

## April 2016 Trestleboard



Brethren, the 656th Stated Communication of Ionic Lodge No. 31 A.F. & A.M. will be held in the **New Castle Masonic Temple**, located at 1406 Wilmington Road, New Castle, Delaware on **Thursday, April 7, 2016, at 6:30 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.

*Wilcox W. Feldt, Jr.* Attest: *David Pudvan PM*  
Worshipful Master Secretary

### Ionic Members with the Grand Lodge Award of Honor

William A. Calloway 1993  
W. Bryan Irwin 2007

### Ionic Distinguished Service Award

Charles P. Wolfe Sr 2007  
C. Simmermon Jr PM 2009  
Dale T. Irwin PM 2010  
Ben Deeble Jr PM 2011  
Fred Palmer 2012  
Charles L. Porter Jr 2013  
Kenneth Weaver Sr 2014

### Ionic Lodge Column Award

Ben Deeble Jr PM 2007  
W. Bryan Irwin 2007  
Robert C. Wood 2007  
John M. Maiorano 2008  
C. Simmermon Jr PM 2008  
Charles L. Porter Jr 2010  
Eric L. Thompson 2010  
Dale M. Fernsler 2014

### April 2016 Masonic Birthdays

Philip N. Nelson	61
Robert Hanson Sr	60
James H. Lemon	53
James Robinson	49
John Sukeena PM	40
Wm McCracken Jr	35
Olin Slaughter	29
William Mangler	19
Bora Kilicoglu	17
Michael D. Lake	12
William Stephey Jr.	7
Timothy Kichens	6
Logan M. Harvey	3
Michael J. Riley	3
Ryan Kilmon	1

### Lodge Dues

Have you paid your 2016 dues yet? If you do not have a 2016 Membership Card in your wallet, then you need to send in your check into the Lodge. Please contact the lodge Secretary if you have any questions.



## Message From The East

The following piece is part of an online article entitled "**A Gentlemen's Guide To Joining Freemasonry**". The article was far too long to reprint in its entirety, but the following portion is worth sharing and is being used with permission -

Why a man would decide NOT to be a Freemason?

We have all seen why a man wouldn't join. We have seen it especially on social media and Masonic Facebook pages. Those specific brothers who choose to carry themselves outside what it means to be a true gentleman and Freemason. What makes us different from the world of the uninitiated? Nothing. Not unless we take it upon ourselves to be true gentleman.

Freemasonry has always been the meeting of the noble mindset. To come together and meet as gentlemen. And to represent the fraternity as the same. What example are we setting when we are derogatory or demeaning? We're setting a very poor example for the young brethren coming in, as well as painting the fraternity negatively in a manner that is not represented within the fraternity.

Tolerance isn't about changing the opinions of others. Its about accepting them for who they are regardless of how you feel. To act upon our lessons and display a noble mindset. We are Freemasons. We are to be true gentleman when the world needs us most. We are to treat all men and women as our brothers and sisters. And with the same level of respect that we insist to receive in return.

Be tolerant. Be patient. Word yourself in a manner that is truly respectful and considerate. And do so outside how you feel personally. Because we either represent the fraternity, or we don't. The choice is truly yours. And if you choose to not represent the fraternity for what it is, why are we here at all?

If we aren't acting as gentlemen always, we won't inspire men in good standing to join as gentlemen either. You have the ability to make the change yourself. And in doing so, others will do the same. Will the fraternity ever be perfect? No, that's impossible. But that doesn't mean we shouldn't be trying to be perfect.

*Written by Brother Dave Bacon  
New Philadelphia Lodge #177  
New Philadelphia, Ohio*

## 4/07/16 Stated Communication

- It worked extremely well before, so let's lose the coats and ties for a second time this year!
- This will be a **Casual Night**. "Business Casual" attire is preferred. Officers will be in jeans and their blue embroidered Polo shirts. Members can come as they are (jeans and collared shirts are fine, but no shorts please).
- **Open @ 6:30pm**; switching to EA°.
- **M.:W.: Glenn F. Davis Sr, PGM**, will be our featured speaker, who will talking about life, the lodge, and the difference we make in the lives of others.
- Dinner will be served *after* the meeting.
- Once lodge is closed, we will convene in the banquet room (if raining) or go outside to the pavilion if the weather allows. Being a casual night, we will be serving pizza & beer (and other drinks).
- Dinner will be \$7 per person (no cost to April Masonic Birthday Brethren).
- Bring a folding chair in case we get the chance to sit outside.

## The "2nd Saturday" Cars & Coffee Social

Held on the 2nd Saturday of every month at the New Castle Masonic Hall. 'Hope you can join us on April 9th, from 8-10 am.

We have cut our Trestleboard mailing list down from 225 to 73 people (which includes all of our Widows). Please provide us with your email address so we can send the Trestleboards electronically. We can also add people back to the USPS mailing list if you prefer a mailed copy.

## Membership Information for Ionic Lodge #31 -

Membership 7/01/2015	Petitions Pending	Initiations & Admissions	Suspensions & Resignations	Deaths	Membership 3/31/2016
252	2	7	3	5	251

## Dates to Remember

- Sat 4/02 GL Semi-Annual Communication**  
• Being held at 818 Market St.
- Thu 4/07 April Stated Communication**  
• Open @ 6:30pm.  
• Dinner afterwards.
- Sat 4/09 Second Sat Social & Car Show**  
• 8-10am in New Castle  
• Open to all!
- Sat 4/16 Railroad Degree**  
• Arrive @ 10:45am  
• Lunch @ 11am  
• The train leaves Greenbank Station @ 12 noon.
- Thu 4/21 EA Degree**  
• (pending favorable ballot)  
• Dinner @ 6:30pm.  
• Degree @ 7pm
- Tue 4/26 Degree or Officer Practice**  
• Dinner w/ degree @ 6:30pm.  
• Degree or practice @ 7pm

Check [www.ionic31.org](http://www.ionic31.org) for the latest info.

## Railroad Degree

Tickets are SOLD OUT. On April 16th, please arrive at Greenbank Station by 10:45-11am when lunch is being served. We will begin boarding at 11:30 and depart at noon for the degree. Bring a folding chair and dress casually for the weather (rain or shine, and hats are OK).

## Sick and Visitation

Please contact **Bro. Bill Calloway** to report on the illness or needs of any member of Ionic Lodge at 302-999-0847 or via email at: [mildbill2@verizon.net](mailto:mildbill2@verizon.net)