

Semper Fidelis

Trestleboard

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

Look to the East

As we enter into a new masonic year, I would like to leave you the following thoughts on new beginnings and hope for the future.

New beginnings mark the start of growth, renewal, and opportunity. They allow us to release what no longer serves us and make space for fresh ideas, goals, and perspectives. Whether sparked by major life change or a quiet personal decision, a new beginning is a powerful reminder that it is never too late to start again.

A positive outlook for the future helps us move forward with confidence and resilience. By focusing on possibilities rather than limitations, we learn to see challenges as lessons and setbacks as stepping stones. Optimism fuels perseverance, encouraging us to trust the process even when the path ahead feels uncertain.

Together, new beginnings and a hopeful mindset shape a future filled with potential. When we embrace change and believe in what lies ahead, we open ourselves to growth, fulfillment, and meaningful process. The future becomes not something to fear, but something to build—one thoughtful, hopeful step at a time.



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	7

JP Ledford
Master

Officers of the Lodge 2026

	Master	J.P. Ledford	
Senior Warden	Antonio Saenz, Jr	Junior Warden	Jimmy Johnson
Treasurer	Earl Wilson	Secretary	WB Jason Caldwell
Senior Deacon	Nate Bailey	Junior Deacon	Austin Dorschel
Senior Steward	Steve Lewandowski	Junior Steward	Jeff Blackwell
Tyler	Harry Weatherly	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,

I would like to start off by saying that the outpouring of love and support my family has received during this time in our lives has been truly overwhelming. WB Howard has repeated many times to me, it is who we are and what we do, but I honestly think it is something deeper. I have heard from many individuals how they were disenfranchised by the brotherhood they have felt through many organizations, but Masonry is different. We take care of each other and regardless of creed, views or beliefs, we show up for each other. There is a saying, 'blood is thicker than water', The full saying is, 'the blood of the covenant is thicker than the water of the womb'. Taking the religious aspect out of this, basically it is saying that those we choose to be bound to has a deeper meaning to so many of us. This is what Masonry is, we choose a deeper connection to each other, and with that we show up for each other. With that being said, I want to sincerely say THANK YOU from the Caldwell family to the family who continues to care for us.

There is a QR Code on the final page of this publication that will allow send you to Grandview. If you would like to get more information on Lodge events (as they are made available), logging into your account is the best way to accomplish this task.

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

Jason Caldwell
Secretary

*'Spread the cement of
Brotherly Love and
Affection; that cement
which unites us into
one sacred band, or
society of friends and
brothers, among
whom no contention
should ever exist, but
that noble contention,
or rather emulation,
of who can best work
and best agree.'*

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.

02 Feb—Sojourners
04 Feb—Entered Apprentice Degree—1900
07 Feb—Breakfast—0800
07 Feb—5-hour Lecture—0900 (all are welcome)
08 Feb—DeMolay—1500
10 Feb—Order of the Eastern Star
11 Feb—Stated Communication—Education will be on Harmony—1900
12 Feb—Ritual Workshop—1830
17 Feb—Discussion Group - 1800—WB Howard's house
20-21 Feb—OES Worthy Grand Matron Visit
21 Feb—Breakfast—0800
22 Feb—DeMolay—1500
25 Feb—Stated—Education will be 3rd Degree Prayer/DDGM Official Visit—1900



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.

Random pictures of the Lodge:





Happy Birthday Brothers

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

DOUGLAS JOHN MRAK 01/02
WILLIAM GRAHAM MATHIS 01/04
 FLOYD LEE TAYLOR III 01/07
 ELI ALTON TROTT 01/14
 CHRISTOPHER WILLIAM HILLMAN 01/16
EUGENE CLAIRE STOUT 01/17
 THOMAS GLENN COLLINS 01/22

LEONARD YEARBY SAFRIT JR 01/03
 RYAN THOMAS MILLER 01/05
JAMES HAROLD ROUSE 01/10
 JONATHAN DUSTIN TABOR 01/15
 DUSTIN MATTHEW WOOD 01/16
 JUSTIN MARSHALL MCMONIGLE 01/18
CLYDE ROBERT KEAGY 01/28

