



# The Trestleboard



The Voice of Halifax Lodge 81, F & A M  
John P. Hamblett *Worshipful Master*

(386) 258-7715

135 Orange Ave. Daytona Beach, Florida  
hppt://www.halifax81.com

March 2011

## Lodge Officers

### *Worshipful Master*

John P. Hamblett (386) 265-5874

### *Senior Warden*

Sean A. Stenson (386) 304-1563

### *Jinior Warden*

George Tarrant (386) 451-2634

### *Treasurer*

R.:W.: Bill Broughton (386) 4525-7214

### *Secretary*

R.:W.: William Evans (386) 366-2298

### *Senior Deacon*

Gary Wisniewski (386) 761-9776

### *Junior Deacon*

Matt Dueueke (386) 547-7051

### *Senior Stewart*

Iran Medrano (910) 922-2085

### *Junior Stewart*

Christopher Altavilla (386) 441-3990

### *Tyler*

W.: Thomas Truhlar (386) 304-5217

### *Chaplain*

Richard Kicklighter (386) 566-0018

### *Marshal*

Robert Moore (386) 852-7238

### *Lodge Instructor*

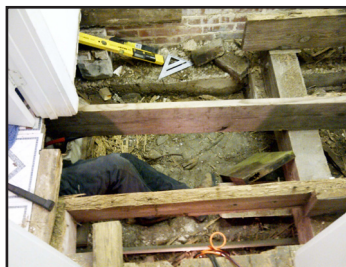
W.: James Bannerman (386) 257-3853

### *Lodge Mentor*

R.:W.: Bradley Rauch (386) 212-6584

## Worshipfull Masters Report

**G**reetings from the East. This month I wanted to give you an update on the bldg repairs. After decades of neglect, on February 13, 2011 Bro's Gary Wisniewski, Kicklighter, Moore and I undertook the project of fixing the floor in the ladies dressing room. Once Bro Gary removed the old floor he discovered that this was going to be a much bigger project that expected. The most of the floor joists were dry rotted and termite damaged beyond belief. They just crumbled when you touched them. Essentially the floor was just floating over nothing. All the floor braces had to be reinforced and a large tie had to be added in the doorway . Two sheets of plywood were added over that and the floor now is solid and looks great. This is just one of the projects that have been undertaken with your financial support to the bldg fund. I would like to extend a huge thanks to Bro's Wisniewski and Moore. With out there expertise and dedication to the lodge this project could not have been completed. Great job by all. **John Hamblett** : Worshipful Master



Before our labor



After our labor

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## Five Brothers Passed to Fellowcraft on February 17th.



Brothers Mat Vaitkunas, Ricard Carbonell, Scott Watson, Dan Reyes Duran and Ryan Glunn

## The Senior Warden Speaks



As Senior Warden I'd like to share a few words our Lodge building whispered to me.

*"Welcome Sean as my newest Senior Warden. I wish you luck in one of your new roles, that of my, the building's, committee head but must caution you about*

*a few things. One is my state of repair. It didn't happen over night and fixing me up won't happen over night either. Another is that demands will be made of you that can't and won't be attainable without collaboration and support from your fellow officers and Brothers.*

*However, remember that my birth came from collaboration and support.*

*Let your fellow Brethren know that I need their help. If need be, remind them of their obligations to help, aid, and assist. You will need help from those that help me all the time, those that help me some of the time and those that never help me. You'll need planning, physical, and financial help. You'll need like minded Brothers that are keen to long term planning, financing, and production. I've been here for years for all your Brethren, and now I, your Lodge, need their help, their dollars, their support. I need their small sacrifice of time, money, or both so I can continue to stand proudly as their Lodge for another hundred years. But be prepared Sean. Continued neglect at the hands of my Brethren seems my lot in life leading to my ultimate demise. But if everyone picks up a piece of paper here, a hammer there and or drops a little more money in the building fund I can be around for their grandchildren and not relegated to stories of 'back when.'"*

After hearing this I realized that everything from bending over to pick up something on the floor that doesn't belong there to sending your tax deductible donation to our building fund get us closer to having a majestic, rejuvenated, vibrant, proud Lodge. But I can't do it alone and lip service and quibbling doesn't get anything done. I'll be looking for new fundraising ideas, support for those that are new and or ongoing and a little sacrifice from every one of my fellow Lodge Brothers. I hope I can even count on my Brethren who don't come to Lodge anymore. Do it not for me but for the Legacy that is the Lodge building of Halifax # 81, this grand old lodge, and to its posterity.

