

TRESTLEBOARD Northwood Ancient-Craft No. 551

DECEMBER, 2015 - FEBRUARY, 2016

850 HORACE BROWN DRIVE • MADISON HEIGHTS, MI 48071

Mark Stiles, Worshipful Master

A WORD FROM THE EAST

Well brothers, it does not seem possible that my year is drawing to a close. I believe it has been a pretty good year, overall. We have had degree work, social outings, and other fun activities. Probably the highlight was having one of our own, Dick Wisely, installed as Grand Mas-



ter of Masons in Michigan. That means that our annual installation of officers, by tradition, will be conducted entirely by the Grand Officer line so it should really be something.

With the upcoming holidays, I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable holiday season. For anyone that will be traveling, I wish them a safe journey to their destination and back again.

Fraternally, Mark Stiles, WM

FROM THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER-ELECT

Greetings Brothers.

First, Karen and I would like to thank all of you for your support for the last 6 months. It has meant a great deal to us knowing you've been behind us.

I would like to additionally thank you for the honor of serving as Master.

I'm planning on having a public social function each month. Hoping to

to start with a Robert Burns celebration in January.

Again, Thank you, John Kashner, PM

FROM THE SOUTH

Is it just me or did 2015 fly by way too fast? As we approach Thanksgiving, I'm always humbled at the amount of things we have to be thankful for! This free country of ours and those who fought and still fight to keep it free. The tenets of our fraternity and the opportunities we have to learn them more fully and to present and share it with new candidates. As we continue to live our lives in harmony with our masonic teachings, it is my hope that each of us will set the example that others will see and will be motivated by it to investigate more fully our fraternity. As we approach this Holiday season, I wish of you a very Merry Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year! Enjoy some quality time with your families! Let's make 2016 the best year yet!

From the West, Roy Prince, SW

SICK AND DISTRESSED REPORT

Our WM elect, John Kashner, will no longer be treating a badly infected foot. When you see him walk to his newly elected chair in the East you will realize why. WB John, we notice that your spirits are high, (they always are) and that you are looking energetic. Your lodge brethren are pleased to be able to serve you once again as their lodge Master. You lead, we will follow.

Bro Phil Leese tells us to be careful when descending stairs or we might experience a fall like he did when he broke his ankle bone. He said that his cast is about to come off and that he will now be able to get around without crutches. Bro Phil, please do not walk stairs with your eyes closed ever again.

LODGE OFFICERS - 2016

WORSHIPFUL MASTER
John Kashner, PM (248) 548-7457 SENIOR WARDEN
Roy Prince (248) 280-4515 JUNIOR WARDEN
Simon McNeilly (734) 272-4590
SECRETARY
James Sparks, PM (248) 544-4613 ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Larry Bullock, PM (248) 388-1123 TREASURER
James Niks
CHAPLAIN
Raymond W. Doyscher, PM (248) 545-7443 SENIOR DEACON
Aric Piercey (248) 895-8963
JUNIOR DEACON Phil Morell
STEWARD
Geoffery Pelton (586) 286-7779 STEWARD
Greg Foster
MARSHALL Fred Messer, PM (248) 321-8759
TILER
Donald House, PM (248) 227-1629

TEMPLE BOARD MEMBERS

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Fred Messer, PM	(248) 321-8759
Don House, PM	(248) 277-1629
Raymond W. Doyscher, PM	(248) 545-7443

LODGE SECRETARY

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LODGE WEB PAGE

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TRESTLEBOARD

Raymond Doyscher, PM (248) 545-7443 email: rwdoyscher@sbcglobal.net

MADISON HEIGHTS MASONIC TEMPLE

850 Horace Brown Drive Madison Heights, MI 48071 (248) 588-3394

SPECIAL ACTIVITY ANNOUNCEMENT #1

**** IT IS CHRISTMAS PARTY TIME AGAIN – DECEMBER 13 ****

For you and your family. Please plan to be a part of the party. We will supply – drinks, baked chicken, hot dogs, chips, ------and some fun and entertainment. Santa is even making an early trip to visit us!!

- 1. <u>December 13th</u> <u>12:30 pm Lunch.</u> Bring a dish-to-share for the table.
- 2. <u>Bring a \$5 gift for each child</u>. Wrap the gift and put the child's name on it for Santa's gift bag. (We will reimburse you for the gift- thanks for shopping for us!)
- 3. <u>If possible make a reservation</u> Karen Kashner 248 613-1947, but all are welcome to join the party

SPECIAL ACTIVITY ANNOUNCEMENT #2

2 MORE –THAT'S RIGHT, 2 MORE SPECIAL MONTHLY EVENTS YOU <u>CAN'T MISS</u>!!!

Be sure to mark our calendar to join the fun -

- Robert Burns Celebration Dinner January 14th6:30 pm What's under the kilt?
- · 1st time event- Murder Mystery Dinner
 - Feb. 27th 6pm Come see "who done it"!!!!
- Lodge tradition- Corn Beef Dinner March 17th 4:30 to 7:00pm YUMMMM!

