

## September 2014 Trestleboard



Brethren,  
The 639<sup>th</sup> Stated Communication of Ionic Lodge No. 31 A.F. & A.M. will be held in the Newport Masonic Temple on Thursday, **September 4, 2014, at 7:30PM.** The reading of the minutes, reception of petitions, Masonic Birthdays, committee reports and all other business, as may lawfully be brought before the Lodge, will be transacted.

James T. Pratzner, PM Attest: Christopher Dent,  
Worshipful Master Secretary

### Brothers,

We are trying to get 100% of our dues into our secretary. As I am sure everyone knows, cost are rising and our income resources are declining. We need everyone to please get their dues up to date. Our net worth has been in the decline we must address this issue.

Please get your dues in. If anyone has any difficulty, please contact me and we will do our best to help out.

**Thank you for your support! Jim Pratzner**

### Masonic Birthdays - June 2014

George H. Pyle	63	Harold W. Wink	52
William D. Cochran	49	James R. Hall	48
James J. Beird	44	C. Allan Walls PM	44
Lawrence Blackway	43	Charles W. Welch	22
Wilcox W. Held, Jr	21	John M. Maiorano	14
Eric L. Thompson	7	William D. Stephey	6

### We Are Going Digital

Please make sure our secretary has your email address! If you do not have one let us know ASAP. Like many other Lodges, we will be switching to an all digital Trestleboard in the very near future.

## Message from the East

Brethren,  
We are beginning a new Masonic year with new officers and a renewed commitment to you, our brothers, to offer a place of fellowship, enjoyment and learning. We want our Lodge to be a place where we can all go and find something new each time.

We are now commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. It began in April 1861 and ended on April 9, 1865. It was a war as brutal as any you have read about in the world today. An estimated 620,000 Americans were killed. It was a time of political, economic and social upheaval and touched the life of every American and formed the country we are today.

This Masonic year will feature several speakers who will address different aspects of this terrible conflict. Some will be our local Masonic brothers from other Lodges. You can expect several other interesting topics as well throughout the year. You won't want to miss a single communication.

We have entered several new candidates and will be conferring the Fellowcraft and Master Mason degrees starting in September. Please come out and support these men who have made a commitment to join us as brothers in Masonry.



## FUND RAISING

Brethren,

I know it seems that we are forever urging you to get your dues up to date. There is a good reason for this. Our dues do not cover our expenses. So, we need to find new ways to raise revenue! We will be introducing new fund raising ventures very soon. Please get involved and help with some of these ventures.

We are contemplating volunteering at some of the University of Delaware sporting event at the Bob for example. **We need your ideas.** Please let us know if you have any ideas.

How about some internet merchandising like selling t-Shirts and hats? What can you add to these ideas?

Eric Thompson and Bob Welsh are working on an automobile rally! Let them know if you would like to help!

### Program for September

Our September program will feature a presentation from Brother Gary Laing. His talk is entitled "Sworn Enemies: Sworn Brothers". Just some background on Brother Laing...2x PM of Union #7 in Dover (2002 & 2013). PM of Delaware Lodge of Research (2005). PM of Civil War Lodge of Research #1865 (2005, 2012, 2013) chartered under the MW GL of Virginia.

This should be a very interesting talk so come prepared with your questions.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Upcoming Dates to Remember

Sept 4<sup>th</sup>, Thurs 7:30 P.M. - Stated Communication  
Sept 9<sup>th</sup>—Officer Practice FC Degree  
Sept 10<sup>th</sup> - Fellow Craft Degree  
Sept 13<sup>th</sup>—Grand Lodge Unity Day in Trenton, NJ  
Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> - Fellow Craft Degree  
Sept 24<sup>th</sup> - Office Practice MM Degree  
Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> - Thurs 7:30 PM- Stated Communication

\*\*\*\*\*

### Sick and Visitation

Please contact **Brother Ben Deeble, PM**, Chairman of the Sick & Visitation Committee to report on the illness or needs of any member of Ionic Lodge. Ben can be reached at (302) 239-7150 or by email at conrady7@aol.com.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Ionic Past Masters

Emil H. Lawrence	1979	J.A. Sukeena	1980
Robert Bryant	1981	C.A. Walls	1983
Carl W. Morris	1986	Craig M. Cannon	1991
James T. Pratzner	1992	C.C. Simmermon, Jr.	1994
Jay C. Bergstrom	1995	W. David Pudvan	1996
D. Edward Wright	1998	Dale T. Irwin	1999
Mark S. Warrington	2000	Dale T. Irwin	2002
W. F. Huxtable Jr	2003	C.C. Simmermon, Jr	2004
James E. Duck*	2005	James E. Duck*	2006
Benjamin H. Deeble Jr.	2007	Robert W. Noble *	2008
Robert C. Wood	2009	Robert W. Noble *	2010
Robert W. Noble*	2011	Robert W. Noble *	2012

\*- Suspended

### Affiliated Past Masters

John C. Rayias 1998 – Brandywine No. 33  
William D. Johnson 2009 – Penns Grove – Excelsior No. 54, NJ

Ionic web site  
[www.ionic31.org](http://www.ionic31.org)