



# Union Masonic Lodge #618, A.F.&A.M.

## First newsletter of a renewed effort

### Special points of interest:

- Newsletter Rebirth
- Announcement of officers elected for 2012, and installed.
- Some current statistics of our Lodge.

Here is a first attempt at renewing the newsletter for our Lodge. Due to the significant cost involved in the customary method of distributing newsletters, we have decided to try something new.

Several of the members have email, and distributing newsletters to these

brothers will be easy. The cost arises in getting emails to those without email. We are asking those brothers with email to "adopt" a brother(or brothers) without email, and assume responsibility for getting newsletters to those respective brothers. Hand delivery to the

brother would be great, but just printing off and mailing the newsletter to the adopted brother(s) would also go a long way toward getting newsletters started again, and kept alive. **If you have email, and have not informed the Secretary, please do so.**

## Officers for 2012 installed January 7th

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On January 7th, 2012, the officers listed below were installed(except Brothers Love & Dunn to be installed later):

Master	Ronnie Lee Sneed
SW	Robert Allen Love, Jr.
JW	Thomas Michael Little
Treasurer	Thomas Michael Blythe, PM

Secretary	Roger Darrell Long, PM
SD	Mitchell Allen Elliott
JD	Vincent Joseph D'Andrea
SS	David Franklin Barbee
JS	Neil Clinton Dunn
Chaplain	Thomas Orlando Evans
Tyler	David Lee Warwick

## Membership information, etc.

We began 2011 with 148 MMs.

We Initiated 7, Passed 6 and Raised 8.

We had 2 Affiliations.

We had 4 deaths, and Suspended 2 NPD.

We ended 2011 with 152 MMs.

We have fifteen members with over 50 years Masonic service.

We have 7 EAs, < or = three years.

We have 1 FC, < or = three years.

An area where help is really needed is Coaching. Consider volunteering. All one needs is a copy of the OSW and a desire to help another brother in his travels, as someone helped you.

## New audio/visual system

Early in 2011 WB Bobby Burgess proposed that the audio/visual facilities of our Masonic Temple were outdated and inadequate in many respects. The Lodge authorized him to proceed with his efforts to effect an upgrade. The project was not to draw upon the general funds of the Lodge, but rather would be funded by projects and donations. One fund raising project was held which

contributed \$456.20. Later Midland Chapter #260 O.E.S. donated \$1000, and Cabarrus Lodge #720 donated \$1000. Other donations of an electrically operated projection screen (from WB Bobby) and a sum of \$110 cash had the project on sound footing; and the audio/visual upgrade is nearing completion. What an improvement!

WB Bobby has managed this task basically all on his own, and has once more demonstrated his love of our Lodge, and a desire to insure its vitality. The next time you see him, compliment him on his work for our Lodge.

## January Birthdays (by age)

### AGE / BIRTH DATE REPORT (sorted by age)

#### Age Birth Date Name

91	01/02/1920	JAMES B. ROBERTS JR	64	01/27/1947	GARRY L. DRAKE
75	01/03/1936	CHARLES E. MORRIS JR	61	01/03/1950	KENNETH W. FLOYD
73	01/09/1938	JAMES F. MORGAN	60	01/26/1951	MITCHELL L. REEDER
71	01/10/1940	JAMES T. NANCE JR	58	01/19/1953	SAMUEL B. KEENEY
69	01/01/1942	GERALD L. GRESHAM	53	01/16/1958	JIMMY W. BROOKS
67	01/15/1944	ROGER D. RICE	50	01/18/1961	JOSEPH A. ABBATIello
65	01/19/1946	JACKIE H. HARTSELL	44	01/22/1967	MICHAEL W. HATLEY
64	01/01/1947	COY D. BLACKMAN	37	01/18/1974	BILLY D. MCKENZIE JR

## Contingencies Fund Program

Our Contingencies Fund Program, which was officially launched on October 1, 2011, currently has six participants, and the associated savings account balance at the end of 2011 was \$3,502.47 (\$2,450 from program participants, the remainder from other contributions and a fund raiser). The recognition plaques have been purchased, and are mounted on the wall in the Fellowship Hall. You are encouraged to begin participation in the program, which can be accomplished with a pledge of as little as \$50 per year for five years. That would be the Bronze Level. Other levels (all of which were described in the announcement to the membership last year) are the Silver, Gold, Platinum, and Prime Benefactor. A draw from the savings account might be required in the near future to fix a recurring roof leak, so you can see the importance of this fund. If you have misplaced your pledge form, please contact the Secretary (rdarrell@earthlink.net, or 704-455-1632).

## Happenings at the January stated

Installed our new SW, Rob Love.

WB William B. Safrit, DDGM for the 28th District of NC Freemasons, made his official visit.

We had thirty-one members in attendance, including one visitor, eleven Past Masters, and 9 military service veterans.

We received information regarding the Charles Edward Cathey Scholarship Program, which makes available eight \$1000 scholarships to qualifying applicants. Information is available on the Grand Lodge web site([grandlodge-nc.org](http://grandlodge-nc.org)), or you can contact the Lodge Secretary.

Work is to be completed soon on

modifying the entrance at the rear of the lodge to include a ramp.

WB Bill Moss is coordinating with Brother Eddie Fannon to try to get our persistent building roof leak under control. We have already been apprised by WB Bill that this might turn into a very costly endeavor, but efforts are directed to getting the job completed at the most minimal cost.

We received one Petition for the Degrees in Masonry.

We scheduled January 30th for a FC Degree, 6:30 supper, 7:30 work. Practices are scheduled for January 12th and 23rd at 7:30pm, and 15th and 22nd at 5:00pm.

We have scheduled a Pancake Breakfast fund raiser for March 17th, if we determine there are no competing events in the area at the time.

Renewed publication of a monthly newsletter.

## Upcoming events of interest

January 12th—Practice for FC Degree, 7:30pm

January 15th—Practice for FC Degree, 5:00pm

January 22nd—Practice for FC Degree, 5:00pm

January 23rd—Practice for FC Degree, 7:30pm

January 30th—FC Degree, 6:30pm supper, 7:30pm work.

February 13th—Stated Communication

March 12th—Stated Communication

March 17th—Pancake Breakfast

March 22nd—Grand Master's Area Meeting hosted by Matthews Lodge #461

## February Birthdays

Age	Birth Date	Name
58	02/17/1953	WILLIAM M. WIDENHOUSE III
79	02/12/1932	ROBERT J. MCEACHERN JR
74	02/01/1937	BOYD N. MCGEE
69	02/14/1942	LARRY W. ROBBINS
68	02/28/1943	JIMMY L. HATHCOCK
61	02/27/1950	WILLIAM O. DENNIS
60	02/21/1951	CHARLES L. EUDY
57	02/27/1954	DOUGLAS E. MARTIN
53	02/22/1958	EDWARD C. DAVIS III
50	02/26/1961	CHRIS S. HARRISON
49	02/24/1962	ROBERT A. LOVE JR
24	02/20/1987	ROBERT L. STEGALL

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A.F.&A.M.**

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*MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER.*

*Newsletter Editor: R. Darrell Long, PM  
Secretary of Union Lodge #618*

*Send any constructive criticisms or  
comments to  
[rdarrell@earthlink.net](mailto:rdarrell@earthlink.net)*

**Don't forget to pass the word around that our Fellowship Hall is available to rent. Provide any interested party the mobile phone number for WB Darrell Cline, who manages all of the reservations. (704) 791-9470**

