

Papillion Masonic Family Trestleboard

August 2015

WORSHIPFUL MASTER



BILL YOUNG

SENIOR WARDEN



GEOFFREY TALMON

JUNIOR WARDEN



GLENN LEWIS

SECRETARY



A. CARL HIGHMAN

TREASURER



JONATHAN PAZ

SENIOR DEACON



BOB LEWIS

JUNIOR DEACON



BRAD HARBIN

SENIOR STEWARD



ADAM CEJKA



JUNIOR STEWARD



DANIEL MARR

TYLER



JOE CHRISTIANSEN

CHAPLAIN



KEN KOLODZIE

MUSICIAN



NATHAN ROLOFSON

Name	Phone Number	Email Address
Bill Young	402.350.7083	rutscreamer@gmail.com
Geoffrey Talmon	402.672.2010	gtalmon@unmc.edu
A. Carl Highman	402.339.3205	papio39@gmail.com
Brad Harbin	402.706.3168	darth_hatidious@yahoo.com
Daniel Marr	402.517.1861	djm.papio39@outlook.com

Meetings on Tuesdays at 7pm
 Stated meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month

Find us on the web!
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/papio39/

Words From The East

Brethren,

I would like to apologize to you all for my lack of contribution to last month's trestle board, my plate was full and my cup runneth over and subsequently spilled all over my shirt.

Secondly, I would like to applaud the efforts of our line officers this year. The majority of them have gone above and beyond their call of duty and you should all be very proud of them. If their dedication and enthusiasm continue, our Lodge will have a very bright and exciting future.

I say "if" because of the tremendous weight that is put on an "active" brother's shoulders. Speaking from experience, I know how disappointing and stressful it is to build a parade float in your drive way by myself. I have scheduled degrees, planned park clean ups, dances, and outings. I have listened while brothers expressed interest in helping with such things only to be let down by a text message the day of the event explaining to me why they can't make it. I have stood in the middle of an empty lodge room scrambling to find folks to sit in the chairs so that the candidate can be initiated.

The unfortunate thing about all of this is that I am not special. My stress is not unique. There have been brothers before me and there will be brothers after me that will experience this same dilemma.

I beam with pride when I see my younger (or newer or less seasoned) brothers take the bull by the horns and build floats and organize the preparation room and stay up all night smoking meat for the fundraiser that only half of the people that said they would attend will attend. I applaud the brothers that carry their little blue book in the back of their pocket, memorizing and practicing the ritual every chance they get. These brothers have excuses and reasons and children and jobs and church and spouses and other obligations all of which demand their immediate and constant attention.

These brothers are burning their candles at both ends and I have seen and felt the effects of the eventual burnout. I know that a Lodge is supported by three pillars but that doesn't mean that all the work has to be done by three guys.

I can almost hear the grumbling as I type this article. I can hear the "Where were you when I..." and the "I was there at the (random event) where were you...". I can feel a million fingers pointing in as many directions rehashing all the incidences where someone wasn't where everyone else thought they should be. I say all that pointing is pointless.

Being an "active" member of the Lodge is an emotion rollercoaster. There are exciting things that take place and when things are good things are real good but when the petitions stop coming in and a couple of brothers feel like they aren't getting the respect they deserve, it can get bad.

I bring this up to plead to the brethren to assist me in changing this part of our culture, the part where a brother feels like he is carrying the Lodge on his own, the part where one or two guys stay up all night to cook food for an event by themselves. I want to eliminate the attitude that "I don't have to show up" because someone else will fill in for me. The future of Lodge is not the responsibility of three, five, or seven installed officers. The future of the Lodge is dependent on all of us paying our dues (both literally and figuratively) and putting in work.

A while back I was in a hospital room visiting a brother who had just received devastating news from his doctor. I sat on the end of his bed in silence waiting for him to speak. You know what he asked me? He asked me about the Lodge. He asked me how everybody was and how everything was going. He took my hand and told me to keep it (meaning the Lodge) going. I'll never forget that moment for as long as live. The Lodge was more than an obligation to him. It was more than a hobby and it was definitely not a burden.

I'm not asking any of you to argue with your wives or miss activities with your children for the Lodge but what I am asking is that you help with what you can. If half of the body helps with half of the duties we will all have more time for labor and refreshment.

See you on Tuesday.



Bill Young
Worshipful Master

Words From The West

I recently had the opportunity to have a couple of beers with two friends from high school. It was a great chance to reminisce about the funny and weird stories of our past and catch up on the last two decades; something that I can't believe took so long for us to do.

