



TRESTLE BOARD

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

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As the Sun Rises in the East...

Greetings from the East. April is here and the trees and flowers are blooming and Springs is finally arrived. We have had a great year under way and moving rapidly. This last month has seen two degrees, a first and a second and the ground breaking for our addition for our Lodge Hall. We have another second degree planned for April 13th and possible another degree for the 27th if everything works out. Our election of officers for the next year is rapidly approaching with election the first meeting of May, that being May 11th and Past Masters Night May 25th. So as you can see we have a very active agenda for the next two months and one I know you will not want to miss out on. We do have some new applications that are coming in and need to be investigated and voted on so please be sure to attend and take a very active part in YOUR Lodge.

Some have asked again for the dates on the York Rite Festival and the Shrine

Ceremonial so I will listed them for you. York Rite Festival is May 7th. and 8th. and the Shrine Ceremonial is June 4th and 5th. If you have additional questions about either of these events you can contact WB Ryan Martin, Bro Rob Fugua or me about the York Rite and Bro Ross Anderson or Bro John Elmore about the Shrine.



When two Worshipful Masters get together when working the Branson MO-Chip
You can be sure thinks may come to a stand still or should I say a site down.

I also want to remind everyone that we will be having trash pick-up on Highway 13 south of DD Hwy on Monday April 19th starting at 9:00am weather permitting. Last month the

weather was not real cooperative and only Bro Tucker and I were there to start with so after a short wait the decision was make to put the pick-up off until this month because there was only a very few items. So after we had left and I was returning the bags to the Lodge Hall Bro . Anderson contacted me about 9:30.

This time I will try to remember to get a commitment the week before of everyone that is planning to help.
Just as a reminder don't for-

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get to start planning for the Golf Tournament. As Bro Rob reminded us at our last meeting it is getting here real soon. Remember this is one of the biggest fund raisers we hold each year and it takes a lot of work to make it run smoothly. Get you entry forms filled out, sale some hole sponsors, talk it up with other organizations and help make this another great year.

WB Tony reminded be earlier today that we still have about 15 bricks to sale on the front of our Lodge Hall. If you want one please get in contact with him as soon as possible. I know someone is going to put it off and after



the last brick is sold they are really going to be upset with themselves that they didn't buy one in their own name or in memory of someone that is very special to them. Just as soon as we have sold the last brick we will be getting the engravers down to finish them all off at one time.

Those of you that were present at the ground breaking had an opportunity to see and buy one of the MWG Master Reynolds's coins which is the first in a ten year series. If several of you want to purchase one of the coins let me know and we will try and make arrangement to get several of them down here. The price is \$10 each. \

Remember:

“Educate to Motivate”

Hopefully you will enjoy the following pictures of our ground breaking activities. Just in case you have not been by you will be happy to know they have poured the floor for our addition.



Masonic Calendar:

Making Good Men Better

Date:	Time:	Event:
April 6	1900hrs	Off week—Practice at the Lodge
April 13	1900hrs	Stated Communication with Second Degree— Meal at 1800hrs
April 19	0900hrs	Trash pickup— meeting at DD and 13 at the Mule Express
April 20	1900hrs	Off week— Practice at the Lodge
April 27	1900hrs	Stated Communication— Meal Prior to the meeting at 1800hrs



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**Making Good Men Better
Educate to Motivate**



The Holy Saints John

by

Right Worshipful Lonnie Lee Godfrey

“Continued from Last Month”

In looking toward the future, the birth date of St. John the Baptist is an appropriate celebratory day for Freemasons, as it is a good day to come together and reflect on our past and on our future. It reminds us, not just of our past, but also of our passions being circumscribed. In all of our time as a Fraternity, celebrations of unity such as this help us to reaffirm the ties that bind; whether those ties be the bindings of fraternity or the familiarity of an institution, we should remember that historically our sacred Lodges, were anciently dedicated to King Solomon because he is said to have been our first most excellent Grand Master, but in this country, Masons dedicate their Lodges to Saint John the Baptist and Saint John the Evangelist, who are said to have been two eminent patrons of Masonry.

Let's look at the symbolism for a moment. There is represented in every regular and well-governed Lodge a certain point within a circle bordered by two parallel lines, representing St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist; and upon the top rest the Holy Scriptures. The point represents the individual brother; the circle, the boundary line of his duty, beyond which he is never to suffer his passions, interests, or prejudices, to betray him. In going around the circle, we necessarily touch on the two parallel lines, as well as the Holy Scriptures; and while a Mason keeps himself circumscribed with these due bounds, it is impossible that he should materially err.

The festival days set aside for these two saints by Freemasonry, are June 24th, for St. John the Baptist and December 27th for St. John the Evangelist. Both of these dates coincide with the Summer and Winter Solstices respectively. The parallel lines which border the circle are also said to symbolize the two solstices.

Now let's look at the history of this Masonic event. Prior to Christianity, the celebrations of the change of the seasons were marked with many pagan celebrations. For example, December 25th was already a major festival in the pagan Roman world. The "Birthday of the Unconquered Sun," falling within the week-long celebration of the Saturnalia, was a feast honoring the renewal of the sun at the winter solstice. It included feasting, dancing, lighting bonfires, decorating homes with greens, and giving gifts. Sound Familiar? The early church wanted these pagan festivals stopped, but they were very popular with the people and they continued to celebrate them. The solution to the problem was simple; substitute Christian meanings and Saints to these holidays and continue to celebrate them. Therefore, the celebration of the summer solstice became the Festival of St. John the Baptist and the celebration of the winter solstice became the Festival of St. John the Evangelist.

But why did Freemasonry select the Holy Saints John as their patron saints rather than Saint Thomas, who is the eminent patron of architecture and building? According to Albert Bede, adoption of the Saints by Freemasonry predates the first Grand Lodge of 1717. Many of the Operative Lodges had been dedicated to the Baptist and a few to the Evangelist. The Baptist seems to have come into Freemasonry before the Evangelist.

It may be significant that the first Grand Lodge was formed at a meeting held on the Festival of St. John the Baptist.