

TRESTLE-BOARD



Volume 20, Issue 9

Ridge Masonic Lodge No. 398 Floral City, FL

September, 2017

[Our Website](#)

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

From the EAST



Lodge attendance was pretty good for the “Dog Days” of August. I’m sure things will pick up this month, and for the rest of the year.

Ridge Masonic Lodge is fortunate to have so many dedicated members who attend on a regular basis.

Looking ahead to September, we will have a joint Masonic/Shrine Picnic at the Shrine Club on September 30 at 3:00 pm. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and cold Salads are on the menu.

Also, on Saturday, September 16, the Grand Master will make his official visit to the 14th Masonic District.

As usual, the Dinner will be at the Hernando County Shrine Club and the meeting will be at Brotherhood Lodge, right next door. The Dinner is open to everyone, so plan on attending with your Lady. There will be entertainment for the Ladies while we are next door at our meeting.

The Masters & Wardens this month, for the first time, will be at Pearl of the West in New Port Richey. Since this is the first time, we should turn out in full force to welcome them to our

association and make them feel at home.

Color for September meeting: Blue.

W.:M.: Robert H. “Slim” Owen 33^o

Happy Birthday To:



Chris Edney	Sep 2
George Faunce	Sep 3
Mike Cota	Sep 4
Adam Wilkinson	Sep 6
Bob Taber	Sep 18
Mark Sullivan	Sep 19
Ernie Polk Jr.	Sep 28

Past Masters

W.: Dennis Suarino	2016
W.: Peter A. Carter	2015
W.: Pete Raymond.....	2014
R.:W.: John “Lucky” Lee.....	2013
R.:W.: Robert “Slim” Owen.....	2012
R.:W.: Robert “Slim” Owen.....	2011
W.: Charles “Chuck” Taylor*	2010
R.:W.: John “Lucky” Lee.....	2009
R.:W.: John “Lucky” Lee.....	2008
W.: Henry Oppenborn, Jr. 33 ^o	2007
R.:W.: John “Lucky” Lee.....	2006
W.: Robert “Buzz” Bernard	2005
W.: Charley Rhodes*	2004
W.: Charley Rhodes*	2003
W.: James McIntosh	2002
R.:W.:John “Lucky” Lee.....	2001
R.:W.: Robert “Slim” Owen.....	2000
R.:W.: Paul Miller.....	1999
R.:W.: Paul Miller.....	1998

From the WEST



My first cousin's name is Thomas Eagan: He was born Thomas Hill Lee. His father was killed in 1942 and his mother remarried and was adopted by (Loren Max Egan).

Thomas says that he is proud to be related to Robert E. Lee, as a distant cousin, and proud to be of his southern heritage.

Additionally he says that he is a proud American and sickened by those who would destroy our nation through decisive politics. Our political parties, both Democratic and Republican are doing this nation a disservice and unfortunately there are those alternative forces like anarchist ready to take advantage.

A History Lesson: Robert E Lee was married to George Washington's granddaughter. He worked with Grant during the Mexican-American war and became a decorated war hero defending this country. He believed slavery was a great evil and his wife broke the law by teaching slaves to read and write. After the civil war he worked with Andrew Johnson's program of reconstruction. He became very popular with the northern states and the Barracks at West Point were named in his honor in 1962. He was a great man who served this country his entire life in some form or other. His memorial is now being called a blight. No American military veteran should be treated as such. People keep yelling, "you can't change history." Sadly you can. This is no better than book burnings. ISIS tried rewriting history by destroying historical artifacts. Is that who we want to emulate?

Lee was also turnabout the prospect of the

South leaving the Union. His wife's grandfather George Washington was a huge influence on him. In fact Lee was the first choice to lead the Union Army. Because he believed that ultimately, states' rights trumped the Federal Government and chose to lead the Southern Army. His estate, Arlington, near Washington DC was his home and while away fighting the war, the Federal Government demanded that Lee himself pay his taxes in person. He sent his wife but the money was not accepted from a woman. When he could not pay the taxes, the Government began burying dead Union Soldiers on his land. The Government is still burying people there today. It is now called Arlington National Cemetery.

Do they want to tear that up also?

R.:W.: John M. "Lucky" Lee



2017 Trestle-Board Boosters

Fred & Dottie Basehore
Buzz & Gwen Bernard
Whitey & Marge Cassell
Mike & Elaine Cota
Ray & Linda Devaul
Ken & Rose Drennen
Ben Edney
Chris Edney
Gunnar Erickson
Ed & Lil Gingrich
Lucky Lee
Hank & Loretta McInturff
Slim & Anita Owen
Pete & Mary Raymond
Jesse Renfroe
John & Carol Ross
Tom & Jean Stratford
Dennis & Gail Suarino
Bob & Gert Taber



From the SOUTH

LAP Day for September 26

Will be at

Crackers

In

Crystal River



We had a great turnout at the Red Lobster in Spring Hill last month. This month its back to Crackers as this is one of the all time favorites.

The Menu for this month's meeting is

"Chili Con Carne" a'la Lucky Lee.

J.:W.: Ben Edney

Officers 2017

Wor. Master (352)746-6936	R.:W. : Robert Owen 33°
Senior Warden (352)445-2422	Bro. Mike Cota
Junior Warden (352)637-5073	Bro. Ben Edney
Treasurer (352)726-8714	Bro. Robert Taber
Secretary (352)628-0668	W.: Robert Bernard
Chaplain (352)345-0416	R.:H.: Peter Carter
Senior Deacon (352)697-3763	Bro. Chris Edney
Junior Deacon (352)220-4706	Bro. Brian Lee
Senior Steward (352)257-9495	Bro. David Murray
Junior Steward	Bro. Mark Sullivan
Marshall (352)860-2385	W.: Pete Raymond
Tyler TBA	

The Chaplain's Corner

It is customary in contemporary English to end prayers with a hearty "Amen," a word meaning "So be it." It is a Latin word derived from the Hebrew word

אמן



meaning "certainly." Thus a congregation saying "Amen" is literally saying "So be it." The word mote is an archaic verb that means "may" or "might," and traces back to Old English. The phrase "So mote it be" means "So may it be," which is the same as "So be it." Now that we've established the equivalence of "Amen" and "So mote it be," the question remains, "Why do Masons end their prayers with 'So mote it be'?" The answer goes back to the *Regius Poem* of about 1390 AD, the oldest known Masonic document (now housed in the British Museum, London). It is one of the Old Charges or Gothic Constitution used by early Freemasons to regulate their trade. It has a legendary history, regulations to guide the Mason trade and rules of manners and moral conduct. The poem ends famously with this couplet:

Caption: A detail from a facsimile depicting the closing couplet of *The Regius Poem* (Masonic Book Club, 1970)

*Amen! Amen! So mote it be!
So say we all for charity.*

Thus Freemasons today end their prayers the same way they did in 1390. The next time you're in lodge and say "So mote it be" after the chaplain finishes a prayer, remember that you are continuing a 600-year-old Masonic tradition.

From the March/April 2009 *Scottish Rite Journal*

R.:H.: Peter A. Carter