



THE TRESTLEBOARD

BRANDON MASONIC LODGE #114 FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS

CHARTERED ON THE 22ND DAY OF JANUARY 1890

May 2018

Striving to make good men better

Volume 17, Issue 5

STATED COMMUNICATIONS

HELD ON THE 2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS AT 7:30 PM



BRANDON MASONIC LODGE #114 F.&A.M.

(813) 689-4221
203 N. Moon Avenue
Brandon, Florida 33510

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2018 Brandon Lodge #114 OFFICERS

Lucky Wade	Worshipful Master	Lorrie	323-5426	luckyw@me.com
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Roscoe Love	Junior Warden	Linda	598-5173	roscoe-love@hotmail.com
Scott McCormick	Treasurer	Penny	727-7272	scottm5573@verizon.net
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Donald Spencer	Junior Deacon		480-2653	donaldspencer@gmail.com
Cory Jones	Senior Steward	Cathy	317-4398	msusry@gmail.com
Steve Landers, II	Junior Steward		763-2833	spike01@tampabay.rr.com
Tony Hill	Tyler		777-4024	penpools24@gmail.com
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Charles Gurey	Chaplain	Maria	685-7296	cgurey@verizon.net
William Martin	Musician	Christine	681-5361	william.cm.martin@verizon.net
Cliff Webb	Degree Instructor	Jeanne	625-1007	
David Wenzel, PM	Catechism Instructor	Teresa	748-3707	Dwenzel2@tampabay.rr.com
Pete Williams, PM	Mentor	Sherry	684-2558	

LODGE HAPPENINGS

☉ May 11 — DDGM Roast @ Rough Riders Club House—5:30 PM



☉ May 13 — Mother's Day

☉ May 28-30 — Grand Communication



☉ April 30 — Memorial Day

☉ Brothers, Check out the Calendar on our web page:

www.brandonlodge.org/calendar

It has more information than we can print on the calendar that is part of our Trestleboard.

FROM THE EAST



Creatures of Light and Darkness

My Brothers:

I have a friend who is a self-proclaimed atheist. He is not a bad man, and, under any other circumstance would make a good Mason. He is of high moral character, is honest, hardworking, and patriotic. In fact, unless you knew it of him, you would never suspect him of being an atheist. To all out outward appearance, he is a just and upright man. This not being the forum for theological discussion, it is fitting and proper that we should look at this paradox.

His line of reasoning is that he does not need God to be the type of man that is representative of a good moral character. He reasons that: he does not steal, he does not lie, cheat or defraud, and he is honest, hardworking, polite, and respectful in all things and to all people, and true to his word, in thought and action. Being this, he maintains, makes him as good as any theist, and is not burdened by the fear or restriction of a god. He is, in his mind, a moral person. The paradox is that, while he seems to be of those things, he lacks a moral accountability, his standard is his own. Without the law of God, he will find himself in a situation that is untenable to his convictions, and without the strength of a moral obligation, he can simply rationalize himself out of responsibility and/or accountability. He simply changes his beliefs to fit his life. Without accountability, there is no substance to values. Extrapolating to ridiculousness (*reductio ad absurdum*) one can easily see that without the benefit of an ultimate barrier or law, one could simply do as he felt and justify the reasoning as his own morality or belief. Therefore, one can simply do what one wishes. Everything is permissible.

Aristotle's principle of non-contradiction applies. My friend's proposition cannot be both true and false. One cannot be moral with and without God. If morality is fluid, and changes per society and/or personal beliefs, then it is not a standard or distinction between right (good) and wrong (evil). Therefore, morality must exist with God, since God, and therefore good (right), does not change. Descartes proved the existence of God using a similar premise, and his proof was the basis of modern logic.

A creature of darkness believes he is right, and creature of light believes he is right. Light and darkness are not the same. There is no measurement of darkness; darkness is the absence of light. Light can be measured. God is light; the absence of God is darkness. Morality is the measure. The **Masonic Man** is a moral being. Act accordingly.

Fraternally,

Lucky Wade — Worshipful Master

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FROM THE WEST



Happy May Brothers!

The month of May was named for the Greek Goddess Maia, who was the goddess of fertility. Maia was the mother of Hermes who was the emissary and messenger of the gods. Hermes was described as moving freely between the worlds of the mortal and divine, and was the conductor of souls into the afterlife.

The Egyptian deity Thoth, the god of wisdom, and the Greek deity Hermes are one in the same. Hermes Trismegistus is the name of Hermes and Thoth in his human aspect and is the purported author of the Hermetic Corpus, which is a series of sacred texts that are the basis of Hermeticism.

Hermeticism contains a doctrine that affirms the existence of a single, true theology that is present in all religions and that was given by God to man in antiquity. And further down the rabbit hole we go.....