SPECIAL ACTIVITY ANNOUNCEMENT #3

Don't overlook one of our Lodge's most precious traditions, a Pot Luck Dinner before each 1st Thursday of the month Lodge Business Meeting. You can bring your lady and join us. The ladies can visit while the Lodge is in session and then socialize with the guys after Lodge. We call our ladies "The Ladies Auxiliary" and we appreciate their presence more than we can express. Our Pot Luck Dinner is a bring-a-dish to share dinner at 6pm.

SPECIAL ACTIVITY ANNOUNCEMENT #4

Help us to solve a problem that all lodges face. The second section of our MM Degree (the Hiram Abif Play) is probably our most important work and yet most lodges cannot fill all 24 parts needed. The formation of a Degree Team of players from several local lodges will solve that problem. Join us for the next Degree Team practice at our Temple. You'll be glad you did.

A MASONIC CHRISTMAS STORY and MASONIC OUIZ

Worshipful Brother Dr. Joel Poinsett was born in Charleston, South Carolina on 1779. He was educated in languages, medicine, and military art in Connecticut and in Scotland. After traveling through Europe as a young man, he returned to the United States and became very active in politics holding both diplomatic and legislative posts. It is unknown when or where Dr. Poinsett received his Masonic degrees but he is recorded to be the Past Master of two South Carolina Lodges and was elected as South Carolina's Deputy Grand Master in 1821. He never did serve as Grand Master because of his appointment as the U.S. Secretary of War by President Van Buren.

Dr. Poinsett's Christmas story starts when he accepted the position of the first U.S. Minister to Mexico in 1825. While there (and while establishing the Grand Lodge of Mexico) he became infatuated with a Mexican plant that was considered a weed. It bloomed with vibrant red colors in late December and was used by the Mexican people to decorate their Christmas ceremonial events. Eventually, Dr. Poinsett brought this inspirational "weed" to the U.S. and it has become a traditional Christmas plant for us ever since. Can you name this classical botanical specimen? See the answer on the last page.

WITH GREAT SADNESS

With great sadness and grief, it has been reported by Bro Terry Troutt that little Henry Gott has been called by The Grand Architect of the Universe to a better place with Him. All of the lodges in our district will mourn with the Gott family over their loss. Our contact with the little Henry was extra special and he will live in our hearts forever.

MASONIC HUMOR



IODCE ACTIV/ITIES

LODGE ACTIVITIES				
December 2015				
12-03 Thurs.	Potluck Dinner - bring a dish-to-share	6:00pm		
	Regular Communication	7:00pm		
12-10Thurs.	Annual Memorial Service	7:00pm		
12-12Sat.	Annual Installation of Officers	2:00pm		
12-13Sun.	2-13 Sun. Annual Lodge CHRISTMAS PARTY12:30-3:30pm			
12-17 Thurs.	Dark			
12-24 Thurs.	Dark – Merry Christmas			
12-31 Thurs.	Dark – Happy New Year			
January 2016				
1-07 Thurs.	Potluck Dinner - bring a dish-to-share	6:00pm		
	Regular Communication	7:00pm		
1-14 Thurs.	Robert Burns Celebration Dinner	6:30pm		
1-21 Thurs.	Degree Practice	7:00pm		
1-28 Thurs.	ТВА			
February 2016				
2-4 Thur.	Potluck Dinner – bring a dish-to-share	6:00pm		
	Regular Communication	7:00pm		
2-11 Thurs.	Degree Practice	7:00pm		
2-18 Thurs.	Social, cards, games	7:00pm		
2-25 Thurs.	ТВА			
2-27 Sat.	Murder Mystery Dinner	6:00pm		
	(see announcement)			
March 2017				
3-3 Thurs.	Potluck Dinner – Bring a dish-to-share	6:00pm		
	Regular Communication	7.00nm		

3-3 Thurs.	Potluck Dinner – Bring a dish-to-sha	are 6:00pm
	Regular Communication	7:00pm
3-10 Thurs.	Degree Practice	7:00pm
3-17 Thurs.	Corn Beef Dinner	4:30-7:30pm
3-24 Thurs.	ТВА	
3-31 Thurs.	ТВА	

Visit our website for more information and for possible date changes and updates - www.NAC551.com

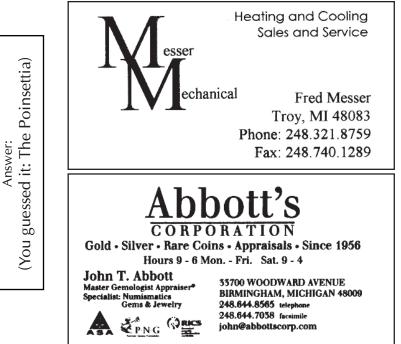
CELEBRATION OPPORTUNITY

Please remember that our beautiful Masonic Temple dining room is available for special occasion celebrations at a reasonable rental fee. The proceeds from rentals help fund the maintenance of the Temple. Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays are often available. Advanced reservations are necessary. Contact Jim Sparks for further information.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS



Ad space is now available on the Trestleboard. You may purchase a business card size for \$50 for one year (6 issues) or a large ad for \$100 for one year (6 issues). Below are samples of our ads. Please support our Brothers and Friends of the Lodge who advertise here.



NORTHWOOD ANCIENT CRAFT #551

848 VENOY MADISON HEIGHTS, MI 48071