



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

Comments

Special points of interest:

- Comments
- Facilities and Maintenance Activity

Inside this issue:

Upcoming Events of Interest	2
April Birthdays	2
Happenings At The April Stated	2
May Birthdays	3
Masonic Interest Story	3

Secretary: (1) To the best of my knowledge, all of the membership is receiving the monthly newsletter. If you know of someone who is not receiving it, please encourage the brother to contact me (contact information is on the back page of the newsletter). The newsletter is normally sent out to email distribution a day or two after the stated meeting that month. Those brothers volunteering to mail it to the non-

email brothers are strongly encouraged to get the newsletter into the mail to those brothers within a day or two of the emailing, because there is often time-sensitive information in it. **If you receive the newsletter by mail, but you do have an email address,** please provide that email address to the Secretary! That will prevent one of your brothers from needlessly expending his time and the cost of a stamp and printing.

(2) If you are not an officer of the Lodge, and not a Coach or someone else who needs a building key to accomplish his Lodge work, please turn in the key. Otherwise the lodge potentially is going to be faced with the expense of having the locks re-keyed, or at a minimum, paying to have more keys made for providing to those who legitimately require "after-hours" building access.

Facilities and Maintenance Activity

13,000 roofing screws have been procured for repair of the roof of our Masonic Temple. WBs Bobby Burgess and Bill Moss already have replaced a couple thousand screws (Bobby alone about 500!), and urgently need a lot of help to get the remainder in place **before it soon gets unbearably hot up on the roof.** Please call Bobby at 704-634-3085(M), or email him at bb@electriclaser.com to volunteer

some time for the effort. Bobby is concerned that no more damage is caused to the roof during the repair, so even though you might want to help, prevention of further damage might preclude the use of all the help volunteered. The job has to be done, and just like many of the brothers, Bobby also has to work his primary job to support himself and family; so any help for this roof repair will be greatly appreciated.

Upcoming events of interest

May 5th—OES Chicken & Dumplings Dinner, 4-8pm

May 14th—May stated communication

May 30th—Grand Master's Area Meeting, hosted by Albe-marle #703. (Headcount required for the meal if you plan to attend)

April Birthdays (by age)

AGE / BIRTH DATE REPORT (sorted by current age)

Age Birth Date Name

97 04/02/1915 LEVI J. GANN

86 04/12/1925 EARL C. PHIFER

83 04/24/1928 THOMAS A. JOYNER

78 04/21/1933 ROBERT L. LITTLE

72 04/21/1939 HOWARD L. JONES

72 04/03/1940 ARNOLD J. PRICE

72 04/09/1940 LEON E. SNIDER

70 04/26/1941 ROGER D. LONG

65 04/15/1946 JERRY W. PITTMAN

64 04/29/1947 GARY D. HARTSELL

58 04/09/1954 RICKY L. RUSHING

55 04/04/1957 JOHNNY SMITH

55 04/08/1957 JERRY L. BENNETT

53 04/24/1958 CHARLES T. SMITH

53 04/30/1958 BRADFORD S. REITZEL

52 04/04/1960 EDWARD W. GREENE

51 04/26/1960 TAB G. MORRISON

51 04/03/1961 RUSSELL N. DRAKE

44 04/14/1967 SCOTT M. WHITLEY

42 04/28/1969 MARTY Y. BENTON

40 04/26/1971 THOMAS L. NASH JR

Happenings at the March stated

Our DDGM, WB William B. Safrit, was received on an official visit to our lodge.

Announced that Brother Billy Darrell McKenzie, Jr., had been Raised to MM on March 22nd, and Brothers David Gordon Nash and John Robert Nash had been Initiated on April 2nd.

Reported that WB Evans Long Caudle (Master 1961) had

passed away April 8th. Masonic Funeral 11:00am, April 14th, Mill Grove UMC, Midland.

Coordinated on the help to be provided to the OES for the May 5th Chicken and Dumpings Dinner. The OES will be donating the proceeds to help with the repairs to the Masonic Temple roof. A flyer that can be posted in any of your frequented places of work or

business, will be separately emailed to the email distribution list. You are encouraged to spread the word, and you can do so by printing off the flyer and *appropriately* placing it for the public to see.

