



Trestle Board Stony Creek Lodge #5 F. & A. M.

The Master's Message

This Trestle Board may reach you after many of our New Year's resolutions have long since been forgotten (mine have), but the level of dedication from the member's of Stony Creek #5 is still going strong. 2010 is quickly shaping into a year that will keep everyone busy with degree work, fund-raisers, and activities outside of the Lodge room and that is solely due to you – the members and Officers of this Lodge.

I also want to express once again a fraternal greeting to all those members that transferred in from other Lodges. It is important that everyone understands that there is no "us" or "them," but rather Brothers in Masonry all under one roof.

There are a few key events in February that we need to make note of that can also be found on the Lodge web site calendar:

1. We will host a Lodge of Instruction by Brother Jack Hansel for Stony Creek and Corinthian on February 9th at 7:00 P.M. focusing on the E.A. Degree. Officers of the Lodge are summoned to attend.

2. Our first fund-raisers will be held at the Hazel Park Racetrack on the following dates:

- a. 2/15 – 4 P.M. until 2 A.M.
- b. 2/16 – 4 P.M. until 2 A.M.
- c. 2/17 – 4 P.M. until 2 A.M.

Volunteers are needed to properly staff and maintain this event. If you have not already signed up to assist with this fundraiser, please do so.

3. District School of Instruction by Brother Tom Braun Regional Grand Lecturer at Walled Lake Lodge #528 on Wednesday, February 17th, 7:00 P.M. Officers are summoned to attend, all Brethren are welcome. Please bring your ritual book.

4. Leadership Training classes will continue at 6:30 P.M. at the Lodge on the 3rd and the 24th. If you have not yet attended, it is based on the 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership by John C. Maxwell and is being presented by Grand Tyler Dave Hill PM. It is wonderful information that you can utilize in both your private and professional lives.

5. The South Eastern Michigan Master Masons Association (SEMMA) will meet on 2/5 at Eureka North Warren at 7:30 P.M. As Stony Creek is

a member of SEMMA any of our Brothers may attend.

January's Business Meeting touched on several key areas that we are working on in conjunction with the OPC (Older Persons' Commission www.opcseniorcenter.org) volunteering to help them helping our seniors in the Rochester area. I know members of Stony Creek that belong to the OPC and always speak positively about it. Be prepared to receive additional information on this and to be asked to volunteer this spring.

Over the past few years, there is a growing trend among Lodges to "push" candidates through their Degrees as quickly as possible and I have come to see this as a disservice to both the candidate and the Lodge. In the autumn 2009 issue of *The Journal of the Masonic Society*, there was a comment that read that "no one is served when "everyman" can petition a Lodge and within six months, be a Knight Templar, a 32° Scottish Rite Mason, a Shriner, or a member of a half-dozen other Masonic organizations." This truly hit home for me.

To go against the grain, I'll be slowing down the process of putting candidates through their three Degrees in order to make certain that they not only fully understand what they have gone through, but what they have to look forward to as well. This is a key factor in the mentorship program this year – who is this person we are bringing into our Lodge – what can we offer them and in turn, what can they offer us – have they traveled to other Lodge's to witness the Degree(s) that they have already gone through – are their questions, concerns and expectations being addressed. Being a Mason should not be viewed in terms of "time spent," but rather as a man as a whole and a man who is in a constant state of evolving rather than one that has become stagnant.

As I am sure you are all aware, we are currently attempting to raise money and cut costs this year. One of our sizable expenses is postage and is a cost we can help control by sending out the Trestle Board via email. If you have an email address or can access our web site (it is also posted there), please let me know

Officers

Stony Creek Lodge #5 F. & A. M.

248-651-7181

www.stonycreek5.com

- Jeffrey Geske, WM 586-855-6333
- Christopher T. Peace, SW 248-884-0092
- Jeffrey W. Rolph, JW 248-652-2725
- Edward Moellering, PM, Treas. 248-651-7005
- Edward G. McDonald, Sec. 248-652-0166
emcdonald@wideopenwest.com
- Erik Schuett., Chaplain 248-505-6167
- William Eichler, Sr. Deacon 248-761-7486
- Dan Marshment, Jr. Deacon
- David A. Cretcher, Steward 248-276-0086
- William J. Kuhn, Steward 586-254-7567
- Robert Montgomery, Steward . 248-807-1045
- Sase Persaud, Steward 248-375-5690
- Daniel J. Toole, Steward 586-212-2471
- Mark Moellering, PM, Marshal. 734-482-7179
- Jerald L. Knust, PM, Tyler 248-651-8641
- Bruce I. Carlson, PM, Organist 248-608-9663

