

Orlando Masonic Lodge No. 69 Trestle Board April 2016

Lodge Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of Every Month – Fellowship at 6:30, Meeting at 7:30
Mizpah Order of the Eastern Star meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of Every Month, Meeting at 7:30

Lodge Breakfast the 2nd Saturday of Every Month, served from 8:00 until 11:00 – Family Welcome



From the East, Chris Smith, WM

Brethren,

March has been an incredible month for Orlando #69. We raised 4 Brothers, said goodbye to a couple of others and have grown stronger every day.

With the help of our Sisters in the Eastern Star, we were able to open up a lot of storage space and finalize our preparation room into something special. By decorating it with Masonic Art and symbols I hope each candidate will draw inspiration and a deeper understanding of the importance of the journey he is about to begin.

The month of April holds tremendous opportunities as well. Since the Lodge

Breakfast and Carwash was so successful, the Rainbow Girls have asked if they could do it again! So I invite everyone to come to Breakfast April 9th. Come hungry, bring a friend and get your car washed! It's great fellowship and benefits the Rainbow Girls, Pine Castle Assembly #6.

On the 12th we will be Balloting on Shane Bedsole, a candidate who has been coming to dinners, breakfast etc. for months now and is very excited to begin his Masonic Journey.

On April 26th, we will host what I hope will become a traditional event. The Bahia Chapter of DeMolay will be honoring the ladies in our Mothers Day celebration.

I want to encourage everyone to come, bring your Wives, sisters, daughters, all the ladies in your life. We will have a nice meal, then the officers will open the Lodge and immediately step down for public presentation. Afterwards, I will excuse all non-Master Masons (along with the Stewards) to enjoy dessert. We will then close in short form and join them.

Events like this serve to bring us together as a family of friends and Brothers. This is an opportunity to bring a guest to see what Masons do, how we love and honor one another and our families.

More events are planned for May and June. The Landscaping and outside improvements have begun!
Stay tuned..... Fraternally,

Chris Smith, Worshipful Master

**From The Secretary - Gary Paquette,
PM**

My Brothers, Just a brief request that we strongly encourage you to send us your email address and phone number for our records. It would make communication much easier when important matters arise and you need to be contacted.

Fraternally,

Gary Paquette, PM, Sec.



From the West, Jeff Battaglia, SW

First, I would like to congratulate our newly raised Master Masons who are progressing very rapidly with their MM catechism. We hope to see you involved in the lodge activities very soon.

With that being said my Brothers, I'm sad to report that our ritual work seems to be slipping. We need to work together to look better. I know we will never be perfect, but we do need to strive towards that goal.

Some suggestions that can help us include attending practices for the degrees. By attending practice, we can perfect our work and make the ceremonies look that much better.

Another thing we can do is to be on time. Whether it's on time for a degree or a regular stated meeting, we need to show the other brothers who are there that the lodge time is important to all of us.

If you don't know what time to be there, reach out and ask. So please, we encourage you to come to lodge and we love it when you get involved, **but we need to work together to make it all look good.** I apologize for the negativity of this letter, but I feel that it is something that needed to be said so that we can move forward in a positive light. I have also been working with some new Entered Apprentices and they will be ready to

return at the end of April, so we need to prepare for a Fellow Craft degree.

Remember my Brothers, nothing can hold us back if we are willing to work together and value each other's time and efforts. Let's reach out and talk to one another and make Orlando 69 the strongest in the district.

Your Senior Warden Jeff Battaglia



From The South, Danny Pratt, JW

Brethren,

As our Lodge attendance continues to grow, its always a pleasure to see familiar faces and catch up about life and the enhancements of the lodge.

Its a great feeling to see brothers, families and petitioners coming to sit for Fellowship. Come join us for great times and good food.

Meal Plan For April

Mac and cheese with beef layered like lasagna, veggies and dessert

Saturday Breakfast: eggs any style, sausage, bacon, hash browns, pancakes (blueberry, chocolate chip or regular) biscuits and gravy

Beef Stroganoff, salad, veggies

Nothing further from the south. Hope to see you at our next stated communication.

Best Regards, **Danny Pratt, JW**