



TRESTLE BOARD

TABLE ROCK LODGE #680

Located at 54 Kimberling Blvd.

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DECEMBER 2012

FROM THE EAST:

BRETHERN TAKE DUE NOTICE AND GOVERN YOURSELF ACCORDINGLY

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF MISSOURI THAT NOTICE BE GIVEN TO YOU THAT:

A VOTE BY EACH LODGE WILL BE TAKEN ON WEATHER OR NOT ALCOHOL WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE SERVED ANYWHERE IN A MASONIC LODGE AND THAT SAID RESULTS OR SAID VOTE WILL BE RECORDED AND REPORTED TO THE GRAND LODGE OF MISSOURI.

THEREFORE BRETHERN YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT AT THE TABLE ROCK LODGE #680 AT 54 KIMBERLING BLVD. KIMBERLING CITY, MISSOURI, ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 8TH, 7:00 P.M. DURING THE FIRST STATED MEETING OF THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2013 A VOTE WILL BE CONDUCTED ON THE QUESTION OF WEATHER OR NOT TABLE ROCK LODGE #680 WILL ALLOW LIQUOR OF ANY TYPE TO BE SERVED IN ANY PLACE WITHIN THE LODGE.

If you have not been coming to the Lodge for the Family Dinner and the Lasagna Dinner, you have truly missed out on a feast prepared by our famed cooks, Junior Warden, Glen Rosenberg and Worshipful Brother Tony Root! The food has been magniffiffiiiiiicent!!!!!!

Worshipful Brother, Ross Anderson will be heading up the Christmas Gift Committee. It is planned that our Lodge will give away a food basket to at least 5 preselected needy families in our community. More about Worshipful Brother Anderson's plans at our one and only December meeting on December 11, 2012.

The Masonic Home would like to have a District meeting and will invite the Widows, Eastern Star and all Master Masons to this meeting scheduled for Saturday, February 23, 2013 at the Branson Masonic Lodge. Please contact me if you are interested in participating in the meeting. I will be advising Brother Herb Terrill of the Branson Lodge that we will be interested as a Lodge and will have as many people that are interested in participating come to the meeting. We cannot afford not to participate in such matters as we are all getting a lot older and heading in the direction of the Masonic Home. It is well worth your time to get involved now and know about it when the time comes when we have to use it.

We continue to have a lot of sickness in the Lodge. Please call upon those brothers that have been ill or that have loved ones that are ill and give them an encouraging word: Senior Warden, Kenny Atkins, Tyler, Jim Greene, Worshipful Brother, John Johnson and Secretary, Worshipful Brother, Larry Dreppard. The best thing to do is call your brothers and check on them because many that are suffering do not contact the Lodge or a brother. Ask them if they would like a ride to Lodge meeting. Communicate to the Lodge about any brother that may need our help, encouragement, visitor or card.

So where are all the young lions? They should be in your sights and a plan to bring them into Masons. As indicated in the above two paragraphs; our Lodge is not getting younger and we need to bring in younger members and really any new member. Bring a prospect to dinner. Who can you bring into our craft?

We were all treated to a great lecture on Masonic history by our Historian, Brother John Richmond. Brother Richmond showed us how the ancients figured out if a square was a true accurate square and how they used it in the building of the Temples. Good work Brother Richmond.

Rt. Worshipful Brother, Chuck Pittman is working on a surprise birthday party? Could it be yours? Come to our Lodge meeting and find out as it could be yours.

Brother Mackey needs helpers keep our brand new highway right of way clean. Give him a call to help the Masons keep our community sparkling!

Rob Fuqua, Worshipful Master



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

DATE	TIME	EVENT
December 11th	6:00 p.m.	A great dinner Stated meeting
December 25 th		THE LODGE WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN OUR SECOND STATED MEETING.

So may each of you and yours have a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.



FUTURE EVENTS:

January 8 th	7:00 p.m.	Stated meeting and Vote on allowing alcohol in Masonic Lodge or not.
January ?	?	Pancake Breakfast
February 23	Too be announced	Masonic Home Meeting – Branson Lodge

FROM THE SOUTH: Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Come and enjoy Sloppy Joes, Coleslaw, Chips and Dessert plus lots of fellowship.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK: Just a reminder, dues are now due. We have had 30% response thus far. Do you have your card yet? For those of you who have sent in your dues they are being included in this mailing.

FYI – Barry Jenkins, one of our members has an honor in his family...his wife Linda was elected in line for the Grand Chapter OES and is the Associate Grand Conductress. Linda has formed a club which will be meeting at our lodge. On Sunday, December 16 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. they will have a WRAP PARTY for a donation in wrapping your gifts. Please come and bring your gifts that need wrapping to help Sister Linda in her journey to the Grand East.

From the Historian:

Why did Freemasonry select the Holy Saints John as their patrons saints rather than Saint Thomas, who is the eminent patron of architecture and building?

In Masonic research on the topic of the Saints John, we can be sure of only one thing, the concept of dedication of Lodges to them is indeed “time immemorial.” The earliest Masonic documents speak of the Saints and of the “Lodge of the Saints John of Jerusalem”.

Craft Masonry and Blue Lodges as we know them have received the Saints John as Patrons as something of an heirloom from previous centuries. Lodges of “St. Johns Masonry” existed long before 1717. Interestingly, all three traditions of the most common theories of Masonic origins have their own relationship with the Saints John.

There is a school of Masonic research holding that the Fraternity is descended from the Druids and other truly ancient Celtic priesthoods of the sun. Implausible as this theory is, it has a direct correlation to the veneration of the Saints John. Although entirely pagan and pre-Christian, these sun priests claimed their holiest days the summer and winter solstices. As this was common among many pagan theologies, the early and medieval Christian Church adopted the solstices as important feast days and simply renamed them for two of the most important saints. The solstice dates vary (this year, the winter solstice “when the sun dies and is reborn” is December 21st), so were fixed by the Church as June 24 for St. John the Baptist and December 27 for St. John the Evangelist.

All medieval guilds adopted Patron Saints and used their feast days as central gatherings for celebration and for choosing leaders and other business matters. Stonemason Guilds, in northern England and Scotland often chose one or both Saint John’s as their Patrons which was not true on the continent or in Norman-dominated southern England. However the Freemasonry we practice today came mostly from the northern regions and Scotland.

Another theory of Masonic Genesis is that our Freemasonry evolved from the knightly orders of the Crusades, specifically, the Knights Templar and Knights Hospitallers. In fact, the Knights Hospitallers were, and still are, more properly know as the “Knights of Saint John”. The Saints John are also commonly referred to in templar records and we know their festival days were of importance to the Templar’s. When the Templar’s were suppressed in 1307, most of their property on the continent and later in England was given to the Knights Hospitallers. Also interesting to this theory is one of the charges of “heresy” brought against the Templar’s was that they had become followers of Gnostic Christianity vs the Roman Catholic interpretation from the Pope. This is important in the discussion of the Saints John because much of the Gnostic thought is the Gospel and Epistles of John the Evangelist. In effect, the “heresy” of the Templar’s may have been that they were closer to the theology of the Saints John than the Saints Peter and Paul.

So while we can find no real answers to the question of why the Saints John are our Patrons, the lineage of dedication is clear.

Adapted from a lecture present by W. Bro. Harvey L. Ward Jr. PM to R.T. Schafer Lodge No. 350 F &AM, Grand Lodge of Florida, as published in Pietre-Stones Review of Freemasonry

