South.

Brother Cliff Hammer has so graciously agreed to remain head chef and will have his very delicious Chili with rice and condiments, and also cornbread for the January 11 stated meeting.

It appears that we can hold the price of our lunch meals at \$5.00 as it has been in the past years. The price will be discussed at the officers meeting on January 6 and hopefully it will remain the same. I will continue to sell meal tickets at the door upon your arrival.

Lap days will continue on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday as in the past, unless there is a conflict and prior notice will be given if necessary. This month's lap day will be at Crackers in Crystal River. We will meet at 11:00. Lunch will be served at 11:30.

J.:W.: Mike Cota

## The Chaplain's Corner

A study of postal stamps and history often brings to light some previously unknown Masonic facts. Here are a few of them, taken from the June 2015 issue of The Masonic Philatelist,



a quarterly publication from the Masonic Stamp Club of New York.

A stamp of the Comoro Islands honors Dr. Joseph-Ignace Guillotine and the execution device, the "guillotine", which became named for him. In truth, Dr. Guillotine did not invent the device and it had been used in Italy,

Germany and England, before it was associated with him in France. He simply proposed to use the device to carry out death penalties as a less painful method of execution. Dr. Guillotine was one of the founders of the Grand Orient of France and was Worshipful Master of Lodge La Concordia. He knew and worked closely with Brother Benjamin Franklin. The U.S. Postal Service had designed two stamps to recognize the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1995 of the exploding of the atomic bomb. Brother Harry S. Truman, as president, had approved its use. Japan objected to the stamp,

and to maintain good relations, the issue was cancelled. In July, 2014, the last surviving crew member of the Enola Gay, Theodore Van Kirk, died. He was a member of Eureka Lodge in Northumberland, Pennsylvania. Another example comes from the May-June issue of The Philatelic

Freemason: The name, La Guardia, is known by many was one of the major New York

City airports. Others know Florello Henry La Guardia as the Mayor Of New York City from 1934 to 1945, who was acclaimed by some as one of the three or four greatest Mayors in American history. He was a member of Garibaldi Lodge in New York City. Only five feet tall, he was called "the little flower." Floral is Italian for "little flower." A postage stamp recognized him in 1972.

Lets keep the following in our prayers:

Jeramy O'Dell, Sheila Tyler-triple by-pass

Bill Wilcox passed away Saturday, December 12

**MASONIC-STAMP NUGGETS OF HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS**

Don Wagoner

Bill Harms

Chuck Taylor, as he goes into The Masonic Home.

Brother Philip Tanzilo of Hernando Lodge passed away.

**AND ALL OF OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL:**

**R.:W.: Lucky Lee**

### Officers 2016

Worshipful Master	(352)527-6847	Bro. Dennis Suarino
Senior Warden	(352)746-6936	R.:W.:Robert Owen
Junior Warden	(352)445-2422	Bro. Mike Cota
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)637-5073	Bro. Ben Edney
Junior Deacon	(352)697-3763	Bro. Chris Edney
Senior Steward	(352)220-4706	Bro. Brian Lee
Junior Steward	(352)634-1255	Bro. Ray Thompson
Marshall	(352)345-0461	W.: Peter Carter
Tyler		

### Happy Birthday To:



Tom Tyner	Jan 2
Richard Naylor	Jan 6
Lawrence Spaulding	Jan 11
Raymond Thompson	Jan 16
Kenneth Drennen	Jan 17
John Lee	Jan 18