



The Trestleboard



Tropical 2010

May 2010

Issue No. 5



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

May Events

May 4 6:30 Stated Meeting May 18 6:30 Stated Meeting (Degree Work Expected)

June Events

Jun 1 Stated Meeting Cancelled June 15 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

The first meeting in June is cancelled due to Grand Lodge. The Officers and several members are attending.

The second meeting in June will be significant not only for Degree Work but also to report on Grand Lodge legislation.

Expect a vote at any meeting in May, June or July on the purchase of a new Lodge Building.

May 2010
Check the Website for a full calendar <www.tropical56.com>

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
	OES					1 OES
2 AMD Brunch	3 OES	4 6:30 Tropical Stated Meeting	5 6:30 Grotto	6	7	8 Widows Sons
9	10 AASR Exec Com	11 York Rite Chapter Council	12	13	14	15
16	17 OES	18 6:30 Tropical Stated Meeting	19 Consistory	20	21	22
23	24	25 York Rite Commandery	26	27	28	29 Knight Masons



From the East

Greetings, Brothers!
On March 20th Tropical Lodge No. 56 Raised 5 new Master Masons at the first Dawnbreaker Communication in probably 20 years. I was privileged to preside over the conferring team.

As it was my first MM conferral as Master, it was as much a rite of passage for me as it was for them. Congratulations to the new MMs and a hearty THANK YOU to all the brothers who were involved in the event. It wouldn't have happened without all of you.

Cordial & Fraternal Regards,
E. Randolph Spradling, Worshipful Master

(And if you weren't there, you missed a spectacular breakfast by Brother Carlos!)

The 2009-2010 Will Jones Scholarships decisions are about to be finalized. This is the last notice we can give you for recommendations. If you have one, let us know now.

Building News

We have indeed found another building that we like. We don't know if we can get it, but we are going to state negotiating shortly. If we get it, it will require major work to be done before we can move in and may require work to finish it even after we move in. This will be a massive undertaking and we will need lots of help at some point soon. The actual relocation—moving everything—is part of our Agreement with Florida DOT and will be taken care of. Planning for the move, deciding on storage and space allocation and the like will be a significant task. We will keep you closely informed on that one. There will also be a detailed inventory to do so that we can come to agreement on the insured value of the items to be moved as well as the value to be determined for the insurance on the new building. That process will be very important. The move will have to be orderly and closely controlled.

There is, of course, a very specific procedure for the Lodge to purchase property. It takes an af-

firmative vote of the membership. We will give notice of the Stated Meeting at which that vote will be taken, and we will hold a couple of open house sessions with photographs, plans and details for discussion prior to the vote. We want to be sure that everyone has an opportunity to evaluate the proposal if and when it happens.

We are OK where we are for awhile, but the clock is ticking and the move is inevitable. Once again we want to emphasize that we are moving as One Masonic Family and we intend to keep it that way.

What's Happening in the East

As most of us know by now, the Worshipful Master has been forced by employment circumstances to move to West Virginia. He will be returning as frequently as he can to preside over our Meetings, and will continue to administer the affairs of the Lodge. We've been thru this a couple of times before, including last year, and we've gotten pretty good at it. Senior Warden Dick Nelson will step into the East to preside over the Lodge Meetings in the absence of the Master. RW Gordy Fore will Pro Tem the West for the balance of the year as necessary. Just as we did last year, the plan for the year as laid out by the Master will not change. We still have an aggressive agenda, a busy schedule of Work, and a lot of planning to do. These are truly exciting times for Tropical Lodge No 56.

What's Up with Cuba?

We understand that the Grand Master of Cuba has accepted the invitation of the Grand Master of Florida to attend Grand Lodge this year and we look forward to seeing him. A visit to Tropical would be a hard one to do, but if it can be done, we'll let everyone know. Our Brothers at Soles de Marti are quite busy as well. Communications with them can be a bit hard to do at times, but all is well at last contact.

We will be bringing our Cuba Committee into gear shortly to make good on the second half of our gift authorization—children's clothing. We'll let everyone know at a Lodge meeting in the near future what it is we'll need. And we may be joining the medical relief effort as well.

2010

Jim & Ruth Goodyear, 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.....	Ed McCullers.....	267-2240
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.....	Mike Lewis.....	340-5602
Junior Steward.....	Esteban Gutierrez.....	904-482-3540
Marshall.....	Gordy Fore.....	567-0601
Tyler.....	Charles Machell.....	693-3400

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.....	Ed McCullers.....	267-2240
Youth.....	Ben Flynn.....	275-0021
Finance/Budget.....	Dick Nelson.....	332-0893
Building/Maintenance.....	Ed McCullers.....	267-2240
Education.....	Ed McCullers.....	267-2240
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	Sandahl, W.A.	1989	Bodenhamer, T.H. (2)	2003
Chandler, A.L. (2)	1970	Irvin, R.D. (2)	1990	Shields, R.G.	2004
Jones, A.R. (2)	1971	Mc Conley, W.A.	1991	Ott, J.J. (3)	2005
Hart, W.E.	1972	Fore, G.A. (1,2)	1992	Lott, E. W.	2006
Frieden, R.G. (3)	1975 & 1976	Goodman, M.T.	1993	Parsons, Bryant G.	2007
Roan, A. N.	1981	Johns, E.D.	1994	Thrasher, Barry P (2)	2008
Williams, E.P.	1983	Lewis, J.D. (2,3)	1995	Bissell, Sam	2009
Swaringen, F.D.	1984	Williford, C.A. (3)	1996		
Matz, M.W.	1985	Gordon, T.P.	1997	1 PGLO 2 PDDGM 3 PDI	
Hardin, H.C.	1986	Andrews, A.H.	1998		
Landrum, E.W.	1988	Flynn, B.L. Jr.	1999 & 2001		
		Record, J.L. (2)	2000		
		Summerall S.N.	2002		