

SMITHFIELD MASONIC LODGE No. 455 A.F. & A.M.

A Masonic Lodge chartered by The Grand Lodge of Texas on June 10, 1876



The Trestle Board

Smithfield Lodge #455



A. F. & A. M.

SMITHFIELD LODGE #455 A.F. & A.M.

8013 MAIN STREET, NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS 76180

P. O. BOX 821413, FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76182

LODGE TELEPHONE NUMBER: 817.656.2311

CONTACT THE LODGE ON TUESDAY AND THURSDAY EVENINGS BETWEEN 7 PM AND 9 PM

WEB ADDRESS: [HTTP://WWW.SMITHFIELDLODGE.COM](http://www.smithfieldlodge.com)

April 2007

Webmaster Note: Portions have been edited from the printed version in order to conform to standard webpage design practices and grammatical/spelling errors corrected.

From the East

Brethren,

We are now taking items for the Garage Sale! We will be having our Garage Sale on May 4th and 5th. I hope everyone that participated last year can do it again. That will be mandatory for Kerry Krantz (T-K). The garage sales over the last twenty years have kept the Lodge in the black with little or no donations. Let's keep this tradition working for us.



If you missed the fish fry, I am pleased to announce that all went well. The newest member of Smithfield Lodge is R.: W.: Elmer Murphy III Past Grand Master. He has been a blessing to us and all Texas Masons. Welcome to Smithfield Brother Murphy.

I want to thank everyone who has worked so hard lately. We have been even more active than usual. On March 3rd many showed up to work. Wayne Massie and his two sons replaced the back security light. Rick Montey, Ernie Runyon, Billy Campbell, and Aaron Alkek worked all day. Aaron brought a trencher and we put in the new DSL line. Aaron also installed a new faucet in the kitchen. We fixed the leak in the roof. Rick Montey has spent many days, time and money on various projects. Ernie Runyon works continually on our web sight and other administrative things. Billy Campbell needs a raise. He has been put to the test lately and he is still the best secretary in Texas. TK always shows up at the right moment and does whatever it takes. Les Egger is as faithful as always to the floor school. A lot of learning has been taking place lately. Albert Hestilow, Jim Mendenhall, and Harold Webb are doing a good job with candidates. Thank you all and many more for keeping our Lodge running so smoothly.

On March 10th we had the Golden Trowel award for Jim Mendenhall. This is the greatest award we can give a Brother. Jim has made himself an indispensable part of our Lodge. He is quite a Mason and we all have loved and enjoyed his company. Congratulations Jim!

An update on Bro. Wingate. As some of you may remember, Bro. Wingate was diagnosed with an in-operable brain tumor last year. He went to California to see a specialist there, but they were unable to help him. He is in Oklahoma now, and has been diagnosed with cancer in his liver, a kidney and his pancreas. Please keep this Brother in your prayers.

Don't forget April 28, at 10 am. We want every officer and as many members as possible to be at the Grand Masters Conference.

Fraternally,
Herb Taylor
Worshipful Master

Do you have unwanted “stuff” around the house or garage?

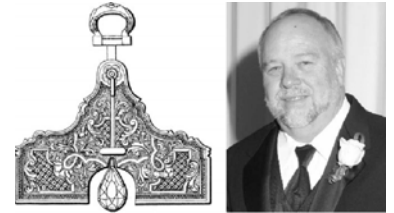
Please consider donating it to the Lodge for our annual garage/yard sale! This benefits the Lodge greatly, and keeps us out of Endowment Funds for our daily operation. We will take most anything and will also need volunteers to help out on sale days. (May 4th & 5th)

Garage Sale

From the West

Brethren,

First, as editor, let me apologize if this Trestle Board gets to you late. As some of you know, I had a bad accident at work last year, in which I still haven't fully recovered. I was still having issues with my foot and the Dr. decided to do another operation. Things were a bit worse than he thought, but he says it SHOULD get better now.



