



*Stephenson
Lodge*

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF MARYLAND

No. 135

TRESTLEBOARD

APRIL 2009

Vol. 141 No. 4

SPRING 2009



**SPRING HAS SPRUNG;
THE GRASS HAS RIS.
I WONDER WHERE
THE BIRDIE IS?**

see page 3

A MESSAGE FROM

Our Worshipful Master

Brethren one & all, I hope everyone is doing well. Having good health is actually priceless and I wish everyone a true and safe start into this spring. Just think, about ten days ago our lovely area was only five degrees outside. You know what they say about Maryland, if you don't like the weather wait five minutes and will change.



I would like to use this opportunity to give a special thanks to Jerry Arnold, PM. Brother Jerry works behind the scenes as Secretary of Stephenson Lodge and his creations are unsurpassed, if ever equaled. For example, look at all the programs he creates, the Ladies Night Program, Installation of Officers Program, our monthly communications, the *Trestleboard*, Fifty- and Sixty-year Awards Programs, and our certificates given to our worthy brothers. The list goes on and on. Jerry, I would also like to say, you make the membership at Stephenson Lodge shine when the public looks at the work you do to promote our fraternity. What a Blessing!

Also, Brother Clinton Adams, known among us as the *Mayor of Darlington* was in the hospital, as outpatient on March 10th. From all the brothers and myself, I would like to wish him a speedy recovery and if he needs anything I sure hope he calls on one of us to aid or assist with any help needed.

Fraternally,
Keith Thompson Sr., WM



*Spring has sprung;
The grass has ris.
I wonder where
The birdie is?*

*There he is,
In the sky.
He dropped some
Whitewash in my eye!*

*I am no sissy;
I won't cry.
I'm just glad
The cows can't fly!*

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM

Aberdeen Lodge No. 187

Attention all Masons,
On April 6th, Aberdeen Lodge will exemplify a ***Knife and Fork degree*** at 6:30 PM.

Bring your appetites, a full meal is served. Soup, salad, meat, potatoes, vegetables, will be served. They will continue this tradition on the first Monday of each month, one hour before their stated meeting. Eat 6:30 and meet at 7:30. The following will be the nights for the *Knife and Fork degree*, April 6th, May 4th, June 1st, October 5th, November 2nd, December 1st.

The best part is that it's free, of course there will be a Steward's box to except donations.



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Pusher Service

Perry Point VA Hospital is in need of volunteers to escort the disabled veterans to church. If you are interested please contact Brother Stacy Hale at 410-499-7828 so he can coordinate this humanitarian effort with the VA hospital.

In February, Brother Hale only had two to assist him in this endeavour. We need more Brothers to come and help with this worthy cause.

Our dates for 2009 are:

- April 19th June 21st
- August 16th October 18th
- December 20th



Current annual dues for Stephenson Lodge members is \$48. Check to see if you have your 2009 dues card.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Harford County School of Instruction is with us!

The Harford County School of Instruction will be held at Stephenson Lodge, No 135 on Friday, April 10th at 7:30 PM. All Lodge officers are requested to attend and all Master Masons are invited. The Entered Apprentice degree will be exemplified that night. Come show your support for our officers.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

Why aren't more men interested in joining us?

Do you sometimes wonder where all the men have gone? Or at least, all the men who could be members of our lodge? Can you look around your community and see men who should be Masons and ask yourself “Why aren't they?”

The answer, unfortunately, is that many men, with the same needs we have for friendship and good fellowship, are finding their satisfactions somewhere else. They are making decisions—choices—about how and where they spend their free time and right now it does not include membership in Freemasonry.

In fact, most organizations like the Lions, Rotary and the Elks are experiencing membership losses because they, too, have lost some of their appeal to new members.

Time is at the heart of the problem. There just is not enough. In a survey among men of the age we should attract to the Craft, most men indicated they had only about 5 hours per month to give to any organization.

Television, fitness clubs, country clubs and just “hanging out” have all been alternative choices available to younger men. Add to that the important time they are devoting to their families and their work and there is very little time left over for Masonry. Very little? No, almost zero!