As we chatted, one of my buddies began to lament several aspects of his life (not really a surprise, as even during high school this was par for the course for him). He talked about how he was not happy in his job and recently got passed over for a promotion. He talked about how he hadn't had a serious relationship in a long time. He talked about how he still spent much of his time playing video games and watching Netflix. He talked about how he felt he was about 50 pounds overweight and couldn't change it.

My other friend listened to the familiar speech and made a particularly deep point, especially when one considers that we were already three pitchers into the night. He said that he had heard this diatribe since high school and always wondered something- what had this individual actually done to improve his station? Had he comported himself in a way to show his superiors that he was the right person for the higher job? How much effort had he invested to make himself the type of person with whom someone would like to enter into a relationship? Had he actually spent time finding new hobbies? How much energy had he actually devoted to trying to shed the pounds that vexed him? He ended the line of questioning by saying that the only person that could really change a person's life is themselves. We sat in silence for a minute or so, my first friend played the conversation off with a sarcastic quip, and we went on to pick apart the most recent Terminator movie.

It was the next day at my own job that I reflected more on the questions that were raised the night before. My friend's point of view is one that so many people seem to have, and it seems that this negative perspective is more common in our generation. And why shouldn't it be?—look at the popular movies/TV shows/books, including Star Wars, Harry Potter, The Matrix, Chuck, almost every superhero movie, Men in Black to name a few. They all share the same message: you have some latent talent or hidden importance that is just waiting to be discovered or unleashed. You don't need to invest effort or sacrifice; a one-minute training montage or upload of a program into your brain is enough. This was the point that I think was made in our conversation:

success is almost never granted, it comes through attempting things. In short, it takes work to become more than you are.

Yet another tacit lesson that is taught throughout or work-- the Fraternity's slogan is "Making Good Men Better." The entire message that we are given from the time that we become an Entered Apprentice is that we are to further ourselves through years of hard work. The knowledge and skills that we encounter come about as a result of effort, study, introspection, practice, and reflection. They are not simply imparted. Also, in no place does our work discuss changing the world to meet personal goals. We are to improve ourselves.

The teachings of Masonry are sorely needed by a generation that is waiting to discover that we know how to use the Force, do kung fu, or play Quiddich. If one is unhappy with a situation, interaction, or where they are in any aspect of their life the first, most important, and likely the only place to look is oneself. You can not expect for the universe to unfold in a manner that makes you succeed. You have to work for it.



Geoffrey Talmon
Senior Warden

Odd Jobs Team

The Odd Jobs Team is a group of Brothers who have volunteered to assist Masons and their spouses with simple Odd Jobs or tasks around the house that they cannot do on their own.

Some examples of Odd Job requests that could most likely be handled by the Odd Jobs Team include:

- Basic tasks around the yard such as mending a fence, repair a deck railing, or cleaning out the gutters.
- Simple household tasks such as fixing a loose stairway rail, changing a hard-to reach light bulb, or fixing a cabinet door.
- Other manual labor tasks that don't take extremely specialized knowledge or tools.

If you have a request, please contact the team at OddJobsTeam@outlook.com or call the Lodge. Once we receive your request we will reach out to the different volunteers on the Odd Jobs Team to try to match your task with one or more people on the team.

A member of the team will contact you to discuss the task and once we are sure that it's something that we can safely and properly do for you, we'll schedule a time to get things started!

From the desk of the Secretary/Recorder

What a month coming up, York Rite and Amaranth, are almost dark...RAM is having the Most Excellent Master, Amaranth is having initiation and a reception for the Supreme Associate Conductress and Cryptic Masons are hosting the "Dark Social"...but they are not holding stated meetings. I was told to attend two, and take reservations for another, the last I can probably get out of, but I won't.

Meanwhile, back at the lodge, we've got the dishwasher operational. The kitchen passed with flying colors, two little side notes, but no "need to correct".

No rest for the wicked, but at least going down to Missouri I get to see my Grandsons when I head East or South...only out of luck when I go to my own court in Kansas City.

The RAM still has the raffle continuing on the Stoeger Condor Shotgun...if anyone is interested I can probably find some tickets to sell you.

I need to push for correct snail mail addresses, I have to prepare the mailing for dues notices, yes it doesn't happen until mid-October...but that is only 75 days away....bulk mail has increased effective May 31st, while 1st class hasn't changed, post cards and 2nd ounce have both increased, which means return mail will be higher than last years \$.49 - \$1.05, it doesn't help the budget at all.

I like the way the new petitions are leaving the office, we could use more coming back in, but we have enough in the pipeline that we should be back over 175 before the end of the year.