As the Grand Masonic Year comes to a close there is much legislation that needs to be discussed. At the end of the month we will travel to Orlando to attend the 189th Annual Grand Communication. It is a busy and exciting time for Brandon Lodge!

While you are out, please keep our charity ECHO in mind. The ECHO Food Pantry was created to assist families who have suffered a recent emergency and need help with food. Those who have suffered a recent job loss, loss of income, house fire, emergency foster children, or other emergencies are encouraged to visit *(From the West Cont'd Next page)*

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 221 E. Robertson Street ♦ Brandon, Florida 33511

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(From the West Continued) the ECHO Food Pantry for temporary help feeding their family. This is where we come in. The more we bring in, the more we help the families in our community that are truly in need. We have a goal this year of 2500 lbs. We will be dropping by ECHO multiple times a month to deliver what is brought in. This is an excellent charity that we should be proud to support! Please bring all you can. Many thanks to all of the Brothers who have donated to this cause!

Please contact me if you have any comments, questions or concerns. Ideas and suggestions are always welcome. If you see a light out or something that needs to be repaired, please bring it to my attention. I hope that you will come out and enjoy the fellowship that Brandon Lodge has to offer!

"May the Level, the Plumb, and the Square be the tools; to direct all our actions in virtues fair rules"

Thank you and have a great month Brothers!

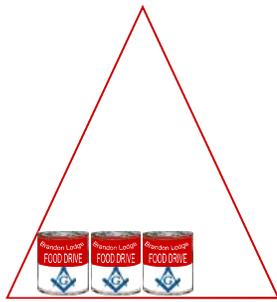
Fraternally,
Brother Travis C. Brumbaugh – Senior Warden

2018

2018 GOAL: 2500 lbs

April 2018: 726 lbs

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FROM THE SOUTH

Hey Brothers,

I hope all is well with you.

April turned out to be a very productive month with our scholarship awards being handed out to three very deserving students, and I believe these scholarships will help them attain their goals. We also presented Yates Elementary with the proceeds from our fish fry, and they were most appreciative, also we had our Chili Cook off, which was headed by Brother Don Spencer and it was well received, with the proceeds going to the Rainbow Girls.

Now to give you a heads up to some upcoming events at the Lodge:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| June 23 Chicken Bar B Que | proceeds going to the Grand Masters Charity |
| Aug 18 Pasta Dinner | proceeds going to our Building Fund |
| Nov 3 Pork Butts Dinner | Proceeds going to our Scholarship Fund |

Brothers, we need to support these functions, they are all very worthy and beneficial causes. But if you are unable to attend one of them please make a donation to them either by mail or directly to our secretary. Brothers, as you know a lot of time and effort is donated to these functions and all that we ask in return is for your support.

This brings me to my point in this months article, "WHY". Why is it that some attend lodge regularly and others don't. Why are there so few who participate in lodge functions, degree work, teach catechisms, or mentor. There is a tremendous amount of work that goes on in our lodge and it is mostly carried out by a few very dedicated Brothers. Why is the load carried by a few and not shared by all. I'm sure that there are many reasons why those don't attend lodge, we all can speculate. Brothers I am a fixer, I fix many things and usually the hardest part is finding out where the problem lies. We, as your officers, want to fix these problems, so I'm asking you to let us know, talk to us, send us an Email, what ever it takes but give us a chance to make the lodge experience better for all involved. There is no way we can solve everyone issue, but if a common thread that we can do we will do all in our powers to make it better. Talk to us let us know "WHY",

(From the South Next Page)

(From the South Continued)

Fraternally,
 Roscoe Love - Junior Warden
 roscoe-love@hotmail.com
 813 598-5173 (call or text)

3 May	10 May	17 May	24 May	31 May
Fried Fish	Chicken / Yellow Rice	Meat Ball Sub	Red Beans / Rice	Cold Cut Hoagies
Baked Beans	Vegetable	French Fries	French Bread	Chick Pasta
Fruit Cups	Salad	Ice Cream	Salad	Chocolate & Banana Pudding
	Desert	Brownies	Pies	
	<i>Boy Scout Fundraiser</i>		<i>Rainbow Girls Fundraiser</i>	



time with good men who will want you to become a better man. Freemasonry does not deny a man his right to think for himself and his right to follow the dictates of his own faith. Every Mason has a right to seek in our Fraternity what he, himself, wants to find, but no Mason's expression of opinion is binding on other Masons, or on the Fraternity itself. We believe that while it is everyone's right to believe as they wish, it is not right to force their belief on others.

In case you don't know, the Grand Lodge of Florida owns, operates, and maintains the Masonic Home of Florida located in St. Petersburg. We provide both assisted living and skilled nursing facilities for poor, distressed Brothers, along with their wives and widows. This is done to help, aid, and assist those less fortunate than ourselves, and to foster our belief in Charity.

