

# TRESTLEBOARD

## Northwood Ancient-Craft No. 551

JANUARY - MARCH, 2015

---

850 HORACE BROWN DRIVE • MADISON HEIGHTS, MI 48071

---

Mark Stiles, Worshipful Master

---

### A WORD FROM THE EAST

Greetings brothers! By the time you read this, the installation will be history and we will be looking forward to the New Year. I want to thank the Lodge again for electing me as Worshipful Master. I am looking forward to a great year. We have a number of degrees coming up in the next several months, as you can see from the calendar. I am also planning on social nights and other fun activities for brothers and their significant others, both at the temple and elsewhere. If you have suggestions for a fun activity, please let me know. Also, don't forget to check the web site for any last-minute changes.



Fraternally,

Mark Stiles  
Worshipful Master

### NOTE OF APPRECIATION

W.B. Larry Bullock, your Lodge brethren are wondering what it was that made your year in the EAST so exceptional. Was it your.....

.....constant attention to detail?

.....heart-felt concern for the welfare of your Lodge brethren?

.....almost perfect ritual?

.....efforts to bring other local Lodges together promoting Masonic harmony?

.....daily phone calls and e-mails to maintain Lodge organization and efficiency?

Whatever it was, thanks for all you did. You had a GREAT year.

Your Lodge Brethren

### FROM THE SOUTH

Greetings Brethren on entering a brand new Masonic year! Let's start it off by expressing our appreciation and thanks to WB Larry Bullock for the great job he did as WM in 2014. Here's to looking forward to the opportunities to assist WM Mark Stiles in making 2015 even better! The Lodge is only as good as the stones it's built with, and when you (and/or other brethren) don't come and contribute to Lodge activities and opportunities to build the Lodge, we fail to live up to our potential. Reaching for the best that is within us is the challenge we need to internalize in 2015-- now how to get there is the key! Let's start with learning and performing our various/respective duties.

From the South, one of my duties is to provision refreshment for the Lodge and superintend during that time. We share the challenge to not convert the means of refreshment into intemperance or excess-- let me illustrate this with a poem, called **"The Irish Pig"**:

Tw'as an evening one November, as I very well remember, I was strolling down the street in drunken pride,

When my feet went all a-flutter and I fell down in the gutter, and a pig came up and lay down by my side.

As I lay in that gutter, thinking words I could not utter, a Lady strolling by did softly say:

"You can tell the man who boozes by the company he chooses", at that the pig got up and walked away.

The operative word in this message is "chooses"—the pig still had a choice to walk away or not, but our poor drunken brother gave up that choice when he indulged in "one too many", leaving him to lay there "thinking words he could not utter"! As we follow up on our individual New Year's Resolutions, let us all exercise good judgment and common sense in our refreshment consumption and various responsibilities.

Looking well to the South!

Brother Roy

## LODGE OFFICERS - 2013

### WORSHIPFUL MASTER

Mark Stiles ..... (586) 939-3589

### SENIOR WARDEN

John Kashner, PM ..... (248) 548-7457

### JUNIOR WARDEN

Roy Prince ..... (248) 280-4515

### SECRETARY

James Sparks, PM ..... (248) 544-4613

### ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Larry Bullock, PM ..... (248) 388-1123

### TREASURER

James Niks ..... (248) 656-2689

### CHAPLAIN

Raymond W. Doyscher, PM .. (248) 545-7443

### SENIOR DEACON

Simon McNeilly ..... (734) 272-4590

### JUNIOR DEACON

Phil Morell ..... (586) 786-1673

### STEWARD

Geoffery Pelton ..... (586) 286-7779

### STEWARD

Louis Dughi ..... (586) 945-4710

### MARSHALL

Fred Messer, PM ..... (248) 321-8759

### TILER

Donald House, PM ..... (248) 227-1629

### TEMPLE BOARD MEMBERS

James Sparks, PM ..... (248) 544-4613

Fred Messer, PM ..... (248) 321-8759

Don House ..... (248) 277-1629

Raymond W. Doyscher ..... (248) 545-7443

### LODGE SECRETARY

James Sparks, PM

848 Venoy Madison Heights, MI 48071-6002

(248) 544-4613

email: sparks1036@gmail.com

### LODGE WEB PAGE

www.nac551.com

Larry Galloway PM, Webmaster

(248) 672-4230

email: algint@gmail.com

### TRESTLEBOARD

Raymond Doyscher, PM

(248) 545-7443

email: rwdoyischer@sbcglobal.net

### MADISON HEIGHTS MASONIC TEMPLE

850 Horace Brown Drive

Madison Heights, MI 48071

(248) 588-3394

## **\*\*SPECIAL LODGE ACTIVITIES COMING IN MARCH**

Set aside March 12th for the Corn Beef and Cabbage Dinner and March 29th for the Ladies' Night out. There will be more specific information coming – don't miss these fun events!!!

## **\*\*SPECIAL ACTIVITY ANNOUNCEMENT #1**

Don't overlook one of our Lodge's most precious traditions, a potluck dinner before each 1st Thursday of the month Lodge Business Meeting. You can bring your lady to join us. The ladies can visit while the Lodge is in session and then socialize with the guys again after Lodge. We call our ladies "The Ladies Auxiliary" and we appreciate their presence more than we can express. Our Pot Luck Dinner is a bring-a-dish to share dinner at 6pm.

## **\*\*SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT #2**

Help us to solve a problem that all Lodges face. The second section of our MM Degree (the Hiram Abif Play) is probably our most important work and yet most Lodges cannot fill all 24 parts needed. The formation of a Degree Team of players from several local Lodges will solve that problem. Join us for the next Degree Team practice at our Temple. You'll be glad you did.