And starting this I thought I didn't have anything to say....not that I was organized in saying it...enjoy the balance of the summer.



Carl Highman
Secretary/Recorder

PAPILLION CHAPTER # 114

Papillion Chapter will be holding their annual Silver and Gold Tea on August 2nd. This social event honors all of our members who have belonged to Eastern Star for at least 25 years with special recognition of those who have been members for 50 or more years. And did you know that our Chapter has 14 members who have belonged to Eastern Star 60 or more years?

A few years ago the Grand Chapter of Nebraska instituted a new award named the Imhoff Medal. This award is patterned after the Masonic Lodge Jordan Medal and is named for the first Worthy Grand Matron of Nebraska. This award is presented by a Chapter to their member who possesses the longest period of membership in the Order. The medal remains the property of the Chapter and upon the death of a holder, is re-presented to the next member in the membership longevity line.

Our present Imhoff Medal holder is Ruth H. Pratt, who has been a member of Eastern Star for 70 years. Ruth was initiated on August 7, 1945 in Valley Chapter #221 in Wilsonville, NE where her mother had been active for many years. Ruth went off to nursing school, married a career Air Force man and moved about a lot. She didn't think too much about her membership in Eastern Star for

quite a while. In the meantime, the Chapter at Wilsonville had gone through a couple of mergers and she had lost track of the members she knew there. Ruth and her husband Cliff had retired in Papillion, so in 1992 she moved her membership to our Chapter and became active in our Kensington group.

Ruth and Cliff reside at Trinity Village in Papillion. They have 3 sons, 6 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Unfortunately, none of this family lives locally but Ruth says one or another of the sons come to visit about every month.

Our Silver and Gold Tea will be held on Sunday, August 2, from 2 to 4 p.m. We hope all of you will plan to attend and help honor all of our long time members.



Phyllis Cain, Reporter
Questions or Comments:
phylliscain27@gmail.com

My Mother Lodge. An essay on the lodge of my youth

The lodge where I was raised was founded early in the history of their state. It was in a large city, by local standards, but perhaps small on the national scene.

The for-bearers of that lodge had been judges, politicians, and business owners. A few great men of local history had previously been admitted to it, and the weight of tradition was heavy. The room where they held their degrees was one of the largest and most formal meeting rooms in the state. On entering that room, one easily felt the importance of the proceedings.

My petition was carried in by a man the same age as my father. He was a family friend, who I had known for years, but only casually, as a youth knows an adult. Later, I learned to love him more deeply than I loved any of my uncles. Indeed, in that group of brothers, I began to learn the true meaning of the Saviors admonition, to "love your neighbor as you love yourself".

The meetings were ran by the officers and overseen by the past masters. The past masters sat in a virtual gallery starting near the secretary's desk and running down the south wall. The past masters were ever present, as were the traditions they represented. Most had been raised in the 1950s, after service in WWII or possibly just before shipping off to Korea. Their predecessors had been men who had survived the Great Depression. The values of the first half of the American century were ever present and were to be carried on into the future.

The culture of that lodge did not recognize the existence of the student movement of the 1960s. It did not acknowledge rock-and-roll existed. Opinions on the foreign policies of our country were rarely discussed; if mentioned, they would be, in the words of (Brother) Teddy Roosevelt, "speak softly and carry a big stick".

At the time I was a young graduate student at the local university. I believed myself to be starting an academic career, I saw myself as possibly a temporary denizen of this lodge's city. And so I listened and learned. I learned so much from those fine brothers; so much about so many topics. Today, I carry the silent burden that I will never be able to fully teach my children, nor the younger brothers at my current lodge, all the lessons I learned from the men at my mother lodge.

As my interest in Freemasonry grew, I read widely. From estate sales and used book stores I gathered books.

I read of the ideas behind masonry and read about how it had carried the torch of what might be labeled "liberal thought" through dark days of the world. Not "liberal" in the modern political spectrum, but liberal in the sense of having ideas and discussing them. Liberal in the sense represented by Socrates, Jefferson, Washington, and Franklin.

With this research, I started to recognize the discord between the traditions of my lodge and the ideas of open discussion of any idea in an environment of mutual respect and beneficence. I started to see the gap between the world where we lived and the world inside my lodge.

I started to see that masonry is about the brotherhood of men. Not about what dish is served at past master's night dinner. It is about devotion to the Creator, not opening lodge precisely at 7 pm. It is about teaching the new members, and welcoming the old members, and guarding the interests of widows and orphans. It is not about preserving the status quo.