I have observed some things lately that have had me thinking about “Temperance and Fortitude.” What do these mean?

Temperance—The Freemason who properly appreciates the secrets which he has solemnly promised never to reveal, will not, by yielding to the unrestrained call of appetite, permit reason and judgment to lose their seats, and subject himself, by the indulgence in habits of excess, to discover that which should be concealed, and thus merit and receive the scorn and detestation of his Brethren. And lest any Brother should forget the danger to which he is exposed in the unguarded hours of dissipation, the virtue of *temperance* is wisely impressed upon his memory, by its reference to one of the most solemn portions of the ceremony of initiation.

Fortitude—instructs the worthy Freemason to bear the ills of life with becoming resignation, "taking up arms against a sea of trouble," but, by its intimate connection with a portion of our ceremonies, it teaches the candidate to let no dangers shake, no pains dissolve the inviolable fidelity he owes to the trusts reposed in him. Or, in the words of the old Prestonian lecture, it is "a fence or security against any attack that might be made upon him by force or otherwise, to extort from him any of our Secrets."

I hope that in our anxiety to bring in new members that we don't forget these two Cardinal Virtues. I would hate to think that I am seeing the beginning of the end of Freemasonry as it has been know for ages. These two Virtues should always be followed with the other two Virtues: Prudence and Justice.

Prudence is the true guide to human understanding, and consists in judging and determining with propriety what is to be said or done upon all our occasions, what dangers we should endeavor to avoid, and how to act in all our difficulties.

Justice is usually represented as a matron, her eyes bandaged, holding in one hand a sword and in the other a pair of scales at equipoise. But in Freemasonry the true symbol of *Justice*, as illustrated in the First Degree, is the feet firmly planted on the ground, and the body upright.

Fraternally,

Rick Montey

Senior Warden/Editor

From the South

Brethren,

Howdy from the South.

On Thursday March 15, 2007 a Brother received his Fellowcraft degree. Thank you to all the brothers that took part in and attended this memorable occasion.

The Brother is very dedicated to his work and should progress nicely through his work. We are all looking forward to him joining us at floor school. Just a reminder brethren, we have floor school every Tuesday and Thursday at 7:00pm. If it has been a while since you have visited our floor school please join us! I can assure you that it will be an enjoyable evening you won't soon forget. We have a Masters' degree coming up soon, so we will be honing our skills for that under the close supervision of our Floor School instructor Brother Les Egger.



I would like to remind everyone about the Grand Master's Official Visit Wednesday, March 28, 2007 6:30 PM at the Masonic Temple, 1100 Henderson, Fort Worth, TX.

This and lots of other upcoming events can be found on the Smithfield Lodge website calendar at www.smithfieldlodge.com. Be sure to check back often. Brother Ernie Runyon our Senior Steward also doubles as our Webmaster. He has done a spectacular job putting the website together. Many thanks to Brother Ernie for all his hard work on the website and upgrading the computer and printer.

We are accepting donations for our upcoming garage sale on May 4th and 5th. The garage sale is an important event for Smithfield Lodge. So if you have items in your garage that you are moving from one side to the other or walking around each visit to the garage, bring them by the lodge. We will be more than happy to put these items to good use. Don't forget to ask your family, friends and neighbors if they have items they would like to donate. If you have items you would like to donate and don't have a way to get them here, just contact any officer of the lodge and we will arrange a pick-up.

Fraternally,

Walter Busch

Junior Warden

The Secretary's Desk

Brethren,

This has been a very busy month for us. The fish fry, various Masonic meetings, and the loss of my oldest brother.

