



KEYSTONE COMMUNICATOR



Keystone Masonic Lodge # 251 F. & A.M

Volume 1, Issue 1

May-June 2009

From the East



These are historic times at Keystone Lodge as we approach the end of our 150th year. On Christmas day in 1858 a group of Masons met in the town of Allisonville in a building on the west side of the road between what we now call 82nd street and I-465 where they gathered for the organization of Keystone Lodge U. D. The beginning was successful and the Grand Lodge of Indiana chartered Keystone as the 251st Lodge in the young State of Indiana. The early history was not an easy one as new quarters had to be found several times as the Lodge migrated from Allisonville to sites in and around Castleton, finally arriving at our present location in 1968 after the State of Indiana absorbed the previous location into the I-465, I-69 highway interchange.

Last year, under the leadership of WM Dick Autry, our Secretary,

Darrell Smith, PM, Lodge administration was reorganized. I know that sounds like a small thing, but I assure you it is not. All the business of our Lodge depends on having administration that carefully budgets our activities and gives us the information we need to provide for our future.

During the past months Don Garrison, PM, and the members of the Long Range Planning committee concluded two major projects which will stabilize our finances into the future with a long term renegotiation of our cell tower contract which will reflect future inflation and the installation of a very efficient heating and air conditioning plant that not only makes our Lodge more comfortable, but will reduce our electric and gas consumption. Come to Lodge and you can see the progress.

Look at our calendar and see the

activities coming up during the next three months. Two of our brethren will receive the Grand Lodge Award of Gold for 50 years of service to the fraternity on April 13. In May three of our brethren will be honored, one with the Award of Gold, one for the 50th anniversary of his year as Worshipful Master, and in the crowning achievement one of our brethren will receive honor for 75 years service. Join us on Saturday evening, May 16th, for a dinner and award ceremony marking this award to our brother who has witnessed half the entire history of the Lodge during his time. We also will have one additional Award of Gold dinner and ceremony on June 8th.

In other activities, we will journey to the historic Schofield House at Madison on May 9th where we will raise one of our brethren to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason in the same room where the

Grand Lodge of Indiana was born 200 years ago this year. Our last major event before the summer will be the return of our annual Fish Fry to the big tent beside the Lodge on June 25th thru 27th.

This is your invitation to come join us in these activities, see your Lodge and see the progress we are making. See you in Lodge.

Fraternally
Phil Alexander, PM, WM

From the Eastern Star



The Inspection of Keystone Chapter #240 and Oakland Chapter #159, February 26, 2009, was a complete success. Keystone Chapter participated in the Awards of Gold and the Opening of the Inspection. Oakland participated in the Initiation Ceremony and closing. The floor work was presented beautifully by Oakland's members. Their Worthy Patron was very impressive. What a great Chapter they are !!!

Our Chapter was happy to have the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron present one of our members with her 50 Year Pin. Carolyn Neiger was there looking as beautiful as ever. Congratulations Carolyn.

We will be glad to have our Worthy Matron, Cory Cutsinger, back with us in April. Cory has been in Florida helping her sister, Michelle, who is having chemo and radiation treatments for her cancer. Please keep her in your prayers.

Also, please add the name of our Worthy Patron, David Feldman to your prayer list. David is in a Rehab hospital in Franklin, IN. since he has had a series of strokes and is not responding properly. David is a dual member at Keystone and has worked very hard to help us.

Secretary's Corner

Dues are due! If you haven't paid your dues for 2009 please do so immediately. Unpaid dues will be taken up at the April 6TH meeting.

KEYSTONE-VERITAS Scholarship applications are available. The scholarship award is \$500. If you would like an application and a copy of the requirements please let me know. I can email or mail by US mail. They must be returned and in the hands of the Secretary by May 1, 2009. Those eligible are sons, daughters and grandchildren of Master Masons of Keystone Lodge No. 251 or members of

Keystone Chapter No. 240, OES. Members of Farrell A. Patrick DeMolay, Keystone Lodge No. 251 and Keystone Chapter No. 240, OES are also eligible. If you have questions or need further information please email me at dsmith7403@aol.com or by US mail at the Lodge address. Keystone Lodge is planning a 150 year celebration and reunion on September 19, 2009. Our lodge was chartered May 29, 1859. We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the celebration. The members of Keystone Lodge, Keystone Chapter OES, Farrell A. Patrick DeMolay, former members of Bethel 94

Jobs Daughters and the Castleton DeMolay Chapter are all invited. Additional information will be forth coming. I look forward to seeing you at one of the meetings this year. Our website has a calendar with the dates of all Lodge activities. You are certainly welcome and will be warmly received.

Fraternally,
W. Darrell Smith, PM,
Secretary

Reunion and Award of Gold

All members of Keystone Lodge # 251, Castleton Chapter #240 O.E.S., Farrell A. Patrick Chapter DeMolay, former members Castleton Chapter DeMolay, Former Members Jobs Daughters Bethel # 94.

This is an historic year for Keystone Lodge # 251.

Some of the significant dates are:

1. May 26-150 year anniversary of Keystone Lodge Charter
2. May 18- Arthur Wadsworth 75 year

Member

3. Herman Huffman- 50 year Past Master
4. 4 fifty year members
 - 04-11- George Kerr
 - 04-11- Robert Roe
 - 05-08- Robert Graham
 - 05-30- Richard Crist

Keystone Lodge # 251 plans to recognize the 59 year members, the 59 year Past Master, and the 75 year member in April and May. There will be a "Keystone Reunion Celebration" in September. You are invited to attend and to participate . Watch the Keystone Com-

municator and the Web Site for dates and programs.

