

Orlando Masonic Lodge No. 69



Trestle Board

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

JUNE 2018

From the East



Jose Fernandez, PM
Worshipful Master

News from the East

Well Brothers I have a couple of news to bring to all. Some are sad and others are good. I will start with the departure to the Great Celestial East of our beloved Brother Warren Lively, Worshipful John David Hershiser and most recently Worshipful Kenneth Warren Batts. May they rest in peace and travel with all the love and prayers of all the Brothers of the Lodge, widows and families they left behind while traveling to that Grand Celestial Orient of the G.A.O.U., they will be missed. Our prayers also go out to their widows and families left behind

Now the good news, we recently added new young blood to our Lodge of brothers in the Enter Apprentice Degree. We welcome the following Brothers: James Edward Patrick III, Christopher Scott Spencer and Brodie Allen Wilk. The future is looking good and prosperous with these young brothers coming up in search of more light. In the Fellow Craft Degree we have Brothers Andrew B. Patterson, Robert W. Borr, Kevin M. Reagan and Jonathan A. Cloud and they are getting ready to be tested in the FC Degree. We wish them the best.

A quick reminder; we have the Grand Lodge of Florida Grand Communication on May 28th. - May 30th at the Rosen Plaza Hotel, 9700 International Drive, Orlando, Fl. All active brothers of the Lodge are invited to attend. In addition, we have the Grand Master (Official Visit) Reception on June 23rd. at Apopka VFW. Orlando Lodge No. 69 was given the task to be part of the cleanup committee, so brothers come and join us and help us greet and say hello to the Most Worshipful Richard G. Hoover, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida. In addition, our Lodge will be joining the rest of the Proud 16th. Masonic District Lodges in celebrating the 2nd. year of the Island Degree on November 10th starting at 5 pm. Check the Facebook page for more information; furthermore, W.: Jeff Battaglia is selling pins, tickets for transportation, food and t-shirts for the Island Degree. You are welcome to join us in the ceremonies of the Master Mason Degree at the Island and a side Degree called "Hole in the Head Gang" with a minimal cost for the side degree of \$5.00 (Ask about the Legend).

Finally there is the Cave Degree August 17th. – 18th. EA in Lodge, Mississippi Mountain Degree in Cave; If you are interested in attending, please contact R.: W.: Donald Goolsby for more information. Well, you are now up to par. Come visit us and join us in our future Stated Communications, you will enjoy it. I promise we will be communicating more often in our Trestle Board news in the future. Sorry I took so long this time.

From the West



**Danny Pratts
Senior Warden**

Brothers, the month of May has been exciting for us Masons with the Bahia Circus, the grand lodge and other exciting masonic events throughout the district. June has a lot in-store for us as well. We will be discussing the 2nd annual island degree and the grand masters official visit. For those who haven't been able to make our meetings, we hope to see you come for fellowship and maybe sit in a meeting. Look forward to seeing more of our brothers in lodge. We miss you and hope to see you soon.

Fraternally,
Bro. S.W. Danny Pratts

From the South



**Christy Smith, PM
Junior Warden**

Brethren,

We had a wonderful start to the year with active growth, new Brothers, petitions coming in, & very enthusiastic catechism classes.

An area we need to work on is attendance. We have had great meals (Thanks to Mrs. Lisa) Good fellowship and exciting projects going on. We just need YOU! We have nearly 250 Brothers yet average less than 25 at meetings. Brothers! Get off the couch and get to lodge. If you need a ride CALL. If you want to bring a brother, call them!

Bro. J.W. Christy

**Congratulations to our most recently passed Brothers as well....
Robert Borr, Jonathan Cloud, Kevin Reagan and Andrew Patterson**



Congratulations to our newest EA Brother James Edward Patrick III



Stated Communication May 22nd, 2018 — Special visit RWDDGM Michael Griffin, RH Brian Kilmarten and Visitor Br. Todd Mears from Washington State who presented Worshipful Jose Fernandez with a special masonic medallion from his home Lodge.



A Call to Arms



A message from our Chaplain

Br. Louis A. Dobles

It is obvious that our Lodge membership is not functioning as a unit. There are Lodge members that are not showing up at all to our meetings. I understand that we all have personal activities that prevent us from attending the Lodge on a regular basis, but, I also believe that we are not making an extra effort to attend. There have been many times that I have thought of not attending a Lodge meeting , but, I think about my Brethren that do attend and I make the effort to attend. When I do attend I welcome the Fellowship. It is a habit that we must learn to nurture. Fellowship is the cement that binds our Fraternity.

It seems that when we have fruitful Masonic activities the same members volunteer. How long can this continue, since these members have other personal duties that they must do as well. It is not a fair situation to have a small group of members perform all of the Lodge activities. We need more member participation. If you can recall, membership in our Fraternity was contingent upon real participation, we were not looking for just card carrying members. If that would have been the case we would not have accepted you into our Fraternity.

If there is a reason why you are not motivated to make a real appearance, please share it with us. This is the opportunity to make your feelings known. If there are activities which you feel are not congruent with your nature let us know. It is your Fraternity and we the Brethren need to know your real feelings so that we could make a better effort to help you get more out of your Fraternity. If members are not motivated to attend a meeting when they can, the fault probably lies in the design of our meetings. Therefore speak up and share!

The Internet is a great and powerful tool but the one thing it lacks is human interaction. Social Networks are very good tools to aid in communication with our fellow Brethren but in the last analysis it is a cold environment. In this Corporeal world, The Great Architect of the Universe gave us the highest level of intelligence for the purpose of enjoying life to its fullest. It is through our Fellowship that we could adhere to this mandate since as the Bible states, “ Behold, How good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in Unity.” May the Great Architect of the Universe bless our Fraternity and guide us in making it a better and more interesting Fraternity.