
Semper Fidelis
Trestleboard

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

Look to the East

Brethren,

As many of you know, this year has already been off to a fast start. We have already had a couple of degrees and have a couple more already scheduled. As we continue to be busy throughout this year, please remember that we need support to make these degrees memorable for our candidates. Whether you want to assist in putting on these degrees or just come and support the candidates as they progress through their journey in Masonry, Please come.

Some events that are planned going forward are the DeMolay Easter Egg Hunt, which will be on 19 April at 1000; monthly breakfasts on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 0800; Ritual Workshops on the 4th Thursdays; and we have Mothers' Day Luncheon and a Baseball games in the planning stages.

As a reminder, we have our required 5-hour lecture on April 26th starting at 0900. We are required to have at a minimum of 5 Officers and 2 Master Masons present for this to count for the year. However, EVERY Master Mason is free to come and learn the ritual and hopefully start learning a part for the future. This will help our Officers become more proficient in their ritual work. Bring your OSW and Bahnsen Manual to this event. If you do not have an OSW, reach out to our Secretary.

We also have an Open House scheduled for 30 April. If you know of anyone desirous of becoming a Mason, this is an excellent opportunity for them to come gain some information and meet the Brethren of the Lodge. We will start at 1800 and will enjoy coffee and desserts afterwards.

Thank you, Brethren, for your continued support of our Lodge and its Officers. Without you remaining diligent in our Lodge, then we would not be this successful.



Inside this issue:

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

Mike Bartlett
Master

Officers of the Lodge 2025

	Master	WB Michael Bartlett	
Senior Warden	J.P. Ledford	Junior Warden	Antonio Saenz, Jr
Treasurer	Earl Wilson	Secretary	WB Jason Caldwell
Senior Deacon	Jimmy Johnson	Junior Deacon	Patrick Kelley
Senior Steward	Charles Bourne	Junior Steward	Nate Bailey
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.

On the Secretary's Desk

Brethren,

As I start my yearly calling to the Brethren, whether it be for purposes of dues or awards, inviting a Brother who has not been to Lodge in a while to come back, or even to just check up on them, I am finding many of you have not updated your contact information in Grandview. This becomes crucial when we cannot get in touch with out Brethren, as we cannot send notices of upcoming by-law changes, birthday cards, or many other administrative concerns.

As Semper Fidelis has Brothers in many states and countries across the globe, sometimes the only way we have to get in touch with you is phone or email. Please either log onto Grandview and update your contact information or send me an email so that I can change it for you.

We always meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month and have many events that we would love to see you at, if it is within the length of your cabletow.

If you have any updates to your address, phone number, email address, please send to: semperfidelislodge680@gmail.com.

Jason Caldwell
Secretary

Together...We R.I.S.E

'A Lodge is not held together with steel bands, but by the silken ties of brotherhood, woven of interest, friendliness, good times, wholesome fraternal intercourse.'

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.

- EA Practice - 31 March at 1800
- EA Degree - 2 April at 1900
- Breakfast - 5 April at 0800
- OES - 8 April at 1830
- Stated - 9 April at 1900
- DeMolay - 13 April at 1500
- Breakfast - 19 April at 0800
- DeMolay Easter Egg Hunt - 19 April at 1000
- Stated - 23 April at 1900
- Ritual Workshop - 24 April at 1800
- 5-hour Lecture - 26 April at 0900
- DeMolay - 27 April at 1500
- Open House - 30 April at 1800



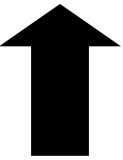
All of these events are located on the calendar online with details. Remember that we have transitioned to GrandView. Please log onto GrandView at nc.grandview.systems.

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



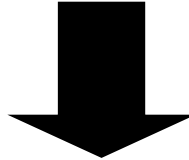
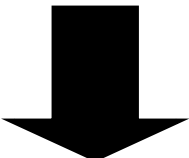
Welcome to our newest Master Masons. Brother Trevor Tompkins of Newport 706 and Brother Ethan Warner and Joshua Stroman of Semper Fidelis Lodge. Their Degree was attended by over 40 Brothers representing 7 different Lodges.

Congratulations Brothers!! Keep working hard and we will see you in Lodge!



Our Ladies Night Out at Shoguns
On 15 March.

Jacksonville Chapter Order of DeMolay
Newest Officers at their Installation.



Happy Birthday Brothers



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

BILLY LEE FUSON JR 03/02
 JONATHAN RICHARD PADGETT 03/06
 TIMOTHY NEAL BLACK 03/12
 WILLIAM FRANCIS HARRELL 03/13
 WINSTON GABRIEL MCMILLAN 03/20
 JOSEPH PIERCE SHIRLEY 03/24
 CHRISTIAN RICHARD KISSEL 03/28

GEORGE ALONZO GREENE 03/04
 NOAH BRANDON RUNDELL 03/07
 JOHN THOMAS GAINEY 03/13
 FRITZ MATHEW LOWE 03/14
ERNEST BENJAMIN HALL 03/23
 ADAM MICHAEL HOGUE 03/25
ARTHUR LEONARD THORNE 03/30

