

# Trestle Board

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



December 2011

The Rochester Masonic News

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Greetings Brethren,

It is with a heavy heart and hopeful spirit that I address you for my final time as your Worshipful Master. This past year has been one of unprecedented growth and retention; but as with all things of value they come at a cost that we must be willing to pay. We asked men and ourselves to perform no simple task because as Thomas Paine says that "What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly". When we survey the beautifully changing landscape of our Lodge and see our newer Brothers getting involved and remaining focused on their work in Symbolic Masonry we cannot help but feel that maybe Mr. Paine was on to something and so are we.

To my fellow Officers, words cannot express how proud I am of each of you. You showed a selfless dedication and commitment to a worthy cause that speaks volumes of your character. Your perseverance and strength in the face of physical, mental, and emotional fatigue has been incredible and inspirational. Your support this year for me has been amazing and I cannot thank you enough for all of your hard work. The results have been solid and tangible. Ten newly minted Master Masons, with more to follow, who consistently show up to Lodge and contribute, thereby solving an age old problem in our fraternity, is no coincidence and is in no small part a work of your skilled hands. I have been fortunate to be blessed with a professional core of Officers, without whom, none of the accomplishments of this year would have been possible. Most of all, thank you for putting up with me. I'm sure it wasn't always easy. My wife tells me this all the time.

The sun is setting on Stony Creeks 2011 Officers and is rising with a new generation of skilled men at the helm. Your Officers elect for 2012 are Worshipful Master Jeff Rolph, Senior Warden Daniel Toole, Junior Warden David Hilber, Treasurer Ed Moellering PM, Secretary Ed McDonald, Senior Deacon Brandon Scott and Junior Deacon Deyan Kozhuhrov along with many other Brothers being appointed to various

vital support roles. These Brothers will be installed on Saturday December 17th at 4:30 p.m. at the Rochester Masonic Temple with a dinner to follow at Nicks 22nd Street Steakhouse at 7 p.m. Come give them a warm welcome, your best wishes and support for a great year!

To our new cadre of Officers taking their chairs; Remember that you serve the highest principles of Freemasonry at the most fundamental level first, more than any member or the Lodge as a corporate body, even when political pressure would ask you to do otherwise. Serving those tenets is serving the membership because without actually living the principles of the fraternity with the most fundamental zeal, we physically live, yet we are spiritually dead. Freemasonry is not the Grand Lodge of Michigan, Stony Creek Lodge, her charter, her building, or our jewels and aprons. They could all fail or burn to the ground, but Freemasonry and her pure principles will survive in our hearts. Therefore in order to properly serve Freemasonry it must come from the heart, not from the mind. We do not run a business, but we dispatch a sacred trust. Our Lodge has entrusted you with this duty, and I have no doubt that you will serve us with excellence.

My congratulations are especially extended to my friend, worthy Brother and our Master Elect Jeff Rolph. I cannot think of more trusty and true hands to entrust our Lodge with. Brother Jeff, as you step into the East there is a fear of failure that we all feel when approaching the Oriental Chair. Always remember that it is better to work mightily hard while being criticized trying doing what you know is right, than to succeed and be loved for what you know is wrong. Your character is one of love and compassion, and I couldn't hand the gavel off to a better example of a Freemason. I know you will bring a vital focus that has been lost and is much needed beyond the pomp and circumstance of ceremony that I too often focused on. I couldn't be more excited to see what the future brings

## Officers

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

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Harold Roscoe

under your steady leadership.

Finally to the Brothers of Stony Creek who have been raised or gone through their degrees and the mentorship program this year, words cannot describe the blessing you've been to the Lodge and to me personally. When things got hard it was you Brothers who kept me going. Through education and the sincere fellowship that

**Rochester Masonic News**

P.O. Box 80003 • Rochester, Michigan 48308

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 Spring in New Zealand!*

**Finance & Audit Committee 2012**

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came with it, we've grown to know each other quite well and each of you have unlimited potential to drive this Lodge forward to greatness; you just must be willing to take that step, to do more than what is asked of you. I will ever remain a source of support for you as you shape our future. Remain focused on your Blue Lodge with the understanding that everything that is offered outside of the body of the Blue Lodge are things that we willfully surrendered through apathy or by being short sighted. Fellowship, extravagant philanthropy, and the search for higher knowledge and light in Freemasonry used to exist under one banner and with hard work and the determination it can be so again. Never accept the premise that anyone else should handle the great duty to do the work that is rightfully yours. Much like our

operative Brethren who would often never live to see their temples or churches completed, we may never in our lifetimes see this become a reality, but we should be equally proud and zealous to work toward this goal so that our sons, grandsons, and great grandsons may reap the benefits of our labors. I'll always be right there with you.

Brothers all, I wish to thank you sincerely for your time, your patience, and your support as we tried something new this year. It has been an honor and privilege to serve, and it will continue to be an honor and privilege to be a simple Master Mason at the legendary Stony Creek Lodge No. 5.

Sincerely Yours and In Friendship, Christopher Peace WM



**December 2011  
 Calendar of Events**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 27	28	29	30	December 1	2	3
		New Officers Meeting and Installation Practice 7:00 P.M.				Corinthian Lodge Installation of Officers 5:00 P.M.
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rochester Christmas Parade Procession 11:00 A.M.	Corinthian Lodge #241 Regular 6:30 P.M.	Annual Meeting Stony Creek Lodge #5 7:30 P.M.				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			Rochester Masonic Temple Board Meeting 7:00 P.M.			Annual Stony Creek Lodge #5 Installation of Officers 4:00 P.M.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Christmas Day						New Year's Eve