Cordially and fraternally yours,

Sean Stenson S.W.

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## Masonic Education

### A Brief History of Masonry in America

*Edited by W.: Jim Bannerman*

Masonry played a considerable role in early American history. Many of the Founding Fathers were Masons (about 1/3 of the signers of the Declaration of Independence and a like proportion of those attending the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787 were Masons), including Franklin and Washington. The tale that a Lodge meeting was held and adjourned to organize the Boston Tea Party, however, is entirely apocryphal. It is probable that some of those who dressed as Indians and dumped tea overboard into the Boston Harbor were Masons, but the Lodge itself was not used to program the event. There are tales of British troops carefully preserving American Masonic property during the Revolutionary War and turning it over to proper Masonic authorities under a flag of truce.

Masonry in America experienced a considerable setback during the 1820's, when a period of Anti-Masonic sentiment reached such a level as to have a candidate run for President on a platform of opposition to the Lodge. During that period, many Masonic bodies turned in their charters and ceased to exist. The uproar stemmed from a fraudulent claim that Masons had executed a turncoat brother in New York for exposing the secrets of the Lodge. Like the Know-nothings and anti-Catholic fever of a few years later, the fanaticism passed from the scene, but it was some time before Masonic bodies returned to their former prominence.

During the American Civil War, Masons fought on both sides, but there are many tales of battlefield kindness rendered to a Brother found wearing a uniform of the other color, as well as stories of prisoners of war allowed to attend Lodge on parole, or Masonic funerals conducted for a fallen enemy soldier.

Masonry played an important role in the social life of a significant number of Americans throughout the later 19th and early 20th centuries. Most prominent members of society were also members of the Lodge, and often, Lodge events were the lion's share of what constituted entertainment in many small towns. Other fraternal organizations arose to compete with the Masons, such as the Grange, the Elks, the Moose, and the Odd Fellows. Masonic charity supported many through hard times, long before the invention of the social safety net in the 1930s.

Membership in the Masonic fraternity reached a peak in the late 1950s and has been declining since that time. Similar phenomena have affected other fraternal organizations, as

continued on page 3

well as business clubs, churches, and the like. There are a number of explanations advanced for this decline, such as the rise of mass forms of entertainment available in the home, the greater demands of the work and commuting environment, and so on. No one has a certain answer of how the decline may be reversed, but it seems that the prominent role that the Lodge played in the social structure of many towns and urban areas is not likely to be seen again until the overall social structure of the United States changes back to a more outward orientation. Surveys currently show that many American men are simply unaware of the existence of the Masonic fraternity but might be interested in joining an organization of its description; fifty or more years ago, there was virtually no one unaware of the nature of the Lodge.

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**On the Trestle Board**

**Awaiting the Master Mason Degree**

- Brother Ryan A. Glynn
- Brother Richard Carbonell
- Brother Daniel Reyes Duran
- Brother Matthew Vaitkunas
- Brother Scott Watson

**Awaiting the Fellowcraft Degree**

- Brother James Zimmer, Jr.

