

LIGHT

Added
to

LIGHT

Installation of New Officer's

Installation of new officers will be held on Saturday, December 29th at 6:30 pm. New Officers for 2017 are: WM – Steve Williams; SW – Chuck Clampitt; JW – Jathan Jones; Sec – Junior Wehr; Treas – Brent Campbell; SD – Steve Halchuck; JD – Dave Williams; SS – Joe Gooding; JS – Nick Willilams; Tyler – Jerry Piquene; Chaplain – Jay Allen. Snacks will be served after the installation. Congratulations to all the officers.

Mason in the News

The Mason in the News for this issue is Paul Craig. Paul grew up in Warren and graduated from Warren High School in 1958. That same year he married his wife, Mary Jane. Paul worked at General Tire in Marion for 29 years before retiring. Paul is a real student of history with a special fondness for American history in the era from the Lewis and Clark expedition thru the Civil War. For

several years, Paul was a Civil War reenactor traveling to National Park battle fields as a participant. He also has participated in the Mississinewa Battle of 1812 reenactment near Marion for the past 25 years portraying a field surgeon. Paul was raised in King Lodge in 1962 and served as Worship Master in 1975. "Probably the highlight of my year as Worshipful Master was that we had gotten a dispensation from the Grand Lodge to hold an outdoor Master Mason Degree. One of our members had a small gravel pit on his farm and it was just perfect to serve as an amphitheater. Everyone really enjoyed the experience and for me it is a great memory." Paul is one of our newer members, having transferred in two years ago. Since then, he has been involved helping with various activities; the Salamonie Festival, a willing and capable ritualist for degrees, and currently in our effort to hold monthly Masonic gatherings at Heritage Pointe in Warren.

Dewees Receives 50 Year PM Award

Brother Dale Dewees was presented with his 50 Year Past Masters lapel pin and certificate on November 21st at Heritage Pointe in Warren. Brother Paul Craig, Past Master of King Lodge, presented Dale with his certificate and Dale's wife Betty pinned on the lapel pin. Dale was raised in King Lodge 246 in Warren in 1949 and Betty joined Eastern Star the following year. In addition to serving as Worshipful Master, Dale also served as Lodge Secretary for 14 years.

A Visit to the Home

A group of eight Masons met at Heritage Pointe-Warren in October for an informal get together of coffee and conversation. Some of our members at "The Home" can no longer physically participate in Lodge activities, yet want to be a part of Masonry. Attendees were in agreement that they enjoyed the gathering and would like to continue meeting on a monthly basis. The November meeting had ten Masons from various Lodges attending. John

Clayborn was given his 50 Year Scottish Rite Award, updates on ailing members were shared, and "treats" were enjoyed. Jay Allen provided homemade cookies and "The Home" provided coffee and popcorn. An effort to reach out to all Masons who reside at Heritage Pointe, as well as those who live in the immediate area, is being made and starting in December, the ladies of the Eastern Star will also be included. It is hoped that these monthly gatherings will become a permanent activity that will appeal to all of our "Masonic Family".

Grand Master Carey Carter is scheduled to attend the December meeting.

A Brothers' Passing

Brother J. Guilford Wehr, Sr., age 94 passed away on December 8th at Heritage Pointe in Warren. Guilford was a 50+ year member of Mt Etna Lodge and longtime Tyler. Guilford was also a member of Scottish Rite, Shrine, and Eastern Star. Surviving are daughter, Carol Shull, and son, Junior Wehr.

News Updates

Gene Searles recently became a 50 yr Masonic member. Congratulations Gene!

Carla MacDonald, wife of WM Bob MacDonald was honored in November with the Herbert D. LaMont Award from Pathfinder Services in Huntington. Carla, an associate professor of social work and director of social education at Huntington University was a 25-year employee of Pathfinder Services. She served as VP of client services for 10 years and administrator of Kids Kampus for 15 years. Congratulations, Carla!

Rick Sereno, former two-time WM, recently completed an MBA degree from Ohio State University that he has been working on though the year. Rick is the President of OJI Intertech in North Manchester, a manufacturer of automotive parts and industrial coatings. Well done, Rick!

Halloween Party Update

The annual Halloween Party was held at the Lodge on Saturday, October

29th, with 50 to 60 kids and adults in attendance. Bob Haley and his band of “ghoulish helpers” hosted a fun evening of games, prizes, food, movie, and a “Dead Tour” hay ride to the Mt Etna Cemetery. This is always a great family oriented activity that is open to the public and encourages members and guests to enjoy an evening together.

