



Bluff City Lodge #71 A F & A M



Trestle Board

SUMMER 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL TIMES **7:00 PM**
UNLESS NOTED

SUMMER SCHEDULE

JULY 13 BUSINESS MEETING
AUG 10 BUSINESS MEETING
AUG 13 FAMILY PICNIC

SEPT SCHEDULE

SEPT 7 TBD
SEPT 14 BUSINESS MEETING
SEPT 21 TBD
SEPT 28 TBD

OCT SCHEDULE

OCT 5 WIDOWS & FAMILY
OCT 12 BUSINESS MEETING
OCT 19 TBD
OCT 26 TBD

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

JOE CARTER
LARRY POFFENBARGER

BROKEN COLUMN
NONE REPORTED

2011 Officers

Worshipful Master - Dave Brewer
Senior Warden - Matt Leet
Junior Warden - Jim Cline
Treasurer - Larry Poffenbarger
Secretary - Forrest Peck
Senior Deacon - Tarry Hempel
Junior Deacon - Bob Hamilton
Senior Steward - Ron Bailey
Junior Steward - Cary Jackson
Chaplain - Dan Brunton
Marshall - Martin Richards
Tyler - Dale Hiers

Master's Thoughts

Hello Brethren,

Now that Spring is gone and Summer is upon us I hope all are well and enjoying vacations and time with family. As you all know Bluffs City #71 has had a very busy 2011 so far. We started off the year with First-Night on New Years Eve and haven't slowed down at all. So far this year we have had our Annual Pancake breakfast, a friendship dinner, a night of education on Mentoring, a special presentation of Aprons and Lanyards to our brothers at Amber Lodge (thanks again to Larry for picking out and ordering our new Aprons), fed lunch to a group of Veterans on their way to the wall in D.C., oh and by the way we have raised 5 new Brothers and had 2 other new Brothers transfer their membership from other lodges.

On behalf of Bluffs City Lodge # 71, I would like to welcome all of our new members, Jonathan Schoening, Eric Holcomb, Jason Covert, Timothy Wagaman, Joseph Richey, Jamie Aggen, and James Fitzpatrick. Congratulations Brothers and welcome to Bluffs City. Even as busy as we have been in the first half of the year, we also have a lot of exciting things coming up for the second half of the year as well. Our Family Picnic will be August 13th, the Lodge will provide the Burgers and Dogs and everyone will bring a side dish to share. This should be a great time to have food and fellowship with all the Brothers and their families. Also coming up this year will be a Pot-Luck Dinner on September 14th for our Stated Meeting, a Widows and Family Night on October 5th, the Past Masters Night on November 16th, and an Officers and Wives Night in December. As you can see we have a lot of fun (and food) in our future. More details will be made available at a later date as we get closer to these special events. It is my hope that we will have some petitions to vote on before September so we can continue to do Degree work all the way to the end of the year. If you know someone that might be interested in getting more information about Masonry, by all means invite them to the Family Picnic and introduce them to the Brothers. We will do our best to make them feel at home (after all, who wouldn't want to join Bluffs City). Well Brethren, I have rambled on long enough, looking forward to seeing you all soon, have a Great Summer and may it be the plan of the Great Architect of the Universe that we all stay dry.

Fraternally Yours,
Dave Brewer

Two Theories of How Freemasonry Became a Fraternity

Most historians agree that Freemasonry began with actual masons, or artisans and builders who worked with stone. However, today Freemasonry is a fraternal and not a professional organization. There are two theories as to how the early history of Freemasonry allowed the organization to move from professional masonry to a fraternal order. Some historians believe that the earliest masons were those master masons who built castles and cathedrals. These masons organized lodges to discuss trade matters. Since there were no methods of certification or licensing, masons designed secret codes and signs so that other masons could identify them. This was a masons' proof that he was a mason and had achieved a certain level of proficiency at his craft. This was an important consideration, as masons traveled from location to location for work, and needed a way to prove their expertise. By the 1600s, some historians claim, masons began to accept members who were not actual stone masons. These "gentlemen masons" gradually began to outnumber actual masons until lodges became "speculative" or "free and accepted" lodges rather than lodges of practicing masons.

Other historians, however, believe that Freemasonry stems from a movement in the 1500s and 1600s to promote political and religious tolerance. In the late 1500s and early 1600s, political and religious intolerance led to conflict and civil wars, so some individuals wanted to promote greater tolerance. To this end, these individuals formed Freemasonry to create a better society, and used symbolism and allegory from the Bible (especially the stories of King Solomon's Temple) to teach their message.

BLUFF CITY'S FAMILY PICNIC WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 13TH AT HEMPLE'S PUMPKIN PATCH 12498 CHESTNUT ROAD COUNCIL BLUFFS THE LODGE WILL PROVIDE THE HAMBURGERS, HOTDOGS AND THE BUNS. BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH TO SHARE LEMONADE AND TEA WILL BE PROVIDED YOU CAN BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS (NO Alcohol please it is a family affair). WE NEED A HEAD COUNT OF WHO WILL BE ATTENDING NO LATER THAN THE BUSINESS MEETING ON THE 10TH. HOPEFULLY A GOOD TIME WILL BE HAD BY ALL



