

## May 2015 Trestleboard



Brethren,  
The 647th Stated Communication of Ionic Lodge No. 31 A.F. & A.M. will be held in the Newport Masonic Temple on Thursday May 7, 2015 at 5:30 PM.

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

### Annual Memorial Service

May 7, 2015  
Lodge will open at 5:30 PM  
Dinner at 6:30 PM  
\$12.00 per person

### Masonic Birthdays - May 2015

James Beird 44	Lawrence Blackway 43
Rodger Booth 7	William D Cochran 49
Christopher Dent 3	Paul Ferguson 40
Kenneth Fowler 21	James R Hall 48
Wilcox Held Jr 21	Scott Horton 8
Lester R Isreal 19	George D Johnson 46
Keith Laverty 8	Michael Lawson Sr 14
Michael Lashbrook 5	John R Maiorano 14
Raymond Maniscalco 19	David C Manners 10
Stephen R Mills 21	Raymond Paoletti 8
George H Pyle 63	David R Pepper 1
William A Pepper 1	John C Rayias PM 24
James E Scalia 1	Karl Schopfer 41
Terence L Scott 7	Winfield T Stewart 39
James Stimeling Jr 11	John R Swierk 7
Eric L Thompson 7	C Allen Walls PM 44
Kurt W Weis 8	Charles Welch III 22
Robert L Wilson 5	Harold W Wink 52

## Ionic Lodge is Moving!

My brothers,  
**We made history last night!** (4/02/15)  
Our brothers have spoken and told us they want a new path for their Lodge and it's up to the Officers to guide them there.

I was so very proud of the way the brethren conducted themselves under the emotional issues we encountered. They also proved themselves to be 'upright men and masons' and treated each other with respect. You can't ask for any more than that. Now we, the members, must decide on WHERE we will be moving Ionic Lodge #31 - to either New Castle, or Delaware City. More information will be provided, and we will decide that at our May Stated Communication on May 7, 2015.

This decision was not made lightly. Discussions have been ongoing for several months and everyone in attendance was able to voice their opinion. Change is always difficult but it's also filled with promise and hope. Ionic Lodge #31 has been located in Newport since our inception on November 4, 1950 and have enjoyed being there for many years. We have many great memories from our time there and expect that many more great memories will be created along our new path into the future.

Please join your brothers as we go forward and help us form a new beginning. Your opinion does matter.

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

## Program for May

Brethren,  
Our May program will feature our annual memorial service. We will honor those of our brothers who have been called from labor and recognize our widows. Join us as we remember those who have gone before and help us bring some small comfort to those who have been left behind. We must still decide on our new location, so, we will retire to the Lodge room for a very short period after the ceremonies.

### We Continue to Grow!

Brothers,  
At our April communication we elected 3 new members into Ionic Lodge #31. We also read 5 more new petitions. This makes a total of 17 new members this year. Our schedule for conferring degrees is getting very busy. This is both exciting and fun. Please join us in welcoming our new members. You can check our web site for the dates.

### Bylaw Changes

At our May communication, we will read the proposed changes to our bylaws for the third time. While most of these changes are just procedural, they may also affect you. Part of the new bylaws will address how we handle dues increases. It should be no secret by now that we will have to increase our dues. No decision has been made, as yet, on how much. So, come on out, get involved and cast your vote.

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### Upcoming Dates to Remember

May 7th - Thurs. 5:30 Ionic Stated Communication  
May 13th- Weds. 7:00 PM Entered Apprentice Degree  
May 15th-Scottish Rite Golf Tournament  
May 16th-Legion of Honor Gun Show-Nur Shrine Center  
May 17th-Union Lodge #5 Annual Clay Shoot  
May 17th-Annual Memorial Day Newark Parade  
May 20th- Weds. 7:00 PM Entered Apprentice Degree  
May 25th-Nur Shrine Memorial Day Picnic  
May 27th-Degree or Officer Practice

### 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 corady7@aol.com.

### Ionic Past Masters

Emil H. Lawrence 1979	J.A. Suksena 1980
Robert Bryant 1981	C.A. Walls 1983
Carl W. Morris 1986	Craig M. Cannon 1991
James T. Pratzner 1992	C.C. Simmerman, 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. Simmerman, 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 - Peans Grove - Excelsior No. 54, NJ

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