



# Alpha Lodge Newsletter September & October

2011

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## FROM THE EAST

### My Brothers:

Welcome back to Alpha! Hope everyone had a fun, relaxing summer. We've been busy here at lodge.

In July and August we hosted our monthly social nights and had some well-known speakers. Benjamin Franklin, also known as Worshipful Master Don Shaffer from Brookville Lodge, stopped by to talk to lodge members and their ladies about how Freemasonry can lead to an enlightened life. In August, Mark Twain, also known as Steve Hallon from Xenia Lodge, stopped by to share tall tales from back in the days in his life as a Freemason. Attendance is still low for these events so we're hoping to get some more people in the fall when these social events will likely be moving to the second Tuesdays of the month.

On August 6th, Alpha also participated with other lodges in the district to raise two candidates before they were traveled overseas to Afghanistan. What a great experience for these young men and for all brethren involved! And Freemasons from the Second District joined together to make it happen. That's brotherhood in action.

This fall we're planning to keep the momentum going. As visitors to Alpha know, we've raised a number of entered apprentices in the spring. We're continuing their degree work and have a number of fellow craft degrees in the fall. Stay tuned to the calendar for dates.

We're also planning a garage sale in September as a lodge fundraiser. We're planning to hold it on September 10th. Or if anyone wants to volunteer for a Thursday or Friday, let me know at 294-4840 and we'll be able to have it multiple days! Right now we're planning a day long sale and we'll

grill some hotdogs, too. Come join us! Or if you have anything to donate, please bring it to the lodge before September 10th.

With plenty of activities planned, brotherhood and the Fraternity are alive and well at Alpha! We hope to see you here soon!

Fraternally,

Alfred C. Butler, Worshipful Master

### September 6th Meeting

The Entered Apprentice on September 6th will be a special conferral by members of the Scottish Rite who will confer the George Washington EA Degree in colonial attire. The candidate will be the CFO of the Masonic Home in Springfield, Mr. John White. We are expecting a good turn out so please join us.

### Grim Reaper Report

Since the May & June Newsletter we have lost the following Brethren: Brother Robert D. Volz who passed away on April 30th, Brother Roger E. Bennett who passed away on May 17th and Brother Jack E. Fessler who passed away on July 10th. Please remember the families of these Brethren and may they hear those welcome words 'well done good and faithful servant thy task well done, enter thou into the joy of our Lord'.

### Standing Resolutions

There are two resolutions pending before the Lodge and will be acted upon at the September 13th meeting. The first pertains to moving the Stated Meeting back to the 4th Tuesday of each month, this will determine the type of meeting to be held on September 27th, and the second will raise the candidates fees to \$200.

## Threstleboard

|      |    |  |        |
|------|----|--|--------|
| Sept | 2  | Seniors  | 9-11AM |
| Sept | 3  | Breakfast  | 7-10AM |
| Sept | 6  | Special Meeting<br>EA Degree                                     | 7PM    |
| Sept | 9  | Seniors  | 9-11AM |
| Sept | 13 | Stated Meeting   | 7PM    |
| Sept | 16 | Seniors  | 9-11AM |
| Sept | 17 | Jr & Seniors Wardens   | 9AM    |
| Sept | 20 | Special Meeting<br>Fellow Craft Degree                           | 7PM    |
| Sept | 23 | Seniors  | 9-11AM |
| Sept | 27 | Stated Meeting<br>If approved                                    | 7PM    |
| Sept | 30 | Seniors  | 9-11AM |
| Oct  | 1  | Breakfast  | 7-10AM |
| Oct  | 4  | Special Meeting *<br>Entered Apprentice Degree<br>(5 Candidates) | 6PM    |
| Oct  | 7  | Seniors  | 9-11AM |
| Oct  | 11 | Special Meeting<br>Entered Apprentice Degree                     | 7PM    |
| Oct  | 14 | Seniors  | 9-11AM |
| Oct  | 18 | Special Meeting<br>Master Mason<br>Daniel Thomas                 | 7PM    |
| Oct  | 21 | Seniors  | 9-11AM |
| Oct  | 25 | Stated Meeting   | 7PM    |
| Oct  | 28 | Seniors  | 9-11AM |
| Oct  | 29 | Special Meeting **<br>Greg & Michael Sherwood                    | 9AM    |
| Nov  | 1  | Special Meeting<br>Howard Bugden                                 |        |
| Nov  | 4  | Seniors  | 9-11AM |
| Nov  | 5  | Breakfast  | 7-10AM |

\* Note Time change

\*\* Note Saturday Meeting

## Dues Notices in the Mail

Dues notices are being mailed. If you have not yet received one you will soon. I have been mailing them out about the month you normally pay in an attempt to save mailing multiple mailings. They are dues at or before the Annual Meeting, November 22. You will notice a different dues notice. The lodge suggested this at the Stated Meeting in May. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated. We are making every effort to keep the dues as low as possible.

## Saturday Raisings

In the next few weeks we will have to have Saturday Meeting in order to raise the number of candidates we currently have. The first of these will be on October 29th. There will be two candidates with Lodge opening at 9AM. We will have lunch immediately following the closing.

## Garage Sale

As mentioned in the Master's article a Garage Sale will be held on September 10 those wishing to donate articles may do so prior to that date. Someone will be at the Lodge from 7:30AM until approximately 11AM on every Friday or during breakfast up until about 11AM on Saturday September 3rd. Unsold items may either be reclaimed or will be donated to Vietnam Veterans Association immediately following the sale date.

## Craft Dinner

The Craft Dinner is scheduled for Saturday October 22nd at 6PM. To the members of the Craft Club, those who pay dues to the Club, the meal is in appreciation for your services during the year and is therefore at no cost. To your spouse or lady and to non-Craft Club members the cost is \$10. The entrée is a grilled steak dinner. RSVP must be made by no later than Tuesday October 18th, to the Craft Captain, Bro Gary Shifflett at 937-673-6873.

## Church Services

The Rev Gregory Jones continues to hold Church Services every Sunday morning at 10:30AM at the lodge. The congregation is made up of Alpha Lodge members and their families. Rev Jones also conducts a Wednesday night Bible Study class beginning at 7PM. The services are very informal and the dress is casual. If you are looking for a non-denominational church consider trying New Beginnings.

## Fantasy Football

Anyone interested in joining a Lodge Fantasy Football league with other Lodge members contact Matt Rentz. This is just for the fun of it and no gambling is involved. His number is 937-270-8854.