## **SPECIAL AWARDS**

On October 23, 2014 Northwood Ancient Craft Lodge #551 Celebrated Awards Night by paying honor to Three Worthy Brothers who combined have accumulated 125 years of service to the craft.

The First recipient was Worshipful Brother John Kashner who celebrated his 25<sup>th</sup> year of service to the Craft.

The Second recipient was Worshipful Brother Jim Weir who celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> year of service to the Craft.

The Third and final recipient was Worshipful Brother Jim Sparks who also celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> year of service to the Craft.

We Brothers of Northwood Ancient Craft should always pay honor to those who have served their Lodge with such honor and dedication. It was with great pride and admiration that I presented these fine Craftsman their pins. An experience that I will always cherish. Well Done Good and Faithful Servants.

Your Humble Servant

Larry Bullock

Past Master

## **MASONIC HUMOR**





## A LITTLE KNOWN MASONIC HISTORY STORY

A statue of a Masonic Brother in Plattsburg, Missouri bears the inscription: "David Rice Atchison 1807-1886, President of the United States for one day". It is true. When out-going President James Polk stepped down, incoming President Zachary Taylor refused inauguration on Sunday. Since the Vice President's term also ended, the pro tem of the Senate, our own Masonic Brother David Rice Atchison became the U.S. President from March 4<sup>th</sup> to March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1849. He was a member of Platt Lodge # 56, Platte City, Missouri.

## MASONIC QUIZ

Who said this? (answer on the back page)

"The man who doesn't read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them."

"Always do right. This will gratify some people and astonish the rest."

## SICK AND DISTRESSED REPORT

W.B. Bro. George Staten is recovering from a cataract surgery. His report is "I can now see my wife Joyce sitting on the couch." Bro. George, that is called- easy on the eyes.

Maria Stiles is slowly recovering from health problems. We wish her our best. Maria, always nice to see your spirits so high when all is not perfect.

## \*\*2014 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Lodge 2014 Christmas party was full of spirit and cheer. Santa Claus (W.B. Mark Stiles) and the Shrine Unit Clown ("Bubbles") were wonderful. The children especially were delighted.



## **LODGE ACTIVITIES**

### **January 2015**

1-08	Thurs.	Potluck Dinner-bring a dish-to-share	6:00pm
		Regular Communication	7:00pm
1-15	Thurs.	F.C. Degree Practice	7:00pm
1-22	Thurs.	F.C. Degree (officers in tuxedos)	7:00pm
1-29	Thurs.	E.A. Degree	7:00pm

### **February 2015**

2-05	Thurs.	Potluck Dinner – bring a dish-to-share	6:00pm
		Regular Communication	7:00pm
2-12	Thurs.	Financial Committee Meeting	7:00pm
2-19	Thurs.	M.M. Degree Practice	7:00pm
2-21	Sat.	M.M. Degree (#551,#464,#594)	10:00am
2-26	Thurs.	F.C. Degree (officers in tuxedos)	7:00pm

### **March 2015**

3-05	Thurs.	Potluck Dinner-bring a dish-to-pass	6:00pm
		Regular Communication	7:00pm
3-12	Thurs.	CORN BEEF and CABBAGE DINNER	-----
3-19	Thurs.	E.A. Degree Practice	7:00pm
3-29	Thurs.	LADIES' NIGHT OUT	-----

Visit our website for more information and for possible date changes and updates - [www.NAC551.com](http://www.NAC551.com)

## **CELEBRATION OPPORTUNITY**

Please remember that our beautiful Masonic Temple dining room is available for special occasion celebrations at a reasonable rental fee. The proceeds from rentals help fund the maintenance of the Temple. Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays are often available. Advanced reservations are necessary. Contact Jim Sparks for further information.

# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Ad space is now available on the Trestleboard. You may purchase a business card size for \$50 for one year ( 6 issues) or a large ad for \$100 for one year (6 issues). Below are samples of our ads. Please support our Brothers and Friends of the Lodge who advertise here.

**W**  
THE WISLEY LAW FIRM, PLLC


Rachel E. Wisley  
Attorney at Law

321 South Williams Street  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
wisleylawfirm.com

(248) 543-9000 (main)  
(248) 259-3117 (mobile)  
rwisley@wisleylawfirm.com

**CARPENTRY PLUS BY PHIL**  
"Quality work at a fair price"

Rough & Finish Carpentry • Decks  
Wood Fences • Cabinets • Doors  
Gutters • Roofing • Power Washing  
Painting • Tree Work



Phil Leese 248-543-2109

DONALD M. TRIVETT  
President

**C-Mark Services, Inc.**

Total Lawn Maintenance & Snow Removal Service  
P.O. Box 365 • Troy, MI 48099



CELL (248) 789-7284

Office (586) 758-0722  
FAX (586) 758-0373

MASONIC QUIZ  
Answer:  
Bro. Mark Twain

Heating and Cooling  
Sales and Service

**M<sup>esser</sup>  
M<sup>echanical</sup>**

Fred Messer  
Troy, MI 48083  
Phone: 248.321.8759  
Fax: 248.740.1289

**Abbott's**  
CORPORATION

Gold • Silver • Rare Coins • Appraisals • Since 1956  
Hours 9 - 6 Mon. - Fri. Sat. 9 - 4

**John T. Abbott**  
Master Gemologist Appraiser  
Specialist: Numismatics  
Gems & Jewelry

33700 WOODWARD AVENUE  
BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN 48009  
248.644.8565 telephone  
248.644.7038 facsimile  
john@abbottscorp.com





## NORTHWOOD ANCIENT CRAFT #551

848 VENOY

MADISON HEIGHTS, MI 48071