

Semper Fidelis

Trestleboard

May brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us.

Look to the East

Dear Brethren,

As the heat of summer sets in, I am thrilled to share some exciting news about our Lodge. The long-awaited remodel is nearing completion, and we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to all the brethren who have dedicated their time and effort to this project. Your hard work and commitment have made this transformation possible, and I am deeply thankful for your contributions.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting back in our beautifully restored Lodge on July 10th. This gathering will mark a significant milestone in our journey, and I hope we can all come together to celebrate this achievement.

Honoring History and Tradition

In reflecting on the importance of history and tradition within our fraternity, I am proud to share the recent honors bestowed upon two of our esteemed Brothers. Brother Gordy Crossman was awarded his 75-year pin from DeMolay and subsequently received his 60-year apron from the Lodge. Next year, Brother Gordy will reach an extraordinary milestone, receiving his 70-year award—a rare and remarkable achievement that few will ever see and even fewer will personally attain.

Similarly, Brother Ron Choate received his 60-year pin from DeMolay and his 50-year veteran's award and pin from the Grand Lodge, presented by the District Deputy Grand Master. Additionally, he was honored with his 50-year apron from the Lodge. These awards are a testament to their unwavering dedication and service to the fraternity over many decades.

The Importance of Recognition

These ceremonies remind us of the vital role that history and tradition play in Freemasonry. Honoring those who have given so much to our fraternity is essential. It not only acknowledges their contributions but also inspires future generations to uphold these values. As we remodel and restore our Lodge, we

Officers of the Lodge 2024

	Master	Dustin Wood	
Senior Warden	Michael Bartlett	Junior Warden	J.P. Ledford
Treasurer	Earl Wilson	Secretary	WB Jason Caldwell
Senior Deacon	Antonio Saenz, Jr	Junior Deacon	Jimmy Johnson
Senior Steward		Junior Steward	
Tyler	WB Henry Drake	Chaplain	WB Denny Norris

Brethren, please do not forget to take a moment, as we always do in our Lodge; to remember the sick, ailing, and those away from their families defending our way of life...and add to it our families.



Inside this issue:

Look to the East	1
On the Secretary's Desk	2
Upcoming Events	2
Look to the East cont.	3
Pics	3
Birthdays	4
Necrology	4
Education	5
Wisdom of Yoda	6

On the Secretary's Desk

Brethren,

As of late our Lodge has undergone several renovations, both to the look of our building and to the way we do business administratively. We need to remember that not all change is bad, and some needed to happen for the longevity of our Lodge building. My mama always used to say that the only people who enjoy change are babies, and they cry all the way through it. With this being said, I only ask one thing, before you complain about how things are going to be done in the Lodge, show up and participate in the decision making.

One of the changes we are undergoing is the 'publication' of our monthly *Trestleboard*. For several years it has been emailed out by WB Howard Kahn. He has asked for this to be handed off to someone else. At this time, we are going to be emailing it through GrandView, with the only exceptions being those whose emails have an issue with the system. This will not only expedite the publishing of the information but also will help in the consolidating of the contact information into the GrandView system to be utilized by all the Officers of the Lodge.

Lastly, the education in this months edition is a little different. It was pulled from the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire's Grand Master message. As we have just enjoyed this holiday, let us continually remember our Ritual and the meanings we have so diligently given to each portion. Remember, that many of us have served, let us wave our nations colors with pride of what this nation has given to us in our many freedoms.

If you have any updates to your address, phone number, email address, please send to:

semperfidelislodge680@gmail.com.

Jason Caldwell
Secretary

Upcoming Events

Brethren,

Upcoming events are in the works and if you have any ideas for our Lodge bring them up so we can all benefit from your ideas.

- 09 July—OES meeting
- 10 July—Stated Communication—Education by PGM Shaun Bradshaw
- 13 July—WB Ron Sortino Celebration of Life at Semper Fidelis—1500-1800
- 14 July—DeMolay
- 16 July—Onslow County Masonic Scholarship at Lafayette Lodge 83
- 20 July—Monthly Breakfast
- 23 July—OES meeting
- 24 July—Stated Communication
- 25 July—Coaches Clinic
- 27 July—Ladies Night Out
- 28 July—DeMolay
- 03 Aug—Grand Masters at Labor



All of these events are located on the calendar online with details. Remember that we have transitioned to GrandView.

Please log onto GrandView at nc.grandview.systems.

If anyone wants to help with the upcoming events, please let the Officers know.

“Guarding the West Gate is just as important as your admission in a just & constituted Lodge of Freemasons.”

Look to the East cont:

are not just making it new; we are preserving and celebrating our rich history. By maintaining traditional craftsmanship, we ensure that the spirit and legacy of our fraternity endure.

As we look forward to our first meeting in the remodeled Lodge, let us carry with us the lessons and inspirations from our distinguished Brothers. Their achievements highlight the enduring impact of dedication, service, and the importance of recognizing and honoring those who have come before us.

Brethren, let us continue to uphold the tenets of our great fraternity, celebrating our history, honoring our traditions, and supporting one another in all our endeavors. Together, we build more than just a Lodge; we build a legacy.

