



# TRESTLE BOARD

Table Rock Masonic Lodge #680, A.F. & A.M. Kimberling City, MO, U.S.A.

Volume 14, Issue 6

February 2010

## As the Sun Rises in the East...

Greetings from the East. February has begun and as you can see I am already behind in getting the Trestle Board out for this month. How time does fly when you are working toward deadlines. The first thing I want to remind you about is our **Special Family Night Coming up Tuesday Feb. 9, 2010.** This is a special time when we open up the evening to our family and friends and invite guest to join us for a meal and some special information about the lodge. We will begin the meal at 6:00 pm with the brothers doing all the cooking followed by a short presentation in the Lodge by our education officer, Bro. James Greene and myself. Please don't forget to bring a covered dish or dessert you have prepared yourself. Remember this is for the enjoyment of your wife not to be prepared by her. Also be sure to invite other family and friends so they can find out more about the Lodge.

This is a great opportunity

to make sure we share about the true meaning of Masonry and what we stand for.

The following story is attributed to President Lincoln but has never been authenticated.

*My Brother is Not a Burden:*

*One cold winter day Abraham Lincoln was on circuit going from one town to another. He stopped to look at two boys gleefully sliding down a hill on a sled. When they got to the bottom of the hill he noticed that the smaller boy was a cripple. The larger boy would pick him up, place him over his shoulder, and carry him and the sled up the side of the large incline. When on top he would place the smaller boy on the sled and they both would ride down as they both emitted sounds of joy.*

*After watching this going up and sliding down for quite a while he noticed that the older boy was getting tired.*

*He asked him, "That boy is quite a burden, isn't he?" And the boy replied, "He*

*aint no burden, he's my brother."*

Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809; he was not a Mason but he stated on several occasions that when his term of office as President was over he was going to petition the lodge in Springfield, Illinois.

The above was taken from a book titled "A Masonic Thought for Each Day of the Year" by Alphonse Cerza, 1971

Who knows you may be the one that will help show your friend on how to be a "Brother".

"Educate to Motivate"

Also if any of you would, please contact any of the widows of are departed brothers and invite them to our Family Night. If they need a ride and you can not provide it for them please get in contact with me as soon as possible. I am sure we can work out a ride with someone so they would be able to attend.

To often I think we rely on the widow asking for assistance rather than we as ma-

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sonic brothers asking her if she needs assistance.

Don't forget we also have our **Sunday Brunch** Feb. 21, from 9am to 1pm. Please make sure you have gotten your tickets from WBro. Chuck Pittman for advance sales or gift. Please inform everyone you know about the Brunch. Tell everyone **when where and why.** Six dollars for this type of a meal is a real bargain and a great fund raiser for the Lodge. Be sure to ask Chuck what you can do to help in this effort! If you can't get there in time to help prepare and serve maybe you can come later and help clean up and put everything away. If all



else fails you can always chip in a little more toward our building fund. Hopefully as construction proceeds on the expansion of our community room area, individuals coming each month to the brunch can see how their contributions are helping with the building project.



Above picture is of the presentation of a 50year pin and apron to Bro. Wilbur Davidson at our Jan. 26th meeting. Also if you missed on 26th you missed the conferring of the 2nd. Degree on Bro. Shane McClelland. You know the old saying " When you miss-you are not only missed , you miss out"

## Secrecy and Silence

These virtues constitute the very essence of all Masonic character; they are the safeguard of the Institution, giving to it all its security and perpetuity, and are enforced by frequent admonitions in all the degrees, from the lowest to the highest.

The same principles of secrecy and silence existed in all the ancient mysteries and systems of worship. When Aristotle was asked what thing appeared to him to be most difficult of performance, he replied, "To be secret and silent."

If we turn our eyes back to antiquity we shall find that the old Egyptians had so great a regard for silence and secrecy in the mysteries of their religion, that they set up the god Harpocrates, to whom they paid peculiar honor and veneration, who was represented with the right hand placed near the heart; and the left down by his side, covered with skin before, full of eyes and ears, to signify that of many things to be seen and heard, few are to be published.

