



The Trestle Board



The Voice of Franklin's Masonic Bodies

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September 2008

High Priest-Michael Albert

Fraternal greetings from Franklin Chapter #2, Royal Arch Masons! As one of the oldest operating chapters in the state, Franklin #2 has a rich tradition of being one of the cornerstones of Capitular Masonry in both the Nashville area and Tennessee as a whole. An important part of the York Rite system of Freemasonry, the Royal Arch Chapter consists of four degrees: Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and the Royal Arch degree. The Royal Arch degree occupies a particularly important place in Freemasonry as it is the climax of Ancient Craft Masonry and Masonic symbolism. I encourage all Master Masons to consider the Royal Arch in the near future. There are many benefits to membership to be found. Those interested in history, symbolism, and ritual will find a rich world to explore.

As we leave the hot summer months and enter the cooler fall season, we begin winding down the year in the Chapter and look towards the future. We are always looking for those interested in becoming future leaders within the York Rite and I encourage all members willing to help to think about taking a role. We are also looking forward to the upcoming Fall Festival and Middle TN York Rite Association Meetings.

We hope to see you soon.

Michael W. Albert

HP, Franklin Chapter #2

Lodge Dates

- Sep 25** 6:00pm Dinner
6:30pm Fellowcraft Degree
- Sep 29** 6:00pm Dinner
Annual Official Visit following
- Oct 20** Stated Meeting



OES Dates

- Oct 14** 7:30pm Stated Meeting

Thank you to Franklin Chapter #449 OES Chapter for donating \$500 to the Building Fund in the last year (\$200 from their bake sale during the BBQ and \$300 from the 2007 Worthy Matron's project).

Hiram Lodge No. 7 F. & A.M.
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Franklin, TN 37064

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Bicentennial Commemorative Knives

The Bicentennial Committee is now taking orders for commemorative pocket knives. A lot of 200 Knives will be offered sequentially numbered from 1 thru 200. Each Knife will be sold for **\$40.00**. Brethren purchasing a Knife will also be able to bid for a preferred number of the Knife. Bidding for this is separate from the Purchase of the Knife. Only 200 Knives will be made and orders are on a first come first served basis. If you are one of the first 200 orders received you are guaranteed a knife. The number stamped on the knife you will receive depends upon being the highest successful bidder for the number desired. Orders will be taken thru January 2009.

A special gold plated Knife will be offered to the highest bidder. The successful bidder will be able to choose a knife embossed with either No. 55 (Hiram's original No when chartered under North Carolina) or No. 7 There will be two knives produced and the one not selected will be donated to the Grand Lodge Museum. A special web Page has been setup on the Hiram Webs site <http://www.hiram7.net/> for posting bids, much like e-bay. Orders forms can be obtained thru the Secretary Bro. Dan Welch or Bro. John Palmer PGM - Chairman of the Bicentennial Committee.



Blue Lodge News

Past Master's Night :

On August 28 a Past Masters Night was held in conjunction with hosting the American Legion Post No 22. Eleven Past Masters were in attendance along with approximately 20 Legionnaires. A steak dinner was served by our Steward's. A Master Mason's degree followed. The degree was performed by 10 Past Masters with a few assisting officers. A good time was had by all.

Building Maintenance Committee :

On Saturday, September 22 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. new light fixtures will be installed in the Dining Room and the remaining paint preparation will be completed. Our Secretary, Bro. Dan Welch has agreed to furnish a paint sprayer and his labor to assist in the painting. All Brethren are encouraged to help in this endeavor.

Building Trustees :

The Trustees have met with Mr. Richard Chesbro - Structural Engineer regarding issues with the floors. Mr. Chesbro presented a plan for review and it was agreed to have him seek preliminary pricing on various schemes presented to obtain budget numbers for reinforcing of the second and third floors.

Eastern Star News



Our chapter had the honor of hosting the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee, Order of the Eastern Star for our Official Visit on Friday, August 29th. We were fortunate to have 114 members and visitors present.

In October, we will have the privilege of balloting on new members so be watching for upcoming initiation announcements as well!

Donna Isbell and Allan Potts
Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron