



The Trestle Board



The Voice of Franklin's Masonic Bodies

Volume 3, Issue 1

January 2008

Worshipful Master—Ed Atkisson

Brethren,

We have had an active January. As I have begun my duties as Master, we seem to be confronted with many problems. But as I started to compose this article I realized that rather than problems these are more symptoms of growth at Hiram. So, I will tell you about how we are growing at Hiram.

Building Insurance: We now have ample coverage for our buildings and their contents and by the time you receive this newsletter we will also have liability insurance for our officers and directors (trustees), something that not all lodges have or can afford. All this thanks to the efforts of our trustees. We would not have been able to do this had we not raised the dues several years ago.

The Building: Our trustees have been vigorously pursuing improvements to our facility. Why? Partly because of liability issues, but I think it is more about growth. We've had a lot of conversations about this and it all centers around money issues and what we can afford. Our goal this year will be to focus on exploring and creating avenues for building endowment and funding for maintenance and improvements.

Growth of Membership: We have many long term members who are well versed in the craft with great leadership skills to share and pass on. Hiram has demonstrated the ability to draw new members into the Blue Lodge and I believe the officers are committed to continue doing this through continued excellence in degree work in this coming year.

So, in closing I would encourage all the brethren to help by working together in addressing our growth issues. As I said last year I believe good things are coming to Hiram.

On another note, we will be having elections at our stated meeting in February to elect a Senior Warden, a Building Trustee and any other vacancy that might be available. So, please come and vote for the good of the order.

Your Worshipful Master,

Ed Atkisson

Lodge Dates

Jan. 28—6:00pm—Civil War

Degree Practice

Feb. 4—6:00pm—Bicentennial

Committee Meeting

Feb. 16—10am-3pm—Officer

Training at Grand Lodge

Feb. 18—7:00pm Stated Meeting &

Special Elections

York Rite Dates

Jan. 31—6:00pm—Middle TN York

Rite Association Meeting
at Hiram

Feb. 11—6:00pm—Stated Meeting

Feb. 28—6:30pm—KTEF Chili
Cook-Off

OES Dates

Feb. 12—7:30pm—Stated Meeting

Feb. 23—2:00pm—School of

Instruction at Old Hickory
Chapter

Hiram Lodge No. 7 F. & A.M.
115 2nd Ave. S.
Franklin, TN 37064

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Concerning Newsletter Distribution

As most of us have internet and e-mail access these days, distributing our newsletter via electronic format will greatly assist us in being good stewards of our resources by reducing the expense of printing, folding and mailing our monthly newsletter.

If you are currently receiving a mailed copy, we do not have your e-mail address. You can subscribe to the newsletter by e-mailing Joe Kindoll (hiram7news2gmail.com).



York Rite News



As you may know, DePayens Commandery has established a reputation of contributing in excess of \$5.00 per member every year to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Last year was no exception, as we held a most successful Chili Cook-off as our fundraising supper. This year it will be held on Thursday, February 28 at 6:30 pm at Hiram Lodge in the Dining Room. All members of the Franklin Masonic bodies are encouraged to bring a pot of chili and enter the competition. Prizes will be awarded by votes cast by those in attendance. This is a great time to enjoy a sampling lots of different chili, as well as, having a good time and raising money for a good cause. Tickets are \$3.50 each.

Eastern Star News



Franklin Chapter #449 OES enjoyed good turnout, good food and good fellowship at our annual Friendship Meeting on January 12th.

All officers and members are asked to attend the School of Instruction at Old Hickory Chapter at 2:00 pm on Saturday, February 23. Let's me the chapter with the most members in attendance.

Election of 2008 Officers will take place at our March stated meeting on Tuesday, March 11th at 7:30 pm. We will have a pot luck supper prior to our meeting at 6:30 pm.

Open Installation of the 2008 Officers will be held on Saturday, March 22nd at 2:00 pm.