

# Trestle Board

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



January 2012

The Rochester Masonic News

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Brothers,

It is with great pride in our Lodge, respect for each of you, and gratefulness that I now step into the East as Worshipful Master for 2012. I am very honored that you have elected me to this position and I will do everything in my power to continue to uphold the legacy and reputation of Stony Creek Lodge within our Fraternity and our community.

The installation itself was very impressive! From the bagpipers who did such a great job and the very distinguished Honor Guard from both the Pontiac and Macomb Commandries, it was truly a memorable event for everyone.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to all of the Grand Installing Officers. To the Brothers, their families and their guests, it was great to have all of you there to share in this event. Strong family support is crucial to our success both as a Lodge and as Masons. To the visiting Brothers, I have had the pleasure of meeting each of you previously in Lodge and did not expect to see you at the installation; but what a pleasure it was to see you supporting the new Officers.

Finally, a special thank you to our newest Past Master Christopher Peace for his dedication and support of the Craft as well as the Brothers of Stony Creek. I believe that your legacy to our Lodge will be in the vast improvement in our degree and ritual work, as well as improving the process of Masonic education; which I believe was one of your main goals for 2011.

Brothers of Stony Creek, with your help and support I would like to accomplish the following during 2012:

### Business Meetings:

I strongly believe that we did not join

the Masonic fraternity to sit in meetings hour after hour. Many of us have had our fill of meetings during the day before we ever arrive at Lodge.

One of my goals this year is to streamline the business meeting process so that we get the most accomplished in the shortest amount of time. Common issues will be combined and addressed at one time, communications that do not have to read aloud in Lodge will be provided to each of you before the meeting for review, etc. My goal, (with a possible few exceptions) is to have the business meeting opened; issues addressed and then closed in one hour. I think this is very doable and this would then allow us time to socialize and get to know each other as a Brother should know a Brother.

### Social Committee:

For 2012 I have created a Social Committee consisting of 4 Brothers from our Lodge. Their primary task will be to find things for us to do as a Lodge and with our families. I firmly believe that this is desperately needed. The post installation dinner was a great example of the fun we can have in just a few short hours. Some suggestions to date include a Euchre night, learn a hobby night (Scott Hummon offered to teach anyone interested how to fly fish and tie flies), camping outings, a dinner cruise on Lake St. Clair, Bocce Ball, etc.

My goal is to have a planned event each month during the last week of the month if possible. We would be flexible depending on the nature and locale of the event as well as what we may be on our Lodge calendar. When possible we will include family members as this always adds an extra measure of fun. Please submit any ideas that you may have we would love to hear them!

## Officers

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

248-651-7181

[www.stonycreek5.com](http://www.stonycreek5.com)

Jeffrey W. Rolph, WM ..... 248-652-2725  
Daniel J. Toole, SW ..... 586-212-2471  
Dave Hilber, JW ..... 248-930-8566  
Edward Moellering, PM, Treas. 248-651-7005  
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Deyan Kozhuharov ..... 269-274-8076  
James Schryer, Chaplain ..... 248-651-8008  
Jay Rader, PM, Steward ..... 248-652-8036  
Larry Simms, Steward ..... 248-340-9635  
Christopher Younan, Steward... 248-376-3452  
Christopher Peace, PM, Marshal 248-884-0092  
Jerald L. Knust, PM, Tyler ..... 248-651-8641  
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Jeffrey Geske, PM ..... 586-855-6333

### Rochester Masonic Temple Building Association

Jeffrey W. Rolph, Chairman .... 248-652-2725  
Scott R. Hummon, PM, Sec. ... 248-652-7750  
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### Charity/Community Committee:

Each year we as a Lodge participate in the Michigan Child Identification Program; an extremely worthwhile pro-

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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!*

**2012 Committees for Stony Creek Lodge #5 F.&A.M.**

**Finance & Audit Committee 2012**

David Cretcher  
 Scott Hummon, PM  
 Ed Moellering, PM / Treasurer  
 Jay Rader, PM  
 Dan Toole, SW