Web Site Creation

In an effort to improve communications and visibility of the Mt Etna Lodge, a web site has been created and is now up and functional. If you have internet access you can easily locate our web site at www.mtetna333.com. Viewers can find information including; location, driving directions, current officers, contact information, calendar of events, photos, special upcoming activities, Lodge history, and Masonic links. The purpose of the web site is to provide useful information about the Mt Etna Masonic Lodge for both our members and other interested persons who may be traveling to the area and wish to visit.

A Look Back in the Lodge Minutes

A question frequently comes up in discussion regarding the origins of the current Lodge building and how it has changed over the years. The original Lodge was completed about 1908. Per Larry Sprowl his great-great-grandfather was the contractor who built what is now the southern half of the Lodge with the cement blocks being poured in Mt Etna and the sand dug out of the Salamonie River. Within 6-8 years, the northern half of the current Lodge building was added, including the basement. Originally the downstairs was rented as a grocery store and access to the upstairs Lodge area was by means of a corridor at the base of the current stairway. If you look at the south wall, you can see where this entrance was enclosed and the cement blocks used were of a later style. At the time the Lodge room looked much as it does today with the one-step up at the theater seating area having a wall from one end of the building to the other. The current seating area of the Lodge was used as a dining area and "the bat room" was used as a kitchen.

In chatting with John Clayborne, Dick Grove, and Jay Allen they provided further information about the Lodge building.

Per Jay the Eastern Star was having a meeting and they noticed the floor was sagging in the Lodge Room. Bud Schoeff was a member and was a supervisor for Bowman Construction in Marion, so he led the effort to put in an I-beam and metal posts that currently supports the second floor. Those posts divide the eating and lounge portion of the down stairs.

Per Dick he was one of the participants who helped. "I don't know where the seats came from but I do know they came out of a theater in Marion. I was one of the guys that helped out on the project." (I guess you could say there is a reason that we call it "Theater Seating"!)

Bud Schoeff did more that work on the Lodge building. Jay said "Paul Schoeff, Bud's son, was a good friend of mine. We grew up together, went to school together, and enlisted in the Marines at the same time. When I got home from the service I asked Bud how you became a Mason. He handed me a petition and said "you fill out one of

these". In later years Jay and Paul became very active in the Lodge and along with other members such as John Clayborne, Larry Sprowl, Bill Haley, Guilford Wehr, Dick Grove and several others, helped carry the Mt Etna Lodge through difficult times when other Lodges were closing.

A Lodge is more than simply a building. It is the men who build the fellowship so all can enjoy the bond of being Brothers.

Product Branding

Product branding is the advertising process where a company or business seeks to identify itself or products either by a logo or product name. Examples would include the Nike "swoosh", the John Deere jumping deer, or simply "Coke". When you see the logo you immediately think of the product. Masonry also has a well identified logo in the form of the square and compass. To advertise our product, we need to make a concerted effort to display our logo. We can help advertise our fraternity by wearing a cap or shirt or by displaying an emblem on our car or license plate on our vehicles. Help Masonry by displaying our logo.

A Matter of Perspective

Why are front windshields larger than rearview mirrors? The answer is pretty simple, what is in front of us is much more important than what is behind us. While this might sound like a grade school riddle, the thought applies to all of us in many different ways. We can all look back on what has transpired in our life and focus on how things have affected us. We question, second guess, and make excuses as to how an individual(s) or event(s) did us a disservice or made us turn out the way we are. We can also do that in our Masonic journey. We can make excuses about our lack of activity or involvement by questioning our own abilities. In the big scheme of things those are all in the past. Those are the things in your review mirror. No matter where we are in our life's journey, we need to focus on what we can do today and the days ahead, forgetting about some of the "baggage" that has taken place in the past. After all, the view out the front window is always more beautiful.

Worthwhile Quote

“Never interfere with an enemy while he’s in the process of destroying himself” (Napoleon Bonaparte). While this thought might seem out of place, we might paraphrase it in reference to ourselves and our Lodge. “If we stand above our enemies, then we will prosper.” If we are not satisfied with simply staying the course but instead strive to do more and be more in our daily lives, then we will grow and prosper as Masons and as a Lodge.

Got an Email Address?

Do you have an email address for Lodge communications? If you are currently receiving this newsletter through the U.S. Mail and have an email address, please contact Chuck Clampitt at cclampitt@frontier.com. This will reduce the time and expense of mailing, and at the same time make you a part of online updates of Lodge news and upcoming events.

Upcoming Events

2016

Officer Installation, Dec. 29th, 6:30pm

2017

Jan 5 – stated Meeting, 7:30pm

Jan 18 – Masonic Gathering, Heritage
Pointe – Warren, 2:00pm

Feb 2 – Stated Meeting, 7:30pm

Feb 11 – Valentine’s Party at the
Lodge, 6:30pm

Feb 15 – Masonic Gathering, Heritage
Pointe, 2:00pm