



November 8, 2011

Brethren:

Welcome to the November Trestle board! Here is a review of our lodge activities since my last letter.

Community Charitable Activities

Members of the Lodge circulated in Camden Point on October 29th handing out batteries and smoke detectors in what has become semi-annual event. Members of the community have begun looking forward to a visit by the lodge just before the time change. Special thanks to Brothers Kevin Hampton, Ron O'Neal, Carl Riddle, Chris Dunn and David Woehrman for taking time out of their Saturday to walk the community and spread good cheer as well as safety for our friends in Camden Point.

November Meeting Notes

The Lodge met on the 1st of the month for our regular stated meeting and Official Visit from the District Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Jack DeSelms. 10 brothers were present as well as 3 guests. We opened on all three degrees and it was clear that the officers are getting more comfortable with the ritual of the Lodge.

It was reported that Carol Tinsley, wife of our Treasurer RWB David Tinsley had been in the hospital again. A card was circulated wishing her a speedy recovery. RWB DeSelms reported the RWB R.L. Tichenor is continuing to recover from multiple bypass surgery and actually played the organ recently for an Eastern Star Installation. RWB R.L. is unable to drive and so RWB Robert Fry is providing his transportation around the district.

The Lodge voted to participate in the Chance-to-advance classes and to allow all eligible members to receive their second and third degrees in these one day classes if they choose to.

The members also voted to prepare Christmas fruit baskets this year for the widows and shut-ins of our Lodge. Visiting the members and their wives gives us a chance to remind them that we are still here and that they have not been forgotten. The goodies in the baskets will all be donated by the members so if you would like to add something to the baskets (we do about 30) you can give our Junior Warden, David Woehrman a call at 816-810-1272 and he will arrange to get the items from you.

Degree work

On Wednesday, the 2nd we held a special to confer first degrees on two new brothers. Members of the lodge were assisted by brothers from 10 other lodges in the Kansas City area including representatives from all seven of the lodges in Platte County.



We need to recognize Swope Park Lodge #617 and Fidelity Lodge #339 who supplied 15 of the 30 plus brothers who attended. These two lodges along with all our visitors demonstrated the true meaning of Masonic brotherhood by cancelling their regular Wednesday activities to join us in

entering our new brothers into the fraternity. Brother Carl Riddle said that he can remember when a regular meeting of the lodge attracted this many members and that it was refreshing to see so many brothers in attendance.

Both brothers have indicated a desire to attend the C2A that is being sponsored by Fidelity Lodge #339 on November 26th at the Kansas City Scottish Rite Temple. MWB John Hess will be the moderator for this class.

Grand Masters Area Meeting

On Friday the 4th Most Worshipful Grand Master John Hess held an area meeting at the Scottish Rite in St. Joseph. Our lodge was represented by the Worshipful Master, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon and one of our two new brothers. The meeting was a "Town Hall" type of session where those in attendance were asked to step forward and offer suggestions that the Grand Lodge could use to strengthen and grow our membership.

There was a presentation on the Crown Jewels of Missouri Freemasonry: The Missouri Masonic Home, Missouri Masonic Children's Foundation, Missouri Lodge of Research and the Missouri Masonic Scholarship Program. A DVD has been created that can be shown in lodge and during Masonic open house in April of 2012. While the bricks and mortar that was the Western Masonic Home facility is now gone, the Masonic Home program will continue and actually reach out to many more Masons than it could in the past.



Discussion on the importance of mentoring our new members was also a featured topic of the Grand Master. Most Worshipful Brother Hess emphasized the importance of bringing in men to the fraternity who can grow Masonry and strengthen our lodge.

The importance of communication with all our members was stressed by those present at the meeting. Members, for many reasons don't attend regular stated meetings but maintain their membership because of a love of the fraternity. By keeping all brothers

informed of the activities of their Lodge the door is always open for them to return when the situation allows.

In Closing . . .

We are excited with how the year is progressing and once again invite you to join us each month for our Stated Meeting on the first Tuesday of each month. We start with dinner at 6:30 pm and open lodge at 7:30. If you would like to attend and need a ride or other assistance please don't hesitate to call me in advance and we will see to your travel.

I look forward to seeing you on December 6th!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,



Ron Hewitt,
Master, Camden Point Lodge #169
816-820-0068

Message from our Secretary:

The 2012 dues cards have just arrived. Let's get a head start on the Upcoming year and get these out early. It makes it so much easier to send your check when the notice arrives verses waiting until the middle of the upcoming year and I have to send out more notices. This costs the Lodge more money and this is what we are trying to avoid. Please send your checks to the address listed below in the amount of \$44.50. To contribute to the penny-a-day program, add \$3.65 for a total of \$48.15.

Carl Riddle, PM
56 Hull Drive
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