

# Trestle Board

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



September 2010

The Rochester Masonic News

Page 1

### The Master's Message

Greetings Brethren,

I hope that your summer break has been a welcomed respite from the constant demands that seem to overwhelm us all from time to time. In September, we come back to the business of the Lodge with renewed vigor and high expectations for the future. If you have not been to Lodge for a while, now might be the time to attend and meet some of the new members and reconnect with the "old." If you think you have forgotten things you need to know to attend, not an issue. Lots of good things are going on that you might just want to be a part of, but don't worry about getting a task assigned to you to do if you show up, that will only happen if you want one. Yes, we still meet on the First Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 P.M.

An area I would like to revisit this month revolves around a predicament that is affecting many of the Lodge's in Michigan which is a stagnation or decline in membership. In this era of being constantly bombarded with information from every conceivable angle, the issue arises of individuals either getting insufficient or misinformation. Studies show people are becoming more susceptible to believe what they see or hear which may become a stumbling point for Masonry. Historically, our Fraternity was promoted by family members, close friends and business acquaintances, and by what people in the communities witnessed firsthand. For the most part, the portrayal was positive. Today, however, the perception by some can be listed under three separate categories: Confused, Mistaken, or Oblivious.

There are people in the confused category regarding Masonry because they do not know who we are and what we do. They do not know if we are a fraternity, a religion or some type of cult. Or, are we simply a group of men that meet in secrecy and do nothing but attempt to promote our own agenda?

There are people in the mistaken category that think that only "old"

men join this type of organization, or due to hearsay, have incorrect information on the tenants of our noble Order.

In the oblivious category there are some that do not even know that Masonry still exists to this very day.

As members of the Craft, we must realize that the days of moving forward based solely on the laurels and achievements of the past are over. We must become more visible in the daily life of our community (which I have to admit to failing miserably on this one) and to constantly and consistently portray Masonry in a positive light. If you may have noticed, I have always ended the Trestle Boards stating: "Be careful how you live... You may be the only Mason some people will ever meet" and I wholeheartedly agree with that statement as each and every one of use are basically ambassadors of Masonry to the general public and it is our responsibility to live and act so that people will not be confused, mistaken, or oblivious.

While we can stand proudly on the history of our Lodge, we must realize that our future leaders are those either contemplating on joining or are Brethren going through the Degrees right now. It is up to us to make certain that they are ready. While the Grand Lodge of Michigan's campaign of "2 B1 ASK 1" promotes the idea of Masonry, and that each man must ask to join of his own freewill. However, it certainly does not constrain us from talking with someone we feel worthy of membership and ask them if they know of Masonry and open a dialog with them. The key here is to simply get the word out.

#### Lodge business for September

We have a very important community service coming this month as we are co-hosting the Michigan Child Identification Program again at the Arts & Apples Festival in Rochester Park ([www.artandapples.com](http://www.artandapples.com)) on September 10 – 12. If you are able, please do volunteer your time, and contact Bro. Chris Peace, SW as he

### Officers

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

248-651-7181

[www.stonycreek5.com](http://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](mailto:emcdonald@wideopenwest.com)  
Erik Schuett., Chaplain ..... 248-505-6167  
William Eichler, Sr. Deacon .... 248-761-7486  
Dave Hilber, Jr. Deacon .....  
David A. Cretcher, Steward ..... 248-276-0086  
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 W. Rolph, Chairman .... 248-652-2725  
Scott R. Hummon, PM, Sec. .. 248-652-7750  
Jay Rader, PM, Treasurer ..... 248-652-8036  
Jeffrey Geske, WM ..... 586-855-6333  
Roy Dettmer, PM ..... 586-566-9817  
Edward A. Moellering, PM ..... 248-651-7005  
Harvey J. Sainsbury, PM ..... 586-295-7881

#### Rochester Masonic News Sponsor

Paul Clemo  
Jeff Cuthbertson  
Jeffrey Geske  
Bruce Kingery  
Jay Rader  
Harold Roscoe

is coordinating the schedule for this event. The Michigan Child ID Program provides parents and guardians with a "completed" Child ID Package that contains all the vital information necessary to expedite law enforcement efforts to locate a missing child. The program also helps to educate families about abduction prevention and safety. In a matter of minutes, the parent or guardian walks away with a Child ID Pack that includes everything needed for the Amber Alert system (and more). In fact, it's considered to be one of the most comprehensive child recovery and identification programs in the nation by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and is completely

Continued on back....