Several of you have heard me talk on personal heroes, my brother, Leonard "Humpy" Campbell, was certainly one of those. He was in the Lost Battalion, which was captured on the island of Java in W.W.II. He was sent to the Upper Island of Japan, where he was made to work in a coal mine, and a truck factory. He was not treated well, he was not fed well, and he did not fare well as far as his health was concerned. After he was released from the camp, he joined the Air Force where he served for over 20 years, he then joined the civil service and later retired from that. He joined the Fort Richardson Masonic Lodge in Jacksboro, Texas. I had the pleasure of awarding him his 50-year service award. He was an inspiration to me, and I will miss him.



We have several important meetings coming up, I hope we take advantage of receiving further light in these meetings, they will be very informative.

The Worshipful Master's time is running short, be sure to thank Brother Herb for the fine job as Master this year, We look forward to serving the new line up, but will miss Herb.

Several brothers are ill, and need our prayers. I will not name them, but pray for them anyway.

Fraternally Yours,

BR Campbell

Secretary

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Worshipful Master | Herbert L. Taylor | unkie-heebie@sbcglobal.net |
| Senior Warden/Editor | Rick Montey | rlmontey@smithfieldlodge.com |
| Junior Warden | Walter Busch | Walt.1@sbcglobal.net |
| Treasurer | David W. Myers, PM | dwmyers@smithfieldlodge.com |
| Secretary | Billy R. Campbell, PM | brcampbell@smithfieldlodge.com |
| Chaplain | Jim Mendenhall, PM | jtmendenhall@smithfieldlodge.com |
| Senior Deacon | Mike Byers | mmybersone@sbcglobal.net |
| Junior Deacon | K.K. Krantz | kkkrantz@smithfieldlodge.com |
| Senior Steward | Ernest Runyon | elrunyon@smithfieldlodge.com |
| Junior Steward | Aaron Alkek | amalkek@smithfieldlodge.com |
| Tiler | Mike Haygood, PM | gmhaygood@smithfieldlodge.com |

Remember the "Smithfield Masonic Lodge Permanent Endowment Fund" Your support is a continuing need. Any donation is welcome. A donation of \$100.00 or more puts your name, or the name of someone you wish to honor, on a plaque in the dining area of the Lodge. Please send your donation to Smithfield Masonic Lodge #455, A.F. & A.M., P.O. Box 821413, Fort Worth, Texas 76182

Thanks to our Trestle Board Sponsors! You could be one too!!

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Masonic Birthdays for April, 2007

The following brethren will observe their Masonic Birthdays. They were raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason during this month.

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|--------------|------------|----------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| R.D. Bates | 04/14/1988 | T.L. Taylor | 04/12/1988 | M.D. Self | 04/10/1975 |
| A.C. Evans | 04/29/1976 | C.E. Duncan | 04/25/2000 | W.C. Wagner | 04/01/1986 |
| K.M. Jordan | 04/27/1993 | S.I. Hayes | 04/12/1994 | L.W. Egger, PM | 04/16/1964 |
| J.A. Minshew | 04/28/1969 | R.T. Koonce, Jr., PM | 04/20/1974 | T.L. Hester, PM | 04/20/1974 |
| R.L. Sanders | 04/10/1986 | F.M. Brown | 04/16/1973 | R.B. Lester, PM | 04/11/1957 |

Congratulations Brethren!

Calendar of Events

| Date | Event | Location | Time |
|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 4/04/2007 | Certificate Exam | Richland Hills Lodge #1348 | 6:00PM |
| 4/05/2007 | Covered Dish Supper | Smithfield Lodge #455 | 6:30PM |
| 4/05/2007 | Stated Meeting | Smithfield Lodge #455 | 7:30PM |
| 4/11/2007 | Masonic Service Bureau | Grapevine Lodge #288 | 6:00PM |
| 4/16/2007 | Masonic Education Workshop | Fort Worth Lodge #942 | 6:30PM |
| 4/21/2007 | Open Forum and Certificate Exam | Haltom City-Riverside Lodge #1331 | 6:00PM |
| 4/28/2007 | Grand Master's Regional Conference | Ft. Worth Temple Ballroom | 10:00AM |