STEPHEN JULIAN LEWANDOWSKI II 01/04
MANFRED BRYANT DAUGHTRY 01/07
EMMETT CRAWFORD COLLINS 01/14
HARRY ALEXANDER WEATHERLY JR 01/15
HOWARD KAHN 01/17
 YOUSIF TELYA 01/20

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

SCOTT DOUGLAS LOVVORN 02/02
RALPH BRYAN HICKS 02/06
 JASON LEE HOUCHINS 02/13
 JAMES RANDALL MARSCHALL 02/17
 RONALD LEE HEATH III 02/21

DENNIS GENE ADAMS 02/04
FREDDIE EDWARD FLETCHER 02/11
 RICHARD JOSEPH PATANE 02/13
 CHARLES GEORGE BOURNE 02/18
 JOHN RUSSELL ROHRER 02/23

ETHAN BLAIR WARNER 02/04
THOMAS LLOYD WILKERSON 02/11
WOODROW HASKELL MYERS 02/16
EDDIE BOWLING 02/19
RHYNE EUGENE GARRIS 02/28

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

Necrology Report

Brethren,

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of one of our beloved widows, Ms. Helen Canning. Ms. Helen, widow of WB Bob Canning, passed away on 24 January 2026 at Kempton Retirement Community. Her Services will be at 1300 on 30 January 2026 at Jones Funeral Home Chapel. Bob and Helen were married for 61 years and had two daughters, Kim and Donna. Ms. Helen retired from 1st Citizens Bank and was always supportive of her husband's endeavors. She will be fondly remembered as a true southern lady by her friends and family.

Keep watching out for each other and ensure our Brothers are doing well.

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:

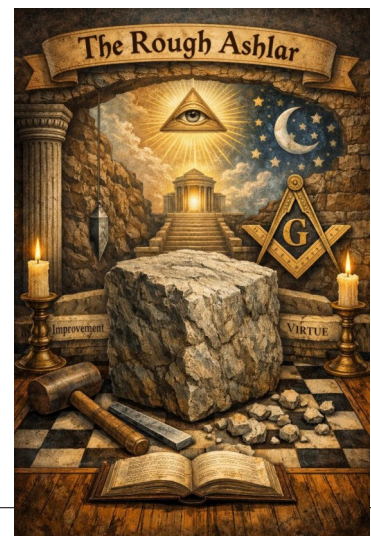
The Rough Ashlar

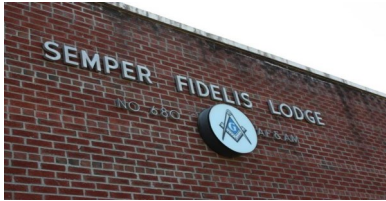
In Freemasonry, the Rough Ashlar represents man in his natural and imperfect state unrefined, unpolished, and shaped by passions, ignorance, and human frailty. It is the stone as it is first taken from the quarry, bearing rough edges and irregular surfaces, unfit yet for its place in the builder's structure. Symbolically, the Rough Ashlar reminds every Mason of who he was before the Light of Masonry began its work upon him. It stands for the candidate at the start of his journey; sincere, willing, but still in need of discipline, education, and moral improvement.

Through the proper use of the working tools—self-control, reflection, study, and brotherly guidance, the Mason labors upon his own Rough Ashlar. Each stroke represents an effort to subdue vice, correct errors, and cultivate virtue. The work is personal and lifelong; no other man can properly shape the stone for us.

The lesson of the Rough Ashlar teaches humility. It reminds us that all men begin imperfect, and that true Masonry is not about claiming perfection, but about committing to continuous improvement. By faithfully working on our Rough Ashlar, we prepare ourselves to be made ready for a more noble purpose, fitting into the moral and spiritual temple not made with hands.

In this way, the Rough Ashlar calls every Mason to labor, not on stone, but on himself.





Semper Fidelis Lodge #680

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Master

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Secretary

Jason Caldwell - (760) 670-7381

Sign up for Grandview!!

- Keep your profile current
- Keep up with Lodge events
- Much More!!



The Wisdom of Yoda

Let us together as a craft

Take the time

And heal one another.