

T H E M A S T E R ' S M E S S A G E
OWENS LODGE NO. 164, A.F. & A. M.
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

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2010 JULY

AUGUST 2010

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TRILODGE PICNIC
KHEDIVE SHRINE TEMPLE, CHESAPEAKE VA
JULY 18, 2010, 11 A.M. – 2 P.M.

GRAND MASTER'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO OWENS LODGE
AUGUST 12, 2010, DINNER 6:30 P.M.

FROM THE EAST

The quarries of freemasonry in Owens Loge have been filled with challenges and activities in past couple of month. Never had I experienced in my Masonic life that we work on candidates every week for five straight weeks including one Saturday to raise 5 candidates. It really shows that our officers and members are facing up to the challenges of our time.

The open district visit of the Grand Master, Most Worshipful William Earle Rorer, Jr. last May was one memorable night. It was a night of fellowship with a tender touch of hospitality to the delight of the Brethren and their ladies. The assistance of our professionals "The Kitchen Aide", Brother Bobby Buraga and Bro Ben Mabalot were beyond the call of duty. The meal was simply presented with a touch of class and taste of elegance. "Forget Not the Duties" we did. The Grand Master's message on the subject of Communication plays a vital role in promoting the growth of our Freemasonry and keeping in touch not only with our brethren but our widows as well and reminds everyone to "Forget Not the Duties".

The week before that, during the Stewart A. Deem School of Instruction, Owens Lodge and Ocean View Lodge did very well on the exemplification of the MM Degree. Owens Lodge was well represented and I thank you all for your continued support. The mark of excellence resulting from times spent in "in-house" practices really paid off. Thanks or our LIW, Wor. Abutin who constantly directs us to maintain the high standards of proficiency in our rituals. Our lodge visitations have brought us the State travelling gavel once and thrice for District Travelling Gavel so far this year.

The Masonic participation at the MacArthur Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony, and the Portsmouth Memorial Day parade also had a good turn out. Thanks for the dedication of brethren, Nick Castillo, Willy Bulosan and Manny Elefane, Eligio Santos and his wife who represented Owens Lodge.

The Golf Tournament turned out very well. The game was fun and the fellowship was great. I thank our Senior Warden, Nick Castillo and Junior Warden, Brother Alain Buensuceso, for coordinating the event. Also thanks to the brethren who are non-golfers but donated or contributed in anyway.

Our Saint John's Day Celebration was observed on June 10 at our Stated Communication with RW Pat Miskill speaking on the Holy Saint John, one of our patrons in Masonry. This was also the Junior Wardens Night and designated Hawaiian Night. Thanks for the brethren who came out in support of our Junior Warden. Brother Buensuceso, I commend you for a job well done!

The District Picnic was once again a demonstration of Freemasonry in action, when we joined in the fellowships with the residence of the Province at De Paul Nursing Home. Eleven lodges participated and the coordination was well carried out considering the many activities happening that day, from Bethel installations to school graduations, among other things.

TRESTLEBOARD

July 8, 2010, Thursday, 7:30 P.M. Dinner, 6:30 P.M. Stated Communication, Senior Warden's Night. Brother Nick Castillo will be occupying the East. The speaker is our own LIW, Wor Rody Abutin. The requested attire is long sleeve Barong or long sleeve shirt with tie. Join us for another fun night.

July 9, 2010, Friday, 7:00 P.M. Dinner 6:00 P.M. Special Communication, a Master Mason's Degree by the Oklahoma Indian Degree Team, Granby Masonic Temple in Norfolk. Two candidates, one from Ocean View lodge and one from Norview lodge will be raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by this popular degree team. Join us and impart them what could be one of the richest experiences of their lives. Tickets, \$30.00.

July 18, 2010, Sunday, 11 A.M.-2 P.M. Tri-lodge (Owens, Naomi, Victory Daylight) Annual Family Picnic, Khedive Shrine Temple, 645 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320.

July 30, 2010, Friday, 7:00 P.M. Grand Master's Gala with Brother Roy Clark, at the Scottish Rite Temple in **Richmond, Virginia**. Tickets are \$50.00 for dinner and theater engagement, and \$25.00 for theater engagement only. If interested please contact RW Manny Elefane by email or at 757-961-9810.

August 12, 2010, Thursday, 7:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 P.M. Grand Master's Official Visit to Owens Lodge. Dinner at 6:30 P.M. This is a tiled visit, but you may "Bring a non-mason friend" at the dinner.

By-Laws Changes

(Introduced in May and voted on in June Stated Communication)

These changes will allow the lodge to automatically adjust its dues based on the yearly Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Deflator Index without going to the process of a by-law change. The initial cap increase of \$30 is necessary to catch up with inflation rate from 1979 to 2010. This was approved unanimously by the Brethren, at the June stated communication and will be effective the year 2011.

Article II of the Owens Lodge by-laws will reflect the following changes and will read:

Every member of this lodge except one Chaplain designated by the Worshipful Master shall be charged by the Secretary with the sum of Sixty Dollars (\$60.00) plus Grand Lodge Dues/Assessments and Temple Corporation Assessments, as annual dues. Additionally, the lodge shall raise the dues per Federal Government Cost Price Index (CPI) figures each year based on the last year's CPI.

LIFE MEMBESHIP IN PERPETUITY (LMIP)

Congratulations to our brethren who received their LMIP this year, Eligio Santos, John Daclan, Cesar Mendoza, and Erwin Bartolazo. The timing could not be better. This is the right time to consider the life membership, before the dues increase next year. The current dues for 2010 are \$118.00. Next year, \$148.00 (includes Grand Lodge assessments and Temple assessments). When one becomes a life member in perpetuity, an endowment to your lodge is created forever, even after the member passes on. For more information please call me or the secretary.

IN MEMORIAM

Since the last stated communication Brother Charles William Hayes was called to the Celestial Lodge,
"His Spirit to God, His memories in our hearts..."