**Delinquent Dues Committee**

David Hilber, JW  
 Dan Toole, SW

**Pathways & Masonic Home**

David M. Hill, PM, WGT  
 Erik Schuett  
 Deyan Kozhuharov, JD

**Charity / Community**

Jim Schryer  
 Mark Herrell

**Social Committee:**

Brandon Scott  
 JC Cullum  
 Guy Donovan  
 Tom Staley

**Scholarship Award Committee**

Chris Peace, PM  
 Don Finlay  
 Daniel Toole, SW  
 Scott Kreft

**Education & Historical Committee**

Bruce Carlson, PM  
 Chris Peace, PM  
 Brandon Scott, SD

**Fund Raising Committee**

JC Cullum  
 Guy Donovan  
 Tom Staley  
 Larry Simms



**January 2012  
 Calendar of Events**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>January 1, 2012</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
Happy New Year	Corinthian Lodge #241 Regular 6:30 P.M.	Regular Meeting Stony Creek Lodge #5 7:30 P.M. Orion #46 Regular 7:00 P.M.		Roosevelt #510 Regular 7:00 P.M. Cedar #60 Regular 8:00 P.M.	Pontiac #21 Regular 7:30 P.M.	SEMMA 7:00 P.M. @ Nick's 22 <sup>nd</sup> Street Steakhouse (Van Dyke & 22 Mile)
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
			Rochester Masonic Temple Board Meeting 7:00 P.M. District Lodge of Instruction @ Pontiac #21 7:00 P.M.			
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
		EA Lodge of Instruction - Stony Creek Lodge #5 7:00 P.M.				
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
		EA Degree - Stony Creek Lodge #5 7:00 P.M.				
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>February 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
				Roosevelt #510 Regular 7:00 P.M. Cedar #60 Regular 8:00 P.M.	Pontiac #21 Regular 7:30 P.M.	

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gram that provides a valuable service to our community. This next year I would like to reach out to our community to an even greater extent. For this reason I have created a Charity/Community committee consisting of two Brothers whose primary function will be to identify needs in the community and evaluate them as far as their necessities may require and our ability permit. We will then recommend to the Brothers of the Lodge an activity that we can all participate in.

During November of this year for example, several Brothers worked at God's Helping Hand (GHH) in Rochester sorting clothes and packing food for those in our community that are less fortunate. Many also participated in the annual Christmas Family Shopping Day at GHH where over 400 needy families were helped. In addition, several Brothers worked one Friday evening at Grace Centers of Hope preparing and serving dinner to the residents of the Center. It was a very rewarding experience for everyone who participated. I would like us to do more activities like this during the year. If any of the Brothers have any suggestions as to where our services could be best put to use, please step forward and let us hear your ideas! If possible I would like to schedule one Community or Charitable event every other month.

#### Fundraising:

This year I have 2 fundraising events currently scheduled at "The River" Charity Poker Lounge in Utica on (June 30 – July 3 and November 3-6). The location is on the SE corner of 22 Mile and Van Dyke (in the same parking lot as Nicks 22nd Street Steakhouse). I believe that these fundraising events will provide some much needed revenue for the Lodge and will provide us with some financial flexibility. The Fundraising Committee consisting of four Brothers will be calling upon each of you when the time gets close and ask that you assist us with these events and participate in at least one night, hopefully more. I have also been

informed of another venue at M-59 & Hayes that just recently opened. I will be contacting them shortly to see if they might have any dates available in late March early April. Participating in these events is easy and fun and also provides a good cash flow into the Lodge. More information will be provided as we get closer.

#### Visiting and assisting other Lodges:

As with many of our Past Masters there have always been requests made to visit and assist other Lodges, both within our District, and outside; I am no different. We have been very fortunate this past year in that we almost always have had visiting Brethren during our Business meetings or on a Degree night. We need to reciprocate more and get to know the Brothers at other Lodges and assist them if needed. As much as we appreciate their assistance, I know they would appreciate ours. So let's all make a concerted effort this year to step up and out and show our support to our Brothers.

#### Degree Work:

We have come a long way in our Degree work this past year under the direction of Past Master Chris Peace. I would also like to continue down this road and I encourage each Brother to learn as much as he can. Straight memorization can be difficult, but I have found if you really read the words and understand what they are trying to convey it is much easier to learn. I think this is where our Quarry nights play an important role in "learning" the ritual not just memorizing it.

#### Standing Investigation Committee

Establish a Standing Investigation Committee for 2012. I feel that when we ask for volunteers during a meeting many Brothers are not comfortable volunteering for this because they may have never participated in one before.

For anyone that would be interested I would ask our Lodge Education Officer to hold a class one night to go over what should be included in an interview or background investigation of a

candidate. Upon receipt of a Petition, and an affirmative vote, we would just turn over the Petition to the Committee. I would request 3 Brothers to step into this role if possible. I know we don't need 3, but that will provide some flexibility should there be a schedule conflict with one of the other members on the committee. We may still have to ask for a volunteer from time to time, but I think this would really expedite the whole process. If anyone is interested in joining this Investigation Committee please let me know.

Regardless of what events may be taking place, or that what committees or groups we may be involved in, it is extremely important that we support each other and that we learn from each other. We have many years of Masonry contained within our Lodge. Many of our Brothers have been in Masonry for thirty, forty, or fifty years! Take advantage of their wisdom and experience, ask questions and seek their counsel. This kind of information you cannot find in a book.

Lastly, I would ask that if it is within the length of your cable tow that you attend as many meetings or events as you can this next year. You will not be disappointed I assure you. For the Brothers who can no longer make it to Lodge, you are still in our thoughts and prayers. We miss you and if we can help you in any way please reach out to any us. You may reach me by email at: stonycreeklodge@gmail.com, or please call me at 248.918.3506.

To all my Brothers and their families I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year.

Fraternally from the East,

Jeff Rolph, Worshipful Master