In a recent poll conducted by the Shrine, men who did not belong to any organization indicated they spent their time reading and enjoying TV. Their responses are identified above. Study it carefully and determine how you can use this information in planning for our lodge.

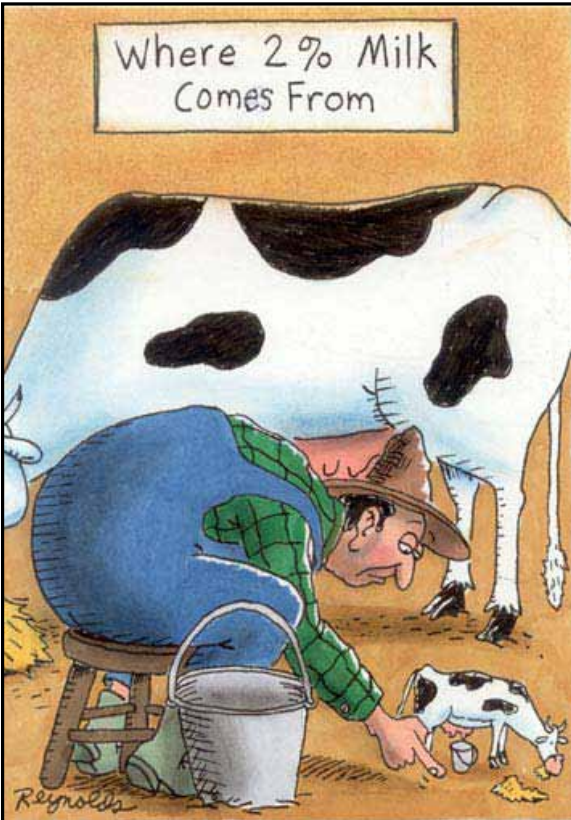
From 75 Ways To Attract And Retain New Members

HUMOR:

Half full or half empty?

One day, after debating whether the glass was half full or half empty in class, a philosophy major was so impressed with what he had learned he returned home and tried to continue the discussion there. With maximum drama he took a 12 ounce glass and poured six ounces of milk into it. He took it into the dining room and placed it in the middle of the table. He proudly asked his family, "Can anyone tell me whether the glass is half full or half empty?" Without missing a beat his grandmother replied, "Depends if you're pouring or drinking."

The Fishwrapper Feb 6, 2009 issue



UPCOMING EVENTS:

April's Communications for Stephenson Lodge

First Meeting, April 1st

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

7:30 pm

Opening in Master Mason degree

Balloting on the petition from

JOSEPH ROBERT WILKOWSKI

Age 48

Self employed at JRW Remodeling

Located in Havre de Grace

Catechism on all those found worthy in the Master Master degree.

Second Meeting, April 15th

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

OPEN HOUSE

7:30 pm

Opening in Entered Apprentice degree

Conferral of the Entered Apprentice degree on those found worthy

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Grand Lodge

Easter Sun Rise Service

7:00 am

Bonnie Blink Chapel

Bull & Oyster Roast

2:00-7:00 pm

Grand Lodge Ballroom

Tickets are \$27.50 before April 14

For information about any Grand Lodge activities, contact the Grand Secretary's Office at:

410-527-0600



STEPHENSON LODGE'S

Line Officers for 2009

Worshipful Master	Keith J. Thompson, Sr.
Senior Warden.....	Carl W. Lee
Junior Warden.....	Stacy C. Hale
Secretary	Jerry R. Arnold, PM
Treasurer	Thomas J. Boyle, PM
Senior Deacon.....	Bradley P. Lankford
Junior Deacon.....	Jim Ohle
Senior Steward.....	William A. Bridges, Sr.
Junior Steward	William A. Bridges, Jr.
Tyler	Frank W. Fowler
Chaplain.....	Oscar R. Baldwin, PM
Musician.....	Vernon K. Stearn, PM
Marshal	Charles D. Miller, PM
Ritualist.....	Charles D. Miller, PM

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

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