Published 10 times annually, September through June. Distributed to the members of Stony Creek Lodge #5 F.&A.M. and friends.

Sponsor Rate ..... \$30.00  
Friend of the Rochester Masonic News ..... \$15.00  
Editor & Typesetting ..... Bruce I. Carlson, PM  
Mailing ..... Ed Moellering, PM  
Printing ..... Scott Hummon, PM

*Best Wishes to you all from New Zealand*



**Brian & Stella Say**

1 Rosa Crisitna Way  
The Wood  
Nelson 7010  
Nelson  
New Zealand



*It's Winter but nice in New Zealand!*

**Finance & Audit Committee**

Jeffrey Geske, WM  
Scott Hummon, PM  
Ed Moellering, PM / Treasurer  
Christopher Peace, SW  
Jay Rader, PM  
Jeffery Rolph, JW

**Master's Committe**

Bruce Carlson, PM  
Scott Hummon, PM  
Jay Rader, PM

**Fund Raising Committee**

Jeffrey Geske, WM  
Dave Hilber, JD  
Christopher Peace, SW  
Jay Rader, PM  
Jeffery Rolph, JW

**Delinquent Dues Committee**

Jeffrey Geske, WM  
Edward G. McDonald, Secretary  
Christopher Peace, SW  
Jeffery Rolph, JW

**Scholarship Award Committee**

Don Finlay  
Christopher Peace, SW  
Daniel Toole, Steward - Chairman

**Pathways & Masonic Home**

Jeffrey Geske, WM  
Dave Hilber, JD  
Christopher Peace, SW  
Jeffery Rolph, JW  
Erik Schuett, Chaplain

Continued from front page...

Free of Charge. In the last two years alone, almost 25,000 ID Packages have been given out.

The Lodge wine tasting and dinner was held on August 21<sup>st</sup> and I would have to say that a good time was had by all. We had members from Stony Creek, Centerline, and Pontiac Lodges along with their friends and family attend, so some new acquaintances were made and old friendships were rekindled. Filipo Marc Winery did their usual fantastic job in explaining the entire process of wine making and providing a sampling of wine ranging from (what I would consider) super sweet to the ultimate in dry. It is important for the Brothers of the Lodge along with their friends and family to come together outside of the brick and mortar confines of our building and reinforce one of the tenants of our great Fraternity and that is Brotherly Love. I, for one, hope that these types of events can become an annual tradition and can be something that we can look forward to year after year.

Soon the Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation will debut its first ever e-newsletter. If you would you like to be on the list of recipients for this newsletter, please send

your email address to Rikka at [rbos@masonicpathways.com](mailto:rbos@masonicpathways.com) today!

A key event, this month, is the review and voting on the 2011 Lodge budget. This will set our financial structure for the next calendar year. If you have questions or concerns attend the regular September business meeting in order to raise them. Remember, decisions are made by those that show up.

There are times when we need an assistant, or "on-call", secretary and we are looking for a member who would be interested in fulfilling this vital role. The Grand Lodge is soon delivering a new training program for Lodge Secretaries (and assistants) using the on-line and web based reporting systems, MORI (Masonic On-line Registry Interface). If you would like to assist our current Secretary, Ed McDonald, please let either him or myself know.

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

Fraternally,  
Jeffrey A. Geske W.M.



## September 2010 Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
					SEMMA Meeting 7:30 P.M. @ Almont-Dryden Lodge	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		7:30 P.M. Stony Creek Lodge #5 Regular	7:00 P.M. Rochester Masonic Temple Board Meeting		Michigan Child Identification Program at Arts & Apples Festival	Michigan Child Identification Program at Arts & Apples Festival
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Michigan Child Identification Program at Arts & Apples Festival	6:30 P.M. Corinthian Lodge #241 Regular					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

October 17, 2010 Stony Creek #5 & Rochester Police Department hosting the Michigan Child Identification Program during the "Amazing Michigan Race" in Rochester. 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.  
November 2, 2010 – Election of Lodge Officers