

TRESTLEBOARD

Northwood Ancient-Craft No. 551

APRIL/MAY 2012

850 HORACE BROWN DRIVE • MADISON HEIGHTS, MI 48071

Ron Aldridge, Worshipful Master

FROM THE EAST



Those of you that attend meetings know we are proud to announce that our lodge is having Two great candidates now taking their degree work. I'm sure they would appreciate your attendance while taking their degrees. I know that I would like seeing you there.

We are having a great time with our social nights and our degree work. We have learned a lot from some of our senior members and what it was like for them to progress through the degrees with a one letter key book. Our stewards and new officers are doing a terrific job.

Our ladies night will be May 17th. Reservations will be a must as always. Watch our website www.nac551.com for further information. Remember brothers, if by now you haven't attended two meetings since September you and or a companion will have to pay for your dinner if you attend.

We will need a lot of help April 17th. & 18th. with the child ID program at Edison Elementary School in Madison Heights between 8 AM – 2:30 PM. check our website for more information. We will need help. I might add, it is a great and rewarding experience to work with the children. Check the link, Child ID on our website for all of our child ID dates and please help. Brother Jim Hecker (WM of Orion lodge) is now in charge of the child ID program in our area. Jerry Steinard and his wife have retired from this position.

Is two or three hours too much to ask for once a month?

Brothers, I extend my hand and hope to see you at lodge and meet you on the level.

S & F

Ron Aldridge WM

FROM THE SOUTH

A view from the South. I was asked by Worshipful Master Ron Aldridge to come up with a letter regarding my views on Masonry based on my experiences.

First let me begin by saying what a wonderful and joyful experience it has been to meet and get to know Northwood Ancient Craft 551's members. At first, I must say I was a little intimidated to meet so many at one time. It didn't take long to feel at home and very welcomed. I must admit, while going through the three degrees, it was always nice to look out over the members and recognize a familiar face. I must give a thank you to Mr. Fred Messer, who in the beginning and still continues to mentor me. I appreciate all the advice that was given and thank you for always answering your phone. I can honestly say at this point, that I have many mentors, who are always patient and eager to answer all of my questions.

I was honored as well as nervous to have been asked, by Past Master Art Gustafson, to serve as steward, for the year following my Master Mason degree. For me it was a sense of pride. An accomplishment in way because I knew that so many of my brother's began there. I truly enjoyed readying the new incumbents on a journey that I not so long before completed. I was always mindful to give them the same encouragement that was shared with me. I love the music that accompanies the marching, something that was new and not performed during my various degrees. I feel that it adds a touch of class and is well, just plain nice to listen to.

The working tools, was one of my most nerve racking challenges. For the most part they came off without a hitch. There were times however, when they did not, but I always knew that a brother was always at hand to throw a line. I realized then that we all stumble at times. How nice it is to have someone always there to pick you up.

I always look forward to the aftermath of meetings. For it is there that you learn of the changes that have occurred over time as relayed by fellow brother's. There

(Continued on page 3)

LODGE OFFICERS - 2012

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Do You Know Your Masonic Brother?

(Series #2)

This is the second series of boyhood photos from our membership. Please provide Jim McPherson with one of your boyhood photos. Ideal age is 5-10 years of age. All photos will be promptly returned.

Most of us are familiar with the faces of our Brothers at Northwood Ancient Craft #551. Behind those adult faces, some scarred, wrinkled and aged, are essentially the same person that has always been there. The building blocks of our personalities and values are learned at a very early age and many argue that our character is pretty much formed by the age of five.

If this is indeed the case, should we not be able to observe and recognize our Lodge acquaintances if we saw a photo of them in their childhood? Let us again put this to a test. Do you recognize following Brothers from their childhood photos? See the names on page 3 of the Trestleboard.



Brother #1



Brother #2



Brother #3



Brother #4

****SPECIAL ACTIVITY ANNOUNCEMENT #1**

CORN BEEF DINNER -- Thanks to all who shopped, cooked, set-up, served, greeted, cleaned-up, enjoyed a dinner, or bought a 50-50 ticket. Our reputation is preserved as a fraternity that serves the best "St. Patrick dinner". Yes, we do have a secret ingredient that we add to our corn beef cooking pot that came to us from a Knights of Columbus recipe. (bless them) And, who is better at keeping a secret than us!

