

MASONIC TRESTLE BOARD

Stump Sound Lodge #733

Wor. Robert Olsson, Master

Wor. Robert McLaughlin, Secretary

From the East:

We will be receiving the District Deputy Grand Master Jason Caldwell and the District Deputy Grand Lecturer Russ Jones at our March 11th Meeting. This is an Official Visit to the Lodge to see that we are in compliance with the Grand Lodge. If you have never seen this ceremony, March 11 is your opportunity to see this vital ceremony.

We will also be opening a Lodge of Sorrow so that during the year we can pay respects to those members that have passed beyond our world to that eternal building.

Fraternal fellowship is one of philosophies of Freemasonry. In keeping with this theme, Stump Sound Lodge will be making a fraternal visit to Lafayette Lodge #83 on March 18th. Times and details will be announced at our meeting March 11th.

If you have a friend who is interested in Freemasonry, please invite him to dinner to see what Masonry is about.

Wor. Robert Olsson

From the Secretary:

Tired of the Secretary reminding you that your annual dues are unpaid? Make it easy – purchase an endowment and never pay dues again. In order to purchase an endowment, the following conditions must be met:

1. Being a member in good standing and possessing a current dues card.
2. The minimum payment for an endowment membership is 21 times the annual dues of the applying member's subordinate lodge. The minimum payment is \$750.00. Minimum annual payment is \$169.50. (After the full amount is paid, the member is free from paying dues to the lodge, no matter if the dues of the lodge increase in the future.)
3. The endowed membership shall be effective for the succeeding calendar year.
4. The endowed membership fee may be paid in five (5) annual payments. The annual installment shall be 5.25 times the annual lodge dues. After enrolling under this option, a member may not revert to the single payment method, but may remit any or all unpaid installments, provided no installment is past due.
5. A brother, at a future time, may add any amount to his endowed membership fee through the secretary of the lodge.
6. An endowment membership may be purchased by a bequest or in a will by any member in good standing.
7. Veterans (50-year service awards) endowed memberships are available to members with 50 years as a Master Mason and who have received their Veterans Award. The minimum purchase is \$750.00.

8. A Memorial Endowed Membership may be purchased by any person for a deceased Master Mason. The minimum purchase is \$750.00.

9. The proportionate ratio for distribution is fixed at seventy-five percent (75%) of the subordinate lodge on twenty-five percent (25%) for the Grand Lodge. This ratio is payable to the Lodge, even after a member is deceased – a perfect mechanism for the Lodge to ALWAYS receive its share of the earnings from the Endowment Fund. See the Lodge Secretary for more information or an application.

Wor. Robert McLaughlin

Events:

March 4	Rehearsal for the Official Visitation and Opening a Lodge of Sorrow.
March 11	Lodge Meeting 7pm with Dinner at 6pm. The DDGM will be making an Official Visitation to the Lodge.
March 18	Visitation to Lafayette Lodge #83 6:30 Dinner and 7:30pm meeting.
March 25	Lodge Meeting 7pm with Dinner at 6pm

Masonic Birthdays: Master Mason Date

Donald Beasley Doug Medlin

Masonic Lesson:

I was listening to a prayer being given in honor of a departed brother Mason and I heard an interesting thing. The prayer praised this Brother for the time he devoted to our craft. I was struck by the amount of time that this man had devoted to the Fraternity. It made me think on the value of time.

One of the tenets of our institution is Relief. The relief of those in distress is one of the ways we show our charity to all mankind. The act of charity is one of giving of ourselves to another that is in need. There are several ways of doing this. The most common seems to be by fundraising to establish great amounts of money to accomplish great deeds. This is a good and necessary thing but, is it the best gift we could offer?

When we reach our hand into our pocket and take out our wallet, we can look into it and see the amount we have. Based on this information, we determine the amount we can give without injury to ourselves. This we gladly give for the relief of others.

There is, however, a more precious gift that we have. This gift is our time. When we decide to donate our time to the relief of a distressed person we are really giving a part of our life to another. The amount can vary from a minute, an hour, a month, a year or many years. We do not have the ability to count the grains of sand remaining in our hour glass. We know not the time remaining to us. To give a portion of that time to another, to help them to live better, is truly a gift of unselfish brotherly love. The value of that time exceeds the greatest dollar amount you could give. For you are giving part of your own life, that another might benefit.

Wor. Robert Olsson