There are several different Masonic organizations that exist today, even organizations that Masons and their wives can belong to and attend together. They are, however, very similar in their teachings and beliefs, and Freemasonry is the cornerstone of every one of them.

You can no more make a man a Mason by ceremony than you can make a righteous man blasphemous by ceremony. Both are products of the mind manifested through time. A real Mason is known and distinguished from the rest of the world by his actions and deportment. Some men are honest in fear of punishment; some are religious in expectation of reward. But a true mason --- a TRUE Mason --- would be just and honest even if there were no laws, either civil laws or Masonic laws. His law is written in his heart by the finger of his Creator, and he will be True and Honest upon principle.

Freemasonry can be defined as "kindness in the home, courtesy in society, fairness in work, pity and concern for the unfortunate, resistance toward evil, help for the weak, forgiveness for the penitent, love for one another, and above all --- reverence and love for God". Freemasonry is many things to many people, but most of all.....Freemasonry is a way of life.

Fraternally,
 R/W Don Cowart, PDDGM, Secretary

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FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

My Brothers,

This is an article written by Most Worshipful Robert Trump PGM of Florida. Please take a few minutes to read this timely article.

I am a Master Mason. I am very proud to be a Master Mason. I know most of you are aware of what Freemasonry is. However, in the next few minutes, I will try to explain to you what Freemasonry is.....and what it is not.

Freemasonry means many things to many people, not only to people who are not Masons, but to Masons themselves. Freemasonry is the oldest and largest fraternal order in the world. We have lodges all over the globe. "Fraternity" according to Webster, means an association of friends and Brothers. That is exactly what Freemasonry is --- a society of friends and Brothers. It is not a benefit society, nor was it organized for profit. A real Mason does not become a Mason for any material gain. However, the charitable services rendered by Freemasons are beyond measure. Masons in North America contribute over two million dollars a day to charity.

Freemasonry is not a secret society. Our Lodges are clearly marked and easy to find. Many people ride by every day and know where they are. We do have some secrets, but these are limited to our obligations and our modes of recognition, such as passwords and grips, along with certain parts of our Ritual.

The objective of Freemasonry is "to take good men and make them better". We try to accomplish this by teaching. Our teachings are based on ethical principles that are acceptable to all men. Every one of our teachings and beliefs can be found in, and traced to the Holy Bible. Some of our teachings include the Golden Rule, self-improvement, Brotherhood, morality, justice, tolerance, citizenship, education, and freedom of ideas, expression, and religious choice.

Freemasonry is not a religion, but is religious in nature. Every man who becomes a member of a Masonic Lodge must express his belief in God, a Supreme Being, and that he has an immortal soul. No atheist can be made a Mason. No one is asked to express a particular belief about God, for this is the privilege of each individual and is not infringed on by our Fraternity. We have no conflict with Christianity or any other faith. We offer no plan of salvation by which one reaches the after-life. We open and close every meeting with prayer to God, the Holy Bible is always open during a Masonic meeting, and we teach that no man should ever begin any great or important undertaking without first seeking the guidance of his God. We never tell a man how to pray or for what he should pray. Instead, we tell him that he must find the answers to these great questions in his own faith, in his own church or synagogue, or other house of worship. We are founded on the basic principle of the "Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God". We generally use the term "Great Architect of the Universe" to refer to God, but that is only done to avoid giving religious offense to anyone whose faith prefers to refer to God by some other name.

