

## December 2016 Trestleboard



Brethren, the 662th Stated Communication of Ionic Lodge No. 31 A.F. & A.M. will be held in the **New Castle "St. John's" Masonic Temple**, located at 1406 Wilmington Road, New Castle, DE on **Thursday, December 1, 2016, starting at 6:00 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.

**Eric L. Thompson** 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  
Dale M. Fernsler 2015  
John W. McKenny Jr. 2016

### FOOD DRIVE

Brothers we will be collecting can goods of the lodge to support: The Food Pantry at Hanover Presbyterian Church in Wilmington. There will be a receptacle at the lodge where you can deposit your donation. If you are unable to drop off at the lodge and wish to donate please contact me and we can make arrangements for a pickup, you can also mail us a check and we will purchase items for your donation. Please indicate on the check this is to be used for the food pantry. Thank You  
WM Eric Thompson



### Questions & Answers !

**Q:** What's the best way to get the latest Lodge updates on events?

**A:** Let us know your email address and you will always be up to speed on current and upcoming Lodge activities!

## Message From the East

Brothers, There are times throughout the year when we should all take a moment and contemplate our humanity. Thanksgiving and Christmas is the season upon us. So please take a moment of reflection, I will assure you, there are more positives than negatives. Also please keep in mind those who are going without this holiday season. Help where you can. True Masonry starts with you. Happy Holidays!

**Did You Know:** Santa Claus, also known as Saint Nicholas, Father Christmas, Kris Kringle and simply "Santa", is a figure with legendary, historical and folkloric origins who, in many Western cultures, is said to bring gifts to the homes of the good children on 24 December, the night before Christmas Day. The modern figure of Santa Claus is derived from the Dutch figure of Sinterklaas, whose name is a dialectal pronunciation of Saint Nicholas, the historical Greek bishop and gift-giver of Myra. Santa Claus is generally depicted as a portly, joyous, white-bearded man—sometimes with spectacles—wearing a red coat with white collar and cuffs, white-cuffed red trousers, and black leather belt and boots and who carries a bag full of gifts for children. Images of him rarely have a beard with no moustache. This image became popular in the United States and Canada in the 19th century due to the significant influence of the 1823 poem "A Visit From St. Nicholas" and of caricaturist and political cartoonist Thomas Nast. Since the 20th century, in an idea popularized by the 1934 song "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town", Santa Claus has been believed to make a list of children throughout the world, categorizing them according to their behavior ("naughty" or "nice") and to deliver presents, including toys, and candy to all of the well-behaved children in the world, and sometimes coal to the naughty children, on the single night of Christmas Eve. He accomplishes this feat with the aid of the elves who make the toys in the workshop and the flying reindeer who pull his sleigh. He is commonly portrayed as living at the North Pole and saying "ho ho ho" often. As far as is known, Santa is not a Mason, but he certainly could be.

## 12/1/16 Stated Communication

- We will **open lodge at 6:00pm** in order to conduct as much business as possible prior to dinner.
- **Labor will be conducted on the EA Degree** so that ALL Freemasons may attend.
- We will call off at **7:00pm For Dinner.**
- **This is our annual Christmas Party Celebration.**
- No charge for dinner, Please contact **SW Bryan Irwin** with your number of guests
- This is always a great time, for fellowship and ushering in the Holiday season with cheer and caroling!



**Annual Christmas Party  
Food, Music, Caroling  
And lots of CHEER!**

**If you can only make one event, This is the one!  
Bring the whole Family for a night jubilation !**

## Upcoming Events

### Thu 12/1 Stated Communication

\*Lodge opens @ 6:00pm

\*Dinner @ 7:00 pm

### Christmas Party Celebration

**Sat. 12/10 Christiana Lodge** is hosting Breakfast with Santa, Please RSVP contact WM Chris Wessells: christophermwessells@gmail.com

### Thur. 12/15 Officer Practice

### Tues. 12/20 EA for Kyle Swain

### Sunday 12/25 Merry Christmas

### Thur. 1/05/2017 Stated Communication

**NOTE:** This year, newly raised Master Masons will receive a laser-etched "Officer-style" Ionic name badge. As a fundraiser, current Ionic MM's will be able to purchase their own name badge at a cost of \$25 — please contact the Secretary for info.

## Sick and Visitation

Please contact **Brother Bill Calloway**, Chairman of the Sick & Visitation Committee, to report on the illness or needs of any member of Ionic Lodge. Brother Bill can be reached at 302-999-0847 or via email at [mildbill2@verizon.net](mailto:mildbill2@verizon.net)



Ionic #31 masonic lodge

