

Blue Hill Lodge, A.F. & A.M.

Canton, Massachusetts 02021

Lodge Phone (781) 828-0121

Dear Brother:

The 1511th Regular Communication of Blue Hill Lodge, A.F. & A.M. will be held at the Masonic Apartments, 21 Church Street, Canton, Massachusetts on:

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010

Fellowship Period

6:00 P.M. – Come and enjoy fellowship with your brothers!

6:30 P.M. – Catered Dinner \$12.00 – Reservations Required to Ralph W. Staples, *Secretary by phone* or by e-mail

7:00 P.M. – **Lodge Opens on the Fellowcraft Degree.**

FIRST SECTION OF THE FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE

Entitled to this honor

BRO. P.N.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

To conduct business that regularly comes before the Lodge, read all communications and pay all bills if approved by the finance committee.

8:00 P.M. – Receive the District Deputy Grand Master of the 7th Masonic District, R.W. Thomas A. Rorrie with a distinguished suite of Masons for the purpose of a Fraternal Visit.

VETERAN'S AWARDS

50 Yr. Medals, 25 Yr. Medals, Lewis Medal

(See enclosed flyer)

Scholarship Applications for 2010 are available!

Call your Secretary if you wish one sent to you!

YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN OR GRANDCHILDREN WHO WILL BE ENTERING COLLEGE NEXT YEAR NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE. THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MUST RECEIVE THE ORIGINAL APPLICATION WITH 4 COPIES, AT GRAND LODGE, NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2010.

7th LODGE OF INSTRUCTION
Wor. Vincent J. Dymond, *Master*
Rt. Wor. Frank R. Porter, *Secretary/Treasurer*
Wor. Gordon L. MacKay, *Sr. Warden*
Bro. Gary M. Rubin, *Jr. Warden*

**SEVENTH LODGE OF INSTRUCTION
MEETS THE FOURTH THURSDAY**
(Third Thursday in December)
at the Stoughton Masonic Apartments

Candidates Education 6:00 P.M. – Dinner 7:00 P.M.
Open Lodge of Instruction 7:45 P.M. – Close & Collation at 9:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010

Host: Rising Star Lodge

Speaker: Wor. Steven A. Cooper

Subject: York Rite

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2010

Host: J. Philip Berquist Lodge

Speaker: Rt. Wor. Paul M. Carroll

Subject: A Traveling Brother

SICKNESS & DISTRESS

Brother Dr. William E. Wymer, a 55 year veteran of Blue Hill Lodge is in the West Roxbury VA Hospital (*no visitors*), Wor. Bro. George H. Perkins is at the Hellenic Nursing Home & Rehabilitation Center in Canton (*visitors please*), and Rt. Wor. William H. Young is in the Medway Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center (*visitors please*). Please keep these members in your prayers and send cards if possible.

M.W. Roger William Pageau

Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts

R.W. Thomas A. Rorrie

District Deputy Grand Master of the 7th Masonic District

Bro. Paul A. Bishop

District Deputy Grand Marshal of the 7th Masonic District

Wor. Peter J. MacDonald

District Deputy Grand Secretary of the 7th Masonic District

MESSAGE FROM THE EAST

Have you ever noticed that oftentimes the common objects or symbols we use on a daily basis can have multiple and sometimes opposite applications or connotations depending on how we use them? A knife, for instance, we take to be a necessary and valuable tool for slicing and dicing vegetables and fruits, trimming meat, cleaning fish, or cutting cords and other materials. It is one of the oldest tools ever to be developed and used by humans, going back to a period in prehistory. In this sense, we might categorize the knife as a "good" utensil. But there is also a sinister side. That very same knife can also be used as an implement of destruction and even murder. One might then see the knife as a "bad" thing. In modern times, the automobile is used to transport us from one place to another allowing us to be able to reach parts of our world on an everyday basis that our ancestors could only have dreamed about. It can, therefore, be considered a "good" thing. But we also know that cars are one of the major contributors of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases and consequently, not so good. Such is the dual nature of everyday things we encounter in life.

The same may be said of the symbols and objects we use in Masonry. The Masonic object or symbol which comes to mind most for me is the Common Gavel or Hiram as we sometimes referred to it. Of all the symbolic items in Masonry, I believe this one has the largest number of diverse meanings or allusions for us. Outside of the Craft, it is commonly used as a hammer for pounding nails or other fasteners by the everyday handyman. Of course, we learn that the Operative Mason uses it to trim rough stones to fit them nicely into the structure of a building. But as Freemasons, we use it to remind us to trim our vices and other unseemly characteristics from our lives thereby improving ourselves in the way we treat others. We use it as an emblem to remind us of how our allegorical hero, Hiram Abif, was murdered. We take it to be a symbol of order, power, and an authority when used by the Master of a Lodge in the East, and when it is wielded by a judge in a courtroom to denote justice.

Similarly, we as Masons have many, sometimes conflicting facets in our lives. As men we can behave in a number of ways: good or bad, kind or mean, honest or deceitful to list a few examples and this is perfectly natural. But the point of becoming a Mason is not to make excuses for when we do behave poorly, but to shift the balance of these characteristics toward the positive side and away from the negative. This is exactly what makes good men better. And I believe it is the purpose of the seemingly opposite or conflicting meanings of those objects and symbols, which are such an important part of Masonry, to be constant reminders to us never to stop working toward that goal.

Take care, stay warm, and I hope to see you in Lodge this month cheering on our "youngest Entered Apprentice" as he passes to the 2nd Degree, and our fine Officers who have worked tirelessly to learn and perform the ritual so flawlessly.

Wor. John L. Ciccotelli, *Master of Blue Hill Lodge*