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TROPICAL LODGE NO. 56 F & AM
3100 EVANS AVE.
FT. MYERS, FL 33901-7440



The Trestleboard

Tropical 2009

Issue No. 06



Tropical Lodge No. 56 F. & A.M.



Free and Accepted Masons
Chartered March 1, 1893

3100 Evans Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33901

Phone: 239-334-6074

www.tropical56.com

Regular Communications

1st and 3rd Tuesdays 7:30 PM

Dinner at 6:30

June 2009

**Visitors welcome / Members are urged to attend
Be proud to show your Dues Card**

Trestleboard "Boosters" 2009

Jim & Ruth Goodyear, Ted Connally, Sam Bissell, Randy Spradling,
 Peggy & Ron Frieden, Dick Nelson, Kurt Wagner
 Bill White, Franceil and Earl Williams, Kurt Laser, Arnold Korpi

It's a New Year and Your Name Could be here! Contact Ron Frieden or Ted Connally

From the East The Master is out of town this month. However, he has asked that share some remarkable news with you.

Tropical now has a "brother lodge" in Havana. Its official, both Grand Lodges – ours and the Grand Lodge of Cuba have signed off and we are set to go forward. An event in Havana is being scheduled for late November/early December and we hope to have some of us in attendance. Steps are being taken to obtain the necessary permission from our Government and then visas for the brothers who are going come next. In any event, we now have an historic relationship with Logia Soles de Marti de Havana. They meet in the Grand Lodge building in Havana which is also the home of the Cuban Masonic Museum. We've published some pictures in previous issues thanks to Br Randy Wayne White. This is an exciting time for us. The members of Logia Soles de Marti de Havana will become honorary members of Tropical and we believe we will become honorary members of their Lodge as well. We will be looking for ways we can help them in their charitable activities including working with homeless children and with the Children's Oncology Hospital in Havana, as well as assistance as it may be needed and we are able to give it for storm victims – we in Florida know something about that. Over the summer and into the fall we will be looking at obtaining donated clothing, sports equipment and the like for children in their community and we'll keep you posted as decisions are made and needs are identified.

Saturday Seminars are being scheduled. At the request of some of our new Brothers, we will be scheduling at least 3 seminars in the near future. They will be open to anyone who wishes to attend and will be scheduled from 11:00AM until noon on successive Saturdays. The subjects will be: how do Masons recognize each other; how can we talk to non Masons about Freemasonry; and how should Petitioner Interviews actually be conducted. Many of us have traveled to different areas and been examined. Sooner or later all of us meet and greet brothers in and from different localities and even different countries. New Masons can benefit from what some of us have learned. And we've all stumbled a bit over the years at what we really can say about Freemasonry to those who ask. (OVER)



Past Masters

Edelblut, R.T.	1969	Johns, E.D.	1994
Chandler, A.L. (2)	1970	Lewis, J.D. (3)	1995
Jones, A.R. (2)	1971	Williford, C.A.	1996
Hart, W.E.	1972	Gordon, T.P.	1997
Hamby, J.A.	1974	Andrews, A.H.	1998
Frieden, R.G. (3)	1975 & 1976	Flynn, B.L. Jr.	1999 & 2001
Roan, A. N.	1981	Record, J.L. (2)	2000
Williams, E.P.	1983	Summerall S.N.	2002
Swaringen, F.D.	1984	Bodenhamer, T.H. (2)	2003
Matz, M.W.	1985	Shields, R.G.	2004
Hardin, H.C.	1986	Ott, J.J. (3)	2005
Landrum, E.W.	1988	Lott, E. W.	2006
Sandahl, W.A.	1989	Parsons, Bryant G.	2007
Irvin, R.D. (2)	1990	Thrasher, Barry P	2009
Mc Conley, W.A.	1991		
Fore, G.A. (1,2)	1992		
Goodman, M.T.	1993		

1 PGLO 2 PDDGM 3 PDI

Lodge Committees

Director of Work.....	Jason J. Ott.....	872-2772
Scholarships/Blood bank... ..	Ronald G. Frieden.....	489-1698
Trestleboard/Editor.....	Ted Connally.....	332-2878
Refreshments.....	Dick Nelson.....	332-0893
Youth.....	Ben Flynn.....	275-0021
Finance/Budget.....	Randy Spradling.....	634-3267
Building/Maintenance.....	Dick Nelson.....	332-0893
Education.....	Ted Connally.....	357-1263
Petitions.....	Al Jones.....	694-5565
Sickness/Distress.....	Andrew Chandler.....	694-3755
Charity.....	Jamie Flerx.....	896-0713
Coaching.....	Jason Ott.....	872-2772
Perpetual Membership.....	Randy Spradling.....	634-3267

Officers

Worshipful Master.....	Sam Bissell.....	707-3252
Senior Warden.....	Randy Spradling.....	634-3267
Junior Warden.....	Dick Nelson.....	332-0893
Treasurer	Ted Connally.....	332-2878
Secretary	Ronald G. Frieden.....	489-1698
Chaplain.....	Terry Beard.....	936-1044
Senior Deacon.....	Jamie Flerx.....	896-0713
Junior Deacon	Steve Twomey.....	477-8177
Senior Steward	John Cavada.....	253-0619
Junior Steward.....	Patrick Joyce.....	464-4794
Marshall.....	Jason Ott	872-2772
Tyler.....	Charles Machell.....	693-3400

Events at Tropical Lodge

June Events

Jun 2	Stated Meeting — Masonic Education	6:30PM
Jun 16	Stated Meeting — Degree Work Expected	6:30PM

July Events

Jul 7	Stated Meeting — Masonic Education	6:30PM
Jul 21	Stated Meeting — Degree Work Expected	6:30PM

Check our Website Frequently

[<www.tropical56.com>](http://www.tropical56.com)

**An accurate, up-to-date calendar is maintained for all area
Masonic Events**

Special Announcements are published as necessary

Stated Meetings

1st Tuesday of each month

3rd Tuesday of each month

Officers Meet at 6:00PM the 1st Stated Meeting

Please take Note:

**The June 2 Meeting will feature discussion
of Grand Lodge Legislation passed and other
items of interest from the meeting.**

**The Educational program that evening will
feature an introduction to Grotto.**

**We are actively seeking a site for a Fall
Moonlight Degree. If you have a suggestion,
please contact any officer.**

Saturday Seminars continued. The rules are changing, and people's interests are changing. This should be an interesting discussion. The third area — how to interview a Petitioner—is of great importance to all of us. Over the years many Masons have expressed the opinion that we are “failing to guard the West Gate” and perhaps we are. In our enthusiasm to grow, to regain lost ground from attrition, the question is often asked if we have been too loose and acted too swiftly when someone expresses interest. The discussion of how to interview and investigate necessarily starts with understanding what it is we truly are looking for in a future brother. And so each of these three topics is clearly vital to our Lodge and our Fraternity. Check the website for dates and confirmation—we'll announce it at Lodge and have it posted in the announcements section on [<www.tropical56.com>](http://www.tropical56.com).

Take Shape For Life Jason Ott
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James V Flerx
Consultant

jvflerx@southernexposuremarketing.com
www.southernexposuremarketing.com

17815 Chesterfield Road
North Fort Myers, FL
33917

Phone: 239-896-0713
Fax: 888-698-2961

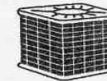
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"doing good to others"
in support of Dentistry for
the handicapped

Bry Parsons, Secretary
694-1383