Eventually, I took my turn at leading that lodge. One of the ten proudest things I have done in my life. During my installation as master I used the word "change" just once. And I saw the stares pivot to me and seemingly hold me in check. I did not in any significant way deflect the path the lodge was on. I carried forward the business of the lodge, as best I could, and help them travel forward as they had done before me.

Time passed, and my life changed. We started a family, and I moved away to help start a business. I visit my mother lodge when I can, but the distance seems to grow gently greater.

I sometimes find myself asking, what do I wish for the lodge of my youth? Do I hope they have held to very last bit of their old ways and are still looking at the world as if it was 1954? Or do I, hope, that they have slingshot themselves to the 21st Century. That they have opened themselves to the realities of the new generation after generation to humbly approach their door? That they have found a way to keep the best of their traditions, and yet found relevance in the modern age?

Do I hope that they find the future? Yes, I do have hope.



Worshipful Brother Paul Kenyon

from "Laughter on the Level" by Martin Faulks

Masonic Survival Kit

Always make sure that the following items are in your regalia case whenever you attend a meeting:

Toothpick
Eraser
Rubber Band
Chewing Gum
a Plaster
Mint
Pencil
Tea Bag

Why these items?

1 Toothpick: To remind you to pick out the good qualities in others. Matt. 7:1

2 Rubber Band: To remind you to be flexible; things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out. Romans 8:28

3 a Plaster: To remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's. Col. 3:12-14

4 Pencil: To remind you list your blessings every day. Eph. 1:3

5 Eraser: To remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and it's OK. Gen. 50:15-21

6 Chewing Gum: To remind you to stick with it and you can accomplish anything. Phil.4:13

7 Mint: To remind you that you are worth a mint! John 3:16-17

8 Tea Bag: To remind you to relax daily and go over that list of blessings. 1 Thess. 5:18

Papillion Masonic Family Potluck

Hosted By Adah Chapter #52
Order of the Eastern Star
Sunday, September 13th at 5PM – 7PM

All members of the Papillion Masonic Family are invited to attend our annual Potluck Dinner. Adah Chapter is proud to present guest speaker, Joy Johnson, founder of two non-profits in Omaha. Centering Corporation is North America's oldest and largest bereavement resource center and Ted E. Bear Hollow, a center for grieving children. Since her retirement, Joy has written comedy mystery novels for seasoned women. The BOOB Girls: the Burned Out Old Broads at Table 12 are laugh-out-loud novels featuring four retired widows in a retirement community in Omaha, Nebraska.

Please join us with a potluck dish and be ready for some laugh-out-loud fun!



Order of the Eastern
Star
Omaha Area Visitation

Hosted by Adah Chapter #52
and Papillion Chapter #114

Saturday
August 22nd
at 11:30 A.M.

Papillion
Masonic
Center

Parade!



On Saturday July 1st, several members of the Papillion Masonic family participated in the Ralston Parade! Being the middle of summer, fortunately it was not too hot, because being in a parade involves a surprising amount of sitting on the float waiting for the parade to start, or waiting for everyone to get started.



We had some members of Papillion #39, some folks from O.E.S. as well as some girls and adult leaders from Job's Daughters. The Jobies wore their robes, and that was a hit with the spectators.

The crowd was great, other than the occasional water gun attacks to cool us off (those thoughtful spectators). It was great to see the folks who recognized our logos and stood up or started clapping and cheering for us. Many times we heard someone in the crowd commenting "Oh look, the Masons!", or "Oh look, Eastern Star!" But the comments that we probably heard most was from the children along the parade route who frequently exclaimed, "Princesses!" when they saw the Jobies.

It was a lot of fun, and it's a great way to get Masonry into the public eye. Thanks to everyone who participated this year! We would love to see even more join us next year!



Papillion Masonic Family Potluck Hosted by Papillion Chapter #114 OES

Sunday, August 16 - 5 PM



Bottle Auction
Proceeds to go toward new
microphones

The American Red Cross

March storms forced the cancellation of more than 200 blood drives, resulting in nearly 7,000 uncollected blood and platelet donations. This shortfall follows more than 26,400 uncollected blood and platelet donations in February due to severe weather across 27 states.

Please donate and/or help us spread the word-

Papillion Community Blood Drive

Papillion Masonic Center

August 12th 11:30 am-5:30 pm

Call 800-RedCross or go to www.redcrossblood.org to schedule your appointment

Walk ins are welcome!

Commandery & Beauceant Picnic

On Saturday July 11th Mt. Calvary Commandery #1 and Assembly #91 of the Social Order of the Beauceant held our annual picnic. This year's event was attended by over 30 members, and it was a great opportunity for fellowship between the two organizations and with many members who are no longer able to make it to regular business meetings and such.