JOSEPH LYNN HOULE 03/06
CARLTON EDWARD POULSEN 03/10
 MICHAEL BENJAMIN GREENLEAF 03/13
 ALEXANDER CHRISTOPHER ALCON 03/20
 SHAWN WAYNE PYLE 03/24
 TYLER JOSEPH EASTGATE 03/27

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

DANIEL WADE RAINS 04/04
DONALD RAY BUTCHER 04/07
 JOSHUA BRYCE KANUCK 04/13
 LEONARD CHARLES TROTTER 04/16
 MICHAEL ANTHONY HODGES 04/24
 QUINTON DESHAUN HARRIS 04/28

MAT CONSTANTINE RAYMOND 04/04
 HAMPTON DAVIS HADLEY 04/11
 LUIS REY MARTINEZ 04/13
 GILBERT MOCTEZUMA, JR 04/18
 JARED RANDALL PEARCE 04/24

DUSTIN THOMAS SHANLE 04/05
 RALPH DAVID WICKER, JR 04/11
 JOSEPH ALLEN MURRAY 04/15
 JEREMY GENE ROBERTS 04/21
WILLIAM WALTER FITZPATRICK 04/25

MAY BIRTHDAYS

EARL ETHELBERT WILSON, JR 05/02
 NATHAN LESLIE BAILEY 05/08
 JUAN VIRGILIO VASQUEZ, JR 05/14
WARREN GATTIS BAILEY 05/26

CHARLES GARY COOK 05/03
 JUSTIN ANTON HEIGOLD 05/13
 SHON PAUL BRODIE 05/16

ANTONIO RAFAEL SAENZ, JR 05/05
ROGER ELLIS PENROD 05/14
 ROBERT LEE WOLD 05/24

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

Necrology Report

Brethren,

During the month of March, we thankfully have not had any Brothers lay down forever their working tools of life.

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:

Easter Reflection

Jason Nardi
March 31, 2024

Easter is traditionally associated with themes of resurrection, renewal, and spiritual awakening. In Freemasonry, similar symbolism is found in the allegorical journey of the candidate through the degrees, representing a journey from darkness to light, from ignorance to enlightenment. The Easter season serves as a reminder for Freemasons to reflect on their own journey of self-improvement and strive for personal and moral growth.

Lessons of Easter in Freemasonry:

Just as Easter signifies the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil, Freemasonry teaches its members to uphold principles of virtue, integrity, and righteousness. The story of Easter inspires Masons to emulate the virtues of sacrifice, compassion, and service to humanity. Through charitable endeavors and acts of kindness, Freemasons embody the spirit of Easter by making a positive impact on their communities and uplifting those in need.

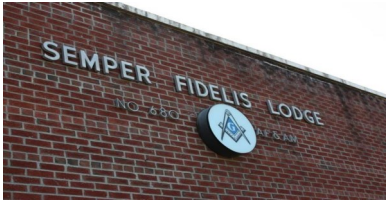
Renewal and Rebirth in Freemasonry:

Easter symbolizes a time of spiritual renewal and rebirth, mirroring the Masonic concept of continual improvement and striving for perfection. Freemasons are encouraged to reflect on their Masonic journey, renew their commitment to the Craft, and rededicate themselves to the principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth. Just as nature experiences a revitalization during the Easter season, Freemasons seek to rejuvenate their minds, bodies, and spirits, ensuring their continued growth and development within the Craft.

Fellowship and Fraternity:

Easter also emphasizes the importance of fellowship, unity, and communal celebration. Freemasonry, with its emphasis on brotherhood and camaraderie, provides a supportive community where members can come together to celebrate shared values and experiences. During Easter, Freemasons gather in lodge rooms around the world to reflect on the symbolism of the season, share fraternal bonds, and renew their commitment to the principles of Freemasonry.

In conclusion, Easter serves as a profound and meaningful time for Freemasons to reflect on the symbolic parallels between the Easter story and the teachings of Freemasonry. As we celebrate this season of renewal and rebirth, let us recommit ourselves to the timeless values of brotherly love, relief, and truth, and strive to make a positive difference in the world.



Semper Fidelis Lodge #680

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Master

Mike Bartlett - (910) 545-6468

Secretary

Jason Caldwell - (760) 670-7381

It seems that every year, every Lodge has that dreaded discussion: ‘How many Brothers have yet to pay their dues?’ This is written concerning that topic.

First, let’s explore what our Lodge uses our dues for throughout the year:

Bills (electric, propane, water, insurance, per capita)

Charity (Masons give charitably. The Lessons of our Degrees not only suggest it but direct it to be done.)

Events (whether it be our Widow and Awards Night or our Open House, etc.)

And improvements to our Lodge and Masonry.

Second, let’s look at when annual dues are to be made:

Our By-Laws state that it is to be paid in ADVANCE on or before the first day of January. This means that if your dues are not paid on or before January 1st, you are officially in arrears.

Lastly, let’s look at the consequences when the Brothers of a Lodge do not pay until the last minute:

Our Lodge cannot pay its required obligations. We pay our regular bills but also support others. Some of these are needed to be paid during the year. (Founding Forward, Relay for Life, etc).

Brethren, it is understood that your cabletow is only so long financially, and sometimes we need a little extra time to take care of our Lodge obligations. If you have any concerns, please let me know.

Jason



The Wisdom of Yoda

Let us together as a craft

Take the time

And heal one another.