****SPECIAL ACTIVITY ANNOUNCEMENT #2**

OUR LODGE IN THE COMMUNITY -- NAC #551 received accolades and recognition in the "Madison-Park News" March 21st edition for its implementing the Child ID Program at Simonds Elementary School on January 25th. 105 children were identified by way of a package including a photo ID, fingerprints, speech record, etc, for the Amber Alert profile if (heaven forbid) the need arises. Thanks to all who helped. We will be called upon again to visit Edison Elementary on April 17th-18th, Lessenger Elementary on April 25th, Halfman Elementary on May 14th -16th, and Lamphere School District Picnic on June 7th.

EDUCATIONAL REPORT # 2 FROM THE SENIOR DEACON



The Four Cardinal Virtues and Four Points of Entrance

At every Masonic Communication, the Bible, the Great Light of Masonry and First of the Three Great Lights, is opened on the Altar in the center of the Lodge, symbolizing the place which God has in Masonry (i.e. the center of

our lives) and which he should have in every person's life.

The Bible teaches us spiritual and moral values. Some Bibles have a book called The Wisdom of Solomon and we know that Solomon was a wise ruler. This book was written in Greek by an unknown Jewish author. The book makes use of traditional Jewish material as well as ideas borrowed from Greek philosophy in order to teach that God rewards those who are faithful to him.

In The Wisdom of Solomon, the eighth chapter, verse seven speaks of virtue: "All the virtues are the result of Wisdom's work, justice and courage, self control and understanding." These are the Four Cardinal Virtues; Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, Justice, taught in the Entered Apprentice Degree as also the Four Points of Entrance. Justice- even handedness in dealing with others; Courage or Fortitude- bravery in the face of strife and conflict; Self-Control or Temperance- avoiding excess in all things; Understanding can be Prudence- understanding that we should give careful thought before acting.

These virtues are called "cardinal" from the Latin word "cardo" meaning "a hinge." They are the virtues on which all others hinge or depend. Their importance has been recognized since ancient times. They were discussed as a group by the Greek philosopher Plato in his writing titled Republic.

Submitted by Brother Mitchell Urbanski

HOSPITALER'S REPORT

Roy Prince is recovering from problems resulting from dropping a heavy item on his foot. He was even hospitalized for a short time. He is back to work and is now doing well he assures us. Hey Bro. Roy, be more careful.

Mitchell Urbanski has had one heck of a bout with the flu. He was down and out for a couple of weeks. We missed his Senior Deacon activity. Bro. Mitchell, please take your vitamins and get more rest.

LODGE ACTIVITIES

April 2012

4-05 Thurs.	Potluck Dinner	6:00pm
	Regular Communication	7:00pm
4-12 Thurs.	E.A. practice and obligation contest	7:00pm
4-19 Thurs.	Mason of the Year Dinner	7:00pm
4-26 Thurs.	Social night Fellowcraft practice	7:00pm

May 2012

5-03 Thurs.	Potluck Dinner	6:00pm
	Regular Communication	7:00pm
5-10 Thurs.	E.A. Degree	7:00pm
5-17 Thurs.	Ladies Night Out-Ukrainian Center	7:00pm
5-24 Thurs.	Fellowcraft Degree	7:00pm
5-31 Thurs.	Social and MM practice	7:00pm

June 2012

6-07 Thurs.	Potluck Dinner	6:00pm
	Regular Communication	7:00pm
6-14 Thurs.	Master Mason practice	7:00pm
6-21 Thurs.	Master Mason Degree	7:00pm
6-30 Thurs.	To be announced	

Visit our website for more information and for possible date changes and updates - www.NAC551.com

From the South (Con't. from page 1)

you have a chance to get to know your fellow brother's on a more personal level. I love to hear the old stories they tell as they once took the same journey as I have and those after me will take in Masonry.

One of the things I love about our lodge and Masonry as a whole, is the charitable work they do. The money they raise for those in need, the work involved and rewards in the end are amazing. The Child I.D. Protection Program is work that I fully believe in and have enjoyed the time's I had working them. I look forward to helping out.

As I now sit in the south, I am reminded of all the great men, within our lodge; that have sat there. I am aware of the work that is ahead of me and look forward to the ongoing challenges. I am most grateful for the words of encouragement and continued support. As look at the new members that I once readied, as a steward, I am excited to see them grow and hope that I to become as great a mentor to them as those that mentored me.

Most solemnly and sincerely,
Larry Bullock (Junior Warden)

Do You Know Your Masonic Brother?


#1 Guy Shelton, PM - #2 Mitchell Urbanski
#3 Don House, PM - #4 Jim McPherson, PM

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.

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