



The Trestleboard



Tropical 2010

March 2010

Issue No. 2



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

Free and Accepted Masons - Chartered March 1, 1893

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

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

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

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Events at Tropical Lodge

March Events

Mar 2 6:30 Stated Meeting Mar 16 6:30 Stated Meeting Mar 20 5:00 am Master Mason Degree

April Events

Apr 6 6:30 Stated Meeting Apr 20 6:30 Stated Meeting (Degree Work Expected)

Check our Website Frequently - 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

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

March 20, 5:00am Master Mason Degree at Tropical

MARCH 2010

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 OES	2 6:30 Tropical Stated Meeting	3 6:30 Grotto	4 Tropical Degree rehearsal	5 6:00 York Rite Practice Meeting	6 OES
7	8 AASR Exec Com	9 York Rite Chapter Council	10	11 Tropical Degree rehearsal	12	AMD
14	15 OES	16 6:30 Tropical Stated Meeting	17 Consistory	18 Tropical Degree rehearsal	19	20 MM Degree
21	22	23 York Rite Commandery	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



From the East

Greetings, Brothers!

We are entering the third month of this Masonic Year and we've been REALLY busy! An EA in January (Thanks, Jason, for presiding) and a FC in February (Thanks to you, Dick). All kinds of proficiency practices nearly every Thursday evening. I know it feels brutal, but you Officers are all rising to the challenges and I'm proud to be numbered among you! We have a Master Mason coming up on Saturday morning, March 20th. I heard a rumor

of breakfast between the first and second sections. We are anticipating a good crowd of FCs to be Raised, so everyone needs to come out and participate. We are doing what we are supposed to be doing – making Masons and having fun while we're doing it! See you at Lodge, Brothers!

From the Secretary

Brethren

The 2009-2010 school year is more than half over. It is time to begin looking for candidates for the Will Jones Scholarship that is awarded each year by Tropical Lodge No.56. Students graduating from a Lee County High School with a 3.5 or higher Grade Point Average are eligible for these scholarships.

Perhaps you have an up coming High School Graduate in your family or know of someone in your neighborhood who would qualify one of the scholarships. Contact RH Ron Frieden at the Lodge office or (239) 489-1698 and we will be happy to send you an application.

This is one way we can help our youth of today and our leaders of tomorrow to kick off their education for their career in the future.

Our Cuban Twin Lodge

We receive frequent news from Logia Soles de Marti. They are as busy as we are, and although a great deal smaller in total membership, most of those members are active and involved in the work of the Lodge. We have received picture of our Brothers delivering the children's items we took to Cuba and it is a delight to see the faces. Stop by the office or talk to Brother John Cavada—the pictures, along with several hundred pictures taken by Cuban photographers of our visit are available to anyone who wants to see them.

And we now have a couple of versions of slide shows of our trip available. We have shown them at Lodge where we were joined by the Grand Master who sat with us as our honorary perpetual brother. We have shown them as well to Scottish Rite Consistory, a group of junior high school kids and Moore Haven Lodge. They have also be shown at the morning meeting of a Ft. Myers civic organization. We have been asked to present them to Punta Gorda Lodge and we will be taking them to a group of relatives and friends of our brothers in Miami. We will provide them to any group wanting to see them, and we can provide a speaker from the group of Masons who took the trip. If you know of an interested organization or Lodge, put them in touch with Brother Ted.

The March 20th MM Degree

This one is going to be a major event for us. Some of the Past Masters told us about the days in which the early morning Degree was given and we decided to try it out again. We will be Raising 5 new Master Masons on March 20, a Saturday, beginning at 5:00am. The First Section will be followed by breakfast, and yes, Brother Carlos is cooking—so you know it will be worth it.

We wanted to get this in before our Northern Brothers head home and it so happened that we will have 5 Fellowcraft ready to go. That's an event in and of itself—they are all ours. And we have a remarkable group of Entered Apprentices right behind them, as well as Petitions going thru the normal course. That's a busy Lodge again this year as it was last year.

A quick note on Lodge Use

We are a busy Lodge with a lot more Masonic Organizations hanging their Charters with us than ever before. So the Lodge is not always available and it takes some coordination. Remember, if you or an organization you belong to needs the Lodge, it MUST be scheduled with Brother Ted. And please, LEAVE THE LODGE ROOMS AND THE DINING AREA SET THE WAY YOU FOUND IT WHEN YOU LEAVE. We aren't staffed to clean it up after everyone who uses it.

2010

Jim & Ruth Goodyear, Sam Bissell, Randy Spradling, Pat & Jerry Smart,
 Peggy & Ron Frieden, Dick Nelson, Kurt Wagner, Bill White, Franceil and Earl Williams,
 Kurt Laser, Arnold Korpi, Patrick Joyce, Sam Watkins, Gordy & Linda Fore


YOUR NAME COULD BE HERE!

Contact Ron Frieden or Ted Connally

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Officers

Worshipful Master.....	Randy Spradling.....	634-3267
Senior Warden.....	Dick Nelson.....	332-0893
Junior Warden.....	Jamie Flerx.....	896-0713
Treasurer.....	Ted Connally.....	332-2878
Secretary.....	Ronald G. Frieden.....	489-1698
Chaplain.....	Terry Beard.....	936-1044
Senior Deacon.....	John Cavada.....	253-0619
Junior Deacon.....	Patrick Joyce.....	464-7494
Senior Steward.....	Travis Campbell.....	770-0932
Junior Steward.....	Mike Lewis.....	340-5602
Marshall.....	Gordy Fore.....	567-0601
Tyler.....	Charles Machell.....	693-3400

Lodge Committees

Director of Work.....	Jason J. Ott.....	872-2772
Scholarships/Bloodbank.....	Ronald G. Frieden.....	489-1698
Trestleboard/Editor.....	Ted Connally.....	332-2878
Refreshments.....	Jamie Flerx.....	896-0713
Youth.....	Ben Flynn.....	275-0021
Finance/Budget.....	Dick Nelson.....	332-0893
Building/Maintenance.....	Jamie Flerx.....	896-0713
Education.....	Jamie Flerx.....	896-0713
Petitions.....	Al Jones.....	694-5565
Sickness/Distress.....	Terry Beard.....	936-1044
Charity.....	John Cavada.....	253-0619
Coaching.....	John Cavada.....	253-0619
Perpetual Membership.....	Dick Nelson.....	332-0893

Past Masters

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

1 PGLO 2 PDDGM 3 PDI