Discussed and will be determining how best to meet the request of the OES to provide hand rails on the steps to the East, for several who sometimes need assistance.

May Birthdays

AGE / BIRTH DATE REPORT (sorted by current age)

Age Birth Date Name

81 05/16/1930 JASON M. SALYER

76 05/27/1935 JAMES R. PINION

67 05/09/1944 OSCAR Y. HARWARD

64 05/24/1947 VICTOR J. GIANGRANT

63 05/04/1948 RICHARD D. TUCKER

63 05/06/1948 DAVID F. BARBEE

61 05/05/1950 MITCHELL A. ELLIOTT

61 05/14/1950 RONNIE L. SNEED

59 05/31/1952 JON R. STEWART

57 05/31/1954 AMBROSE A. PURSER

56 05/14/1955 CURTIS A. BELK

36 05/10/1975 CHRISTOPHER R. WILEY

Masonic Interest Story

[I apologize if you, too, have recently read this. I cannot remember where I recently read it, but I enjoyed it.]

THE PAWNBROKER TALE AND FREEMASONS

A young man passed a pawnbroker's shop. The money lender was standing in front of his shop, and the young man noted that he was wearing a large and beautiful Masonic emblem. After going on a whole block, apparently lost in thought, the young man turned back, stepped up to the pawnbroker, and addressed him: "I see you're wearing a Masonic emblem. I'm a Freemason too. It happens that I'm desperately in need of \$25 just now. I shall be able to repay it within ten days. You don't know me; but I wonder whether the fact that you are a Freemason and that I am a Freemason is sufficient to induce you to lend me the money on my personal note."

The pawnbroker mentally appraised the young man, who was clean-cut, neat and well-dressed. After a moments thought, he agreed to make the loan on the strength of the young man being a Freemason.

Within a few days the young man repaid the loan as agreed and that ended the transaction.

About four months later the young man was in a Lodge receiving the Entered Apprentice Degree; he had not really been a Mason when he borrowed the \$25. After he had been admitted for the second section of the degree, the young man looked across the Lodge room and saw the pawnbroker from whom he had borrowed the \$25. His face turned crimson and he became nervous and jittery. He wondered whether he had been recognized by the pawnbroker. Apparently not, so he planned at the first opportunity to leave the Lodge room and avoid his benefactor. As soon as the Lodge was closed he moved quickly for the door, but the pawnbroker had recognized the young man, headed him off and, to the young man's astonishment, approached him and greeted him with a smile and outstretched hand. "Well, I see you weren't a Freemason after all when you borrowed that \$25," the pawnbroker commented. The blood rushed to the young man's face as he stammered, "No, I wasn't, but I wish you'd let me explain. **I had always heard that**

(continued on p4)

(continued from p3)

Freemasons were charitable and ready to aid a Brother in distress. When I passed your shop that day I didn't need that \$25. I had plenty of money in my wallet, but when I saw the Masonic emblem you were wearing, I decided to find out whether the things I'd heard about Freemasonry were true. You let me have the money on the strength of my being a Freemason, so I concluded that what I had heard about Masons was true, that they are charitable, that they do aid Brethren in distress. That made such a deep impression on me that I presented my petition to this Lodge and here I am. I trust that with this explanation you will forgive me for having lied to you."

The pawnbroker responded, "Don't let that worry you too much. I wasn't a Freemason when I let you have the money. I had no business wearing the Masonic emblem you saw. Another man had just borrowed some money on it, and it was so pretty that I put it on my lapel for a few minutes. I took it off the moment you left. I didn't want anyone else borrowing money on the strength of my being a Freemason. When you asked for that \$25, **I remembered what I had heard about Masons, that they were honest, upright, and cared for their obligations promptly.** It seemed to me that \$25 wouldn't be too much to lose to learn if what I'd heard was really true, so I lent you the money and you repaid it exactly as you said you would. That convinced me that what I'd heard about Masons was true so I presented my petition to this Lodge. **I was the candidate just ahead of you.**"

From the January 1977 New Mexico Freemason

**UNION MASONIC LODGE #618,
A.F.&A.M.**

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MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER.

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Secretary of Union Lodge #618**

**Send any constructive criticisms or
comments to
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***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***