Frāternē,

Dustin M. Wood
Master



Brothers at work,
trying to renovate
our beloved
building!



Scottish Rite Ring Ceremony:
Look who is front and center!!

Happy Birthday Brothers



JULY BIRTHDAYS

07/01 CHARLES KRAPP
 07/02 MARVIN VICKERS
 07/07 EDWARD FLETCHER
 07/09 MICHAEL BARTLETT
 07/18 DWIGHT SIGMON
 07/21 ROBERT BOSLEY
 07/25 WILLIAM NOWELL
 07/29 RANDY BREWER
 07/31 RICHARD BARBEE

07/01 RICHARD WELTON
 07/04 GEORGE FRICKE
 07/07 DAVID VALENTIN
 07/09 ARNOLD COBB JR
 07/20 DOUGLAS GODFREY JR
 07/21 RONALD MALLOW
 07/28 JAMES BATEMAN JR
 07/29 JOSEPH MONTEODORO
 07/31 SHAWN HUGHES

07/02 RUSSELL JONES
 07/04 DAVID STAFFORD
 07/08 RICHARD ROMANO II
 07/17 AUSTYN HARRELL
 07/20 SHAWN MURPHY
 07/23 KENNETH FORBIS JR
 07/29 PETER BERGSTROM
 07/30 JUNIOR CALDWELL

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

08/01 DAVID DIETZ
 08/03 PATRICK KELLEY
 08/06 LEIGHTON FOREMAN
 08/10 AARON PRESCOTT
 08/14 LARRY SCOTT
 08/19 DUSTIN SCHUITT SR
 08/27 JOSEPH JONES
 08/31 JEREMY BAYON

08/02 JOSEPH REYES
 08/05 CRAIG BOUCHER
 08/06 JOSEPH THOMAS
 08/11 DAVID MCLAURIN
 08/18 ZACHARY JOHNSON
 08/21 WILLIAM GAINEY
 08/27 FRANCESCO VALLE
 08/31 ROBERT MILLS

08/03 WILLIAM GIBBONS
 08/05 CHARLES SANTORO
 08/08 DANIEL GRACE
 08/12 GORDON CROSSMAN
 08/19 TRAVIS CHRISTENSEN
 08/22 RONALD CHOATE
 08/31 HERIBERTO ACEVEDO JR

Those in **BOLD** are over the age of 70

Necrology Report

Brethren,

As of this publication, we have had not been notified of any of our Brothers passing upward and inward through the Pearly Gates.

Ensure your families know your wishes upon passing. Notifying the Lodge and requesting Masonic Honors (if you so desire) is vital to ensure we get things accomplished according to your wishes.

Masonic Education:

Have you been watching the news recently? There's no doubt that we live in turbulent and divisive times. So how do we as Freemasons rise above the fray?

In times like this, I turn to our ritual for guidance. Let me share a few short examples.

"Masonry accepts men of every country, sect and opinion." So, while I may believe in a different Supreme Being than you, or not necessarily agree with your point of view, I still love you as a Brother. And I will continue to treat you as such. It also means that we are welcoming of all men of good moral character regardless of how they look, how much money they have, or what neighborhood they live in. You are still my Brother, regardless of these qualities. And I will continue to treat you as such.



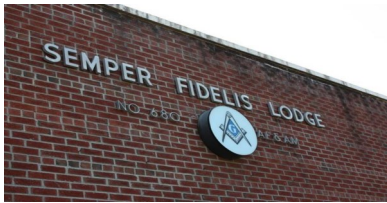
Here's another important message.

"Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. Do good unto all." Brethren, we are honored to hold the title of "Mason". And luckily there are other good men out there who will someday replace us when it's time for us to lie down our working tools. Do good unto all. All doesn't mean just the people you like. All doesn't mean those who share like minded views. All doesn't mean those from your generation. All means All – everyone! Regardless of their background, standing in the world, or their position in the Lodge. Don't only do good for some – do good unto all.

So, as we come together this weekend to celebrate our Nation's Independence, I share these closing words with you. Now more than ever, the world, our nation and our Jurisdiction need Freemasonry. They need men of strong moral character. They need men who stand true to their obligations. They need men who are good husbands, fathers, grandfathers and community members.

Brethren, you are Masons both within and without the walls of your Lodge. Please remember to use social media in a positive and informative way. Abide by the laws of your city, state and nation. Wear your Masonic ring, shirt and hat with honor and integrity. And always practice Brother Love, Relief and Truth. And importantly, wave the flag of your country with pride.

Brethren, I wish you a safe and happy 4th of July Holiday weekend. I look forward to seeing you in Lodge soon.



Semper Fidelis Lodge #680

Emergency cell: (472) 206-9840

727 Henderson Drive
Jacksonville, NC 28540

Email: SemperFidelisLodge680@gmail.com

<https://nc.grandview.systems/>

Master

Dustin Wood - (765) 701-7725

Secretary

Jason Caldwell - (760) 670-7381

The Wisdom of Yoda



Sometimes the Smallest Steps in the Right Direction

Ends up being the Biggest Step of your Life.