Rochester Masonic Temple Building Association

- Jeffrey Geske, Chairman 586-855-6333
- Scott R. Hummon, PM, Sec. .. 248-652-7750
- Jay Rader, Treasurer 248-652-8036
- Allan Anderson, PM 248-852-4178
- Roy Dettmer, PM 586-566-9817
- Edward A. Moellering, PM 248-651-7005
- Harvey J. Sainsbury, PM 586-295-7881
- Scott Hunter, Ex. Officio 248-651-1529

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Paul Clemo
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(wmstonycreek5@comcast.net or 586-855-6333) so that we can take your name off of the Trestle Board hard copy mailing list. It is understood that not everyone has access to the internet and we will continue to print and mail the Trestle Board to anyone that needs a hard copy.

The Beehive – The Stony Creek Beehive is a new monthly email newsletter from the Officers of the Lodge and if you receive the Trestle Board electronically, you should have already received the one from January. It is intended to improve communication within the Lodge. Due to postage costs, this is available only by email or accessed through our web site's Trestle Board page on the 10th of every month. Another great reason to go paperless....

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Best Wishes to you all from New Zealand



Brian & Stella Say

1 Rosa Crisitna Way
 The Wood
 Nelson 7010
 Nelson
 New Zealand



It's Summer in New Zealand!

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Jeffrey Geske, WM
 Dan Marshment, JD
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 Erik Schuett, Chaplain

The Temple Board held elections on January 13th resulted in the following Brothers being on the Board: Jeff Rolph (Chairman), Scott Hummon (Secretary), Jay Rader (Treasurer), Ed Moellering, Jeffrey Geske, Roy Dettmer (Corinthian), Harvey Sainsbury (Corinthian). The entire Board also asked that we give a very special thanks to Brother Al Anderson who has served on the Board for more than 10 years – Thanks Wor. Bro. All!!

Sadly, it is my unpleasant duty to inform you that Brother Floyd L. Cobb, Jr. passed away on December 26, 2009. We had the honor of providing Brother Floyd with a memorial service at the Lodge on January 23rd and I want to thank all of those that attended and I was asked to convey a very special “thank you” from Brother Floyd’s family that attended as well. A Mason for almost 30 years, Floyd was Chaplin of the Lodge from 1999 until 2006 when illness forced him to leave his post and take residence at the Masonic Pathways Home in Alma, MI. Floyd was Chaplin when I was raised at Stony Creek and he will be sorely missed. Our prayers are with him and his family. In addition, we would like to also express our sincere gratitude to Wor. Brother Woody Orvis who was kind enough to preside over the service and to Jeff Rolph (JW),

Dan Toole (Steward) and to Melissa Toole for providing a very nice meal afterwards.

On a more positive note, our Junior Warden Brother Jeff Rolph, will be providing the Lodge with a meal prior to the 7:30 P.M. business meetings, around 6:30 ish so we will have some time to sit back and enjoy the Brotherhood. If there is any question on how good these meals are, just ask someone who was at the January’s meeting about the chili. Brothers partaking in the meal will be asked to pitch in a few dollars to help cover the cost of the food, but not by any means, mandatory.

I leave you with this, it is not the ring on your finger or the pin on your lapel that makes you a Mason, it is the way you act, it’s the work you do in Lodge and community, it’s that compassion in your heart, it’s the love you show your family, friends, and brethren, it’s the lasting impression you leave on all those around you. It’s who you ARE inside that makes you a Mason.

“Be careful how you live... You may be the only Mason some people will ever meet.”

Fraternally,
 Jeffrey A. Geske W.M.



**February 2010
 Calendar of Events**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	6:30 P.M. Corinthian Lodge #241 Regular	7:30 P.M. Stony Creek Lodge #5 Regular	6:30 P.M. Leadership Training Class @ Rochester Masonic Temple		SEMMA Meeting 7:30 P.M. @ Eureka North Warren	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		7:00 P.M. Lodge of Instruction E.A. Degree @ Rochester Masonic Temple	7:00 P.M. Rochester Masonic Temple Board Meeting			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		7:00 P.M. Stony Creek Lodge #5 Fellow Craft Degree	7:00 P.M. District School of Instruction @ Walled Lake Lodge #528			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		6:00 P.M. Rochester Shrine Club @ Nick's 22 nd Street Steak House	6:30 P.M. Leadership Training Class @ Rochester Masonic Temple			
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
	6:30 P.M. Corinthian Lodge #241 Regular	7:30 P.M. Stony Creek Lodge #5 Regular	6:30 P.M. Leadership Training Class @ Rochester Masonic Temple		SEMMA Meeting 7:30 P.M. @ Richmond	