If you wish to participate contact Mike Power, Senior Warden, who is chairman of the reunion committee. It should be a good time to renew old friendships and to make new ones.

Fraternally:
Don Garrison-P.M.

From the South

I would like to thank all of the Brothers who took part in the EA degree. You each did a fantastic job. The upcoming Fellowcraft degree promises to be as good and enjoyable as the EA. Brother Mike Power will be in the East. As we all know, Mike does a fantastic job and we can be assured that he will do an outstanding degree. So far this year, everyone has pitched in and done as much as they can. This makes the job of the Junior Warden much easier. To everyone I say thank you and great job.

The annual Fish Fry is coming upon us very quickly. We are looking forward to a great year and hope everyone will come out to support the Craft Club and the Lodge. This is the year of our 150th anniversary. As part of our celebration we ask that you come out to the fish fry to not only support the organization but meet up with old friends, brothers and sisters and make new friends with those brothers and sisters who you may not have met. This is a joyous year and we are proud to celebrate our good fortune with each other. How better to help in that celebration than to have a bite to eat, shake hands and join in some good brotherly fellowship. While you are at the Fish Fry take a few minutes to go through the Lodge.

As always, we will serve Fish Sandwiches at the Fish Fry. There are other items as well, but the Fish Sandwich is the best part of the event. We all know, if one is good, two are better.

We will be sending tickets to each member for a donation and use at the Fish Fry. When you receive them, take a moment to send your \$10.00 donation. Use the tickets to bring friend or just a good acquaintance.

Remember, it takes all of us to support the Lodge and Lodge activities.

As Junior Warden and Fish Fry Chairman, Thank you for your kind support and hope everyone enjoys the year of celebration of 150 years.

Gary Bates, PM, JW

Past Master's Corner

Brethren:

You were recently sent a letter asking if you would help to reestablish a Past Master's Club at Keystone Lodge.

As of today not one Past Master has responded. Does this mean that there is no interest in a Past Master's Club?

If you are willing to help, please call me at 317-849-1723.

Fraternally:

Don Garrison

P.M. 1962

Northeast Corner Association

To all members of Keystone Lodge # 251:

We have what seems to be a well kept secret called the North East Corner Association (NECA). This was formed in November 2004 by members of Hamilton Lodge # 533, Keystone Lodge # 251, Mystic Circle Lodge # 685, and Oakland Lodge # 140. Carmel Lodge # 421 joined this year.

The purpose of NECA is to promote true Masonic Fellowship and the correct and impressive presentation of our ritualistic work for the edification of the craft.

The fellowship of this group of Masons has been wonderful. We meet once a month usually the forth Wednesday. We meet at 6:30 to enjoy a light meal together. This is followed by a short meeting to discuss common goals and how we can help each other. We then practice ritual for about an hour.

Each Lodge Secretary has a list of members competent in the various parts and lectures. If a Lodge needs help with a degree (believe me we all do at times) the Secretary contacts the other Secretaries and help is available.

The member Lodges have started holding joint degrees where two or more lodges have a candidate and they meet together and share the work.

It is really great when the hood-wink is removed and the candidate sees fifteen to twenty-five sideliners.

All Masons are invited to share in this fellowship with us. If you are interested contact Jim Crouch (NECA Secretary) at 317-845-9673 or me.

Don Garrison P.M.
317-849-1723

From the Funeral Committee

All Members of Keystone Lodge

Brethren; Masons have but few opportunities for the public to see any of our ceremonies. One is our funeral service for a deceased brother.

If only a few Masons attend the respect for our brother is not apparent and our public image is poor.

For these reasons Keystone Lodge has a group of about

forty members who will attend a service when called. We usually have about twelve or fifteen in attendance, the service is about twenty minutes long. We would present a more impressive image if this number would be twenty-five or thirty.

If you are willing to help show proper respect and brotherly love for our deceased brethren please call me at 317-849-1723.

Fraternally:
Don Garrison P.M.

From the Trustee's

The trustees would like to remind our fraternity that there are items like walkers, tripod canes, alum crutches, and wheelchairs to assist a brother or sister in need. Just a call and they would be glad to deliver. Most chairs are easily folded and some very light-weighted.

Fraternally,
Dave Fosnight

2009 Officers

Phil Alexander, PM, WM	335-2063
Mike Power, SW	374-8642
Gary Bates, PM, JW	861-6739
Dave Fosnight, SD	848-7752
Edward Harmon, JD	371-2010
Max Turner, SS	848-6912
Aaron Seelig, JS	417-6471
Darrell Smith, PM, Secretary	372-1440
Richard Autry, PM, Treasurer	844-1468
Tom Fosnight, Tyler	696-6456

Trustees

Richard Taylor, PM	835-4453
Kirby Sheets	773-8639
Dave Fosnight, SD	848-7752

Masonic Service Board

Jeff Craig, PM	335-1311
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Keystone Craft Club

Dave Fosnight, SD, President	848-7752
Chris Steel, PM, Secretary	861-5540
Gary Bates, PM, Treasurer	861-6739

The Keystone Communicator is a publication of
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Patrick Autry, Webmaster

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Return Service Requested