Freemasonry is a place to spend (From the Secretary Cont'd Page 7

BRANDON LODGE #114 F&AM PAST MASTERS

1889-1890	W.C. Moore	1942	P.O. Marcum	1980	E.B. McAuley
1891	J.M. Duffie	1943	J.H. Stevenson	1981	R.L. Prekop
1892	W.C. Moore	1944	T.M. Blackshear	1982	J. Leitner
1893	C.H. Spencer	1945	C.A. Garner	1983	R.H. Riveiro
1894	J.P. Hill	1946	P.N. Chancey	1984	T.R. Shaffer
1895	C.H. Spencer	1947	J.O. Tottle	1985	L. Carnley
1896-1900	R.G. Brooker	1948	H.H. King	1986	C. Chancey
1901-1902	J.H. Wendell	1949	R.E. Hiller	1987	D.H. Bridge
1903	D.E. Hazen	1950	C.R. Hampton	1988	G. Alfonso
1904	R.G. Brooker	1951	W.A. Brodie	1989	K.A. Thornton
1905	J.A. Johnson	1952	J.O. Crozier	1990	W.J. Kalbas
1906-1907	T.F. Parramore	1953	W. leitner	1991	H. Allen
1908-1909	J.H. Wedell	1954	J.R. Edwards	1992	D.W. Morgan, Sr
1910-1911	D.E. Hazen	1955	H.H. Rushing	1993	G.W. Reese, III
1912	J.A. Johnson	1956	W.B. Westbrook	1994	R.K. Murrhee
1913-1914	C.W. Haas	1957	L.W. Roberts	1995	H.H. Whisenant
1915-1916	J.R. Brooker	1958	C. White	1996	R.E. Age
1917-1918	C.W. Haas	1959	E.R. Lastinger	1997	M.R. Cary
1919	W.P. Pemberton	1960	H.T. Barron	1998	W.C. Mitchell
1920	W.E. Touchstone	1961	W.S. Richards	1999	D.R. Hutchinson
1921	L. Wetherington	1962	T.C. Casey	2000	H.A. Kuczvara
1922-1923	L.A. Hogan	1963	H.R. Moody	2001	Daniel Heston
1924-1925	J.M. Morgan	1964	A.O. Miller	2002	Ronald Brimmer
1926-1927	R.A. McIntoch	1965	C.B. Reynolds	2003	Benjamin P. Piatt
1928	A. Rothwell	1966	D.C. Moses	2004	Ron Green
1929	J. Morgan	1967	W. Seber	2005	Ed Kellner
1930	D.M. Robison	1968	L. Stanberry	2006	Gene Hagan
1931	E.L. Robison	1969	H. F. Turner	2007	Peter Williams
1932	G.O. Dunlap	1970	T.C. Casey	2008	Chas Reichert, Sr.
1933	R.S. Sumerall	1971	L.R. Chambliss	2009	Richard Boettger
1934	L.B. Selden	1972	S.W. Rich	2010	Merritt Drouilliard
1935	F.B. Akard	1973	A.M. Schrader	2011	Justin Aldrich
1936	W.K. Lewis	1974	C.B. Hamlin	2012	Jeffrey Shreaves
1937	W.A. Ledford	1975	W. Seber	2013	Donald Cowart
1938	M.B. Whitfield	1976	C.E. Wysong	2014	Barry B. Butler
1939	L.W. Blaisdell	1977	LL. Griffin	2015	David Wenzel
1940	L.E. Tourtellotte	1978	R.L. Dykes	2016	Jack Hampton
1941	B.L. Lanford	1979	E.R. Poling	2017	Wade Patterson



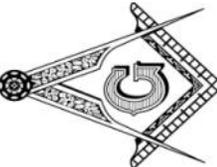
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David Jones	
Herb Whisenant, PM	

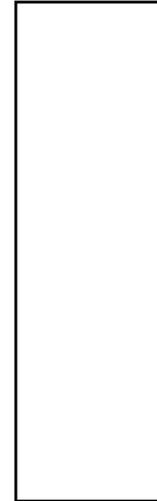
Brother, Become a Trestleboard Booster and YOUR name can appear here. Call Don Cowart 689-4221.



BRANDON MASONIC LODGE #114 F.&A.M.
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Brandon Lodge No. 114 F. & A.M. Activities

www.brandonlodge.org/calendar



M A Y



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>29 BMLSC at Fishhawk Sporting Clays - Every Sunday 9am</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1  OES Meeting 7:30 pm</p>	<p>2 Officers Meeting 6pm Degree Practice 7pm</p>	<p>3  National Day of Prayer Dinner 6:30pm Entered Apprentice Degree 7:30pm</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Scottish Rite Spring Reunion—7:00 am </p>
<p>6 Scottish Rite Spring Reunion—7:00 am BMLSC at Fishhawk Sporting Clays - Every Sunday at 9am</p>	<p>7  Rainbow Girls 7pm</p>	<p>8 BSC Luncheon 11:30am @ Plummers Dinner 6:30pm Fellowcraft Degree 7:30pm</p>	<p>9 Degree Practice 7pm</p>	<p>10 Dinner 6:30pm  Stated Communication 7:30pm</p>	<p>11 DDGM Roast Rough Riders Club House -5:30 pm Masonic Park Board Meeting 7:00pm Tampa #240</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 </p>	<p>14 Scottish Rite Stated @ Scottish Rite Center York Rite Stated @ Olin S. Wright</p>	<p>15 OES Grand School of Instruction Brandon #114 7:00 pm</p>	<p>16 Degree Practice 7pm</p>	<p>17 Dinner 6:30pm  Degree or Masonic Education 7:30pm</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 </p>
<p>20 BMLSC at Fishhawk Sporting Clays - Every Sunday at 9am</p>	<p>21  Rainbow Girls 7pm District School of Instruction 7pm @ Tampa 240</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Degree Practice 7pm</p>	<p>24 Dinner 6:30pm  Stated Communication 7:30pm</p>	<p>25 Masters and Wardens 6:30pm @ John Darling 154</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 Grand Communication </p>	<p>28 Grand Communication </p>	<p>29 Grand Communication </p>	<p>30 Grand Communication </p>	<p>31 Dinner 6:30 pm  Degree or Masonic Education 7:30 pm</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>