Apuleius, who was initiate in the mysteries of Isis says: " By no peril will I ever be compelled to disclose to the uninitiated the things that I have had entrusted to me on condition of silence.

Among the Egyptians the sign of silence was made by pressing the index finger of the right hand on the lips. It was thus that they represent Harpocrates, the god of silence, whose statue was placed at the entrance of all the temples of Isis and Serapis, to indicate that silence and secrecy were to be preserved as to all that occurred within

Lodge Educational Officer  
James Greene 332Degree

Re: An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry  
- 1920

## Making Good Men Better

### Masonic Calendar:

Date:	Time:	Event:
Feb. 9	1800hr	Family Night– Meal fixed by the Men for the Ladies– St John’s Presentation following
Feb 21	0900hrs– 1300hrs	Sunday Brunch-
Feb. 23	1900hrs	Stated Communication– Meal at 1800hrs



Masonic Thought for Each Day of the Week- Thought for February 3rd.

In a world that seems hurtling toward its own destruction; in a day when moral bankruptcy threatens our social institutions; in an hour when radical religious leaders proclaim that God is dead; those of us who are vitally concerned with the future of mankind need a foundation stone that is absolute. Throughout all times and throughout all the Universe there is but one absolute, and no other is or will be needed.

“In the beginning God” There is the Absolute, on which all of life is eternally founded. “As it is was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end” says the doxology. Do you need further proof of His omnipresence, His omniscience, His omnipotence? Then look beneath you at the earth and its miracles; look above you at the sun, moon and stars obeying the Divine plan; and look around you into the hearts of your brother Masons, and find all the proof you need.

Let us go forth from here animated by one desire— to make the principles and ideals of Masonry live in our own lives, and in the lives of our brethren. Let us resolve to love God and keep his commandments. Let us prove to the profane world that God is very much alive, in our hearts, in the work of our hands, in the

lives that we lead. Let us dedicate to the service of Masonry that which our forefathers in Masonry dedicated to this nation when they brought it into being, namely, “Our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.”

Louis L. Williams

“THE CHARACTER YOU NOW BEAR”

The loftiest ideals, the most sacred and profound lessons, are expressed with eloquence in the allegory and the ritual of the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

Although it is assumed that one comes into Masonry properly prepared and well qualified for the reception of great truths, if the teachings and tenets of the Institution do not increase one’s determination to proceed, to grow mentally, and morally, then a vital part of the lesson has not been learned.

Masonry does not magically change the life of a man in a single moment. But the profound impact of the Sublime Degree should be the inspiration and the force for one “to support with dignity the character you now bear.”

Men whose lives are marked by strength of character and moral courage did not suddenly attain that greatness which is immortal. It came from day-by-day effort and the ceaseless struggle for mastery of self.

The discipline of Masonry which directs one to discharge willingly his solemn obligations, also enables him to grow in character and to illusory limitations.

Dewey H. Wollstein

“THE SEEKER OF LIGHT”

The highest privilege that life affords is that of learning, of converting knowledge into wisdom, of seeking the genuine value of life by seeking Light and more light.

Some may attain a vast degree of knowledge, but the opportunity for growth is open to all of us. The search is the important factor.

In Masonry we honor those brothers whose superior minds have given us a broad picture of the ennobling principles of Freemasonry, who have outlined paths of study and who have made it possible for us to open windows for ourselves.

This is all a part of our Masonic heritage and we demonstrate our gratitude by making great thoughts a vital part of our lives.

It should be the primary purpose of the leaders of Masonry to stress the unlimited opportunity which Masonry offers to the earnest seekers of Light.

Every candidate should enter the door of Masonry with the truth firmly impressed upon mind and heart, the truth that Masonry is “Teaching Institution,” that every brother has an equal opportunity to learn and to improve, and that the greater the effort, the greater the reward.

The ultimate is never attainable, but there is an inner satisfaction that results from every step taken in the journey of the journey of the visible towards the invisible.

Dewey H. Wollstein



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**Making Good Men Better  
Educate to Motivate**



**President Harry S. Truman as he exits a balloting booth following voting in a general election. (November 2, 1954)**