**Awaiting Balloting for the Three Degrees**

- Mr. Donald E. Needham
- Mr. Athul Radkarishnan
- Mr. Ferando Fernandez

**Halifax 81 in the Electronic Age.**

*Gary Wisniewski*

Our lodge now has it's own website it can be found at <http://www.Halifax81.com> . We currently have a wide range of information that can be found on our webpage Information such as History of our Lodge, Dozens of Masonic books that can be read on line or downloaded to your computer in PDF formats, Many Masonic Links and Pictures of our Lodges latest activities can be found there. We have an on Line Trestle Board that will keep you current about all the Lodges happenings. Our Website currently has had over 2700 hits in the past 4 months and each day it seems to be getting dozens of more Hits. We also have Links on our website for Our Lodges new Facebook Page [www.facebook/home.php#!/profile.php?id=1000010827663474](http://www.facebook/home.php#!/profile.php?id=1000010827663474) or just search us out freemasons Halifax lodge which has 1157 friends and Lodges around the world following us and it numbers are growing fast, Our new Twitter Page [www.twitter.com/halifax81](http://www.twitter.com/halifax81) has 222 Lodges and brothers following. You can also get to our Facebook and Twitter pages by hitting the Face book or Twitter logo on our website. Remember it is the Lodges Website so if there is anything that you feel that could be added to our site your comments are welcomed..

**Halifax Lodge #81 F. & A. M.**

Stated Communication 1st. Thursday  
Called Communication 3rd. Thursday  
Officers Practice 2nd. and 4th. Thursday

**March 3rd. Stated Communication**

District Deputy Visit  
Balloting  
Dinner 6:30pm Meeting 7:30pm

**March 17th. Called Communication**

Open in the Entered Apprentice Degree  
For Work and Instruction  
Dinner 6:30pm Meeting 7:30pm

**Halifax Lodge No. 81 F. & A. M.**

P.O. Box #185

Daytona Beach, FL 32115-0185

(386) 258-7715

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**Address Service Requested**

**Living Past Masters**

M.B. "Jack" Todd	1958	Patrick G. Hill	1992
Stanley T. Kypreos	1966	Richard Rademacher	1993
Guy E. Lewis	1970	William I. Evans *	1994
Jon F. Greaves	1972	Richard G. Ragsdale	1995
Louis E. Keffer	1975	Steven Timbs	1996
C. James Wilson	1976	James W. Bannerman	1998
William T. Blackwell	1977	Ed M. Halligan	1999
Harold Powell	1978	James M. Payton	2000-01
Harry G. Ison	1980	William Broughton *	2002
J. P. Yelvington	1981	Edward P. Marx	2003
Edwin L. Sanders	1982	William Broughton *	2003
P. A. Weatherford	1985	Richard M. Geyer	2004-05
T. N. Iltopoulos	1987	Melvin R. Bonner	2006
Alfred S. Tatum	1989	Stevan Petrov. Jr.	2007
Ed M. Halligan	1990	Steve Irineou	2008
Bradley L. Rauch *	1991	Thomas W. Truhlar	2009
		Dominick Tesoriere	2010

\* Denotes DDGM

**Perpetual Members**

W.: Ed Halligan, W.:Jon Greaves, W.:John L. Hamilton,  
W.:Joyd Moulton, W: .Patrick Hill, W: .Ted Iltopoulos,  
Bernard Devins, Robert Leisner, Michael Morgan,  
W: .William McCorkle, Henry Perry, Sam Oreopulos,  
William Pope, Harry Wendelstedt, C. L. Johnson, Harlan  
Baird, Richard Flatt, E. J. Halligan, Michael Toole, W:..L.  
D. Criss, R:..W:..William Broughton, Charles Carnes, J. P.  
Pontier, W:..James Payton, R:..W:..William Evans,  
W:.. Edwin Sanders, Howard Blatchford, Mark A. Dayton

**Honorary Perpetual Members**

M:..W:..Joseph Fowler, M:..W:..Wallace Dawson  
M:..W:..John Thomas, M:..W:..Samuel E. Cowan,  
M:..W:..Keith Dean, M:..W:..Louis King

**Perpetual Friends of the Lodge**

Brenda Wolpert, Jan Latford, Kimberly  
Latford, Ann B. Johnson