We were also joined by several current members of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Nebraska, many of whom are members of Mt. Calvary including the Rite Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Nebraska, Ed Nolte.

The meal was pot-luck and featured some great burgers and bratwursts grilled by many of the Mt Calvary Officers including Commander Jeffery Coleman. Along with the burgers and bratwursts we had a mountain of other entrées, sides, and deserts. Rarely do we see such a great selection of choices at a pot-luck!

After most everyone had seconds, and in some cases thirds, we enjoyed fellowship and conversation until Assembly #91 Worthy President Isobel Taylor announced that it was time to sing. Lead by Ruth Ann Negus (from Aksarben Chapter O.E.S.) on the keyboard, we all enjoyed singing several patriotic songs including the *Star Spangled Banner*, *America the Beautiful*, *My Country Tis of Thee*, *This Land Is Your Land*, and more! Some of us wouldn't make it onto American Idol, but we sure had a good time!

Thanks to everyone who worked hard to make this event fun and successful, and thanks to everyone who made it out this year!



Daniel Marr
Trestleboard Editor

Fellow Craft Ritual Contest

On Saturday October 3, 2015, the Grand Lodge will be conducting the Fellow Craft Ritual Contest! It will be hosted by Lancaster Lodge #54 in Lincoln.

Last year Papillion Lodge participated in the Entered Apprentice Ritual Contest and we earned 2nd place. This year our goal is to take 1st place!

If you are a Brother in Papillion Lodge and you'd like to help us bring home 1st place, then break out your cypher and start practicing! And don't forget to sign up! The sign-up sheet is right outside the Lodge room. If you haven't been to Lodge in a while, this could be the excuse that you've been needing to get back into the swing of things!

As the competition gets closer we'll be scheduling practices. We'd love to have you join us!

What is being judged?

- Accuracy of the spoken ritual.
- Accuracy of the floor work.
- Quality of the overall presentation of the degree.

Masonic Home Visit

The Papillion Masonic Family will be making their annual visit to the Masonic Home on Wednesday, August 5th for dinner and a tour of the facility.

We will meet at Papillion Masonic Center, 101 W Centennial Rd, Papillion at 5:30 PM to carpool or you can go directly to the home at 6 PM. Their address is 1300 Avenue D, Plattsmouth. Cost is free will donation for dinner.

Please RSVP to Erin Marr by Monday, August 3 if interested and include the number attending

Phone: 712-314-9276

Email: erinmarr@live.com



August 2015 Calendar

	Day	Date	Time	Event
PMF	Saturday	August 1st	8:00 AM	Coffee on the Square
	Sunday	August 2nd	2:00 PM	Job's Daughters
PMF	Monday	August 3rd	7:00 PM	Templecraft Meeting
	Wednesday	August 5th	7:00 PM	DeMolay
PMF	Thursday	August 6th	5:00 PM	Papillion Masonic Family visit to the Plattsmouth Masonic Home
	Sunday	August 9th	2:00 PM	Job's Daughters
	Tuesday	August 11th	7:00 PM	Papillion Lodge #39 Business Meeting
PMF	Wednesday	August 12th	11:00 AM	Red Cross Blood Drive
	Wednesday	August 12th	6:00 PM	York Rite Degree Work
	Thursday	August 13th	7:30 PM	Papillion Chapter #114 O.E.S. Business Meeting
	Friday	August 14th	7:30 PM	Adah Chapter #52 O.E.S. Business Meeting
	Sunday	August 16th	2:00 PM	Job's Daughters
PMF	Sunday	August 16th	5:00 PM	Papillion Masonic Family Potluck
	Tuesday	August 18th	7:00 PM	Papillion Lodge #39 - Master Mason Degree (Lucas Smith)
	Saturday	August 22nd	11:30 AM	Papillion Chapter #114 and Adah Chapter #52 Joint Visitation
	Sunday	August 23th	2:00 PM	Job's Daughters
	Tuesday	August 25th	7:00 PM	Papillion Lodge #39 - Master Mason Degree (Scott Marsh)
	Friday	August 28th	6:00 PM	OES Omaha Area Grand Visitation
	Saturday	August 29th	?	OES Grand visitation for Papillion's district
	Sunday	August 30th	2:00 PM	Job's Daughters

To submit an article to the Trestleboard, send to papio39.trestleboard@gmail.com. Articles need to be submitted prior to the 19th of the month. Questions or comments contact Dan Marr (djm.papio39@outlook.com)