



The Trestle Board

Smithfield Lodge #455 A.F.&A.M.

8013 MAIN STREET, NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS

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

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

December 2007

From the East



Brethren,

I hope that everyone had a great Thanksgiving! I would like to take this time to thank all the members that helped me get through the first half of my term; guys, I truly could not have done it without you.

The Lodge had a successful Past Master's Banquet, but I was a little sad to have only 4 of our past masters in attendance. We still had a nice dinner and an even better program with a nice talk from Bro. Ric Jernigan who is making himself available for the Grand South during this years Communication. I wish him luck.

Look for the Sweetheart Banquet coming up in February, as is tradition,

the men will be serving their ladies! members.

Speaking of the Grand Communication, it will be here shortly as will the 64 District's annual breakfast. I look forward to the breakfast each year and meeting the incoming District Deputies. If you can make it, it will be worth it to go. There are many things to be voted on this year, as Right Worshipful Donny Broughton has some innovative ideas to get and keep members interested, so it should be an interesting few days. I have really enjoyed Right Worshipful Broughton this year, and wish him well in his endeavors after he leaves office.

By the time you read this, the Lodge will have participated in N. Richland Hills "Night of Holiday Magic". We weren't able to get a booth this year, but did volunteer to help out wherever we could be used. We are hoping to work in the "Welcome Tent" to meet everyone attending, and to show the community that we are here and hopefully attract some new

The Lodge will be dark from December 21st until stated meeting on January 3rd. I hope that everyone will have a great Christmas and a safe New Years. May the Great Architect of the Universe protect you and yours in the coming year.

Fraternally,
Rick Montey
Worshipful Master



Email: rmontey@smithfieldlodge.com

Merry Christmas

From:
All of Us at

Smithfield Lodge #455





Don't forget
Grand Lodge Communication 2007
December 6th, 7th, & 8th



From the West



Brethren,

Seasons Greetings and Ho-Ho-Ho from the West. Wow! where has the calendar year gone? By now we have all recovered from eating plenty of turkey, ham, and all the fixings, and don't forget the pumpkin pie. The Christmas season is upon us once again and the weather to go with it.

So don't forget to cover those outside water spigots, bring in the plants and it's a great time to change the return air filter too. We all get tied up in the shopping, celebrations and decorations, as it is so easy to do. I for one help out the power company very much each year with the complete yard and house illumination. There is one thing I will do this year and I hope that some of you that read this will join in also. We all know someone who we talk about visiting this

time of year who could use a little extra lift in there spirits. So lets get out there and "Get R Done" (to borrow a few well known words). If you can't think of anyone, then talk to the brothers at the lodge. I'm sure someone will be more then happy to bring you with them on the visits. Visiting in person is great but a phone call is an optional way of reaching people that may not be in your area. You will be amazed at how much it brightens their day.

The petitions are still coming in on a regular basis. This is greatness! It's almost like as soon as we have a new Master Mason we have a petition come through the door. We are definitely grateful for all of the men who are interested in Masonry and make their way to our door. The parking lot is full every Tuesday and Thursday for floor school as well as for questions and answers. I usually arrive for floor school just before starting time and most of the time find the last spot. Although it's not up close it

makes me feel wonderful seeing the parking lot full. We continue to hone our skills during floor school under the watchful eyes and ears of Brother Les. I'm not sure who enjoys it more, Les or his students? We have a few brothers who are practicing the lectures but we can always use a few more. If you're interested in learning the lectures or any other part of the floor school just come out on Tuesday or Thursday. We always have room for one more.

Fraternally,
Walter Busch
 Senior Warden



Email: Walt.1@sbcglobal.net

From the South



Brethren,

You never know when you are going to run into another Mason. One of the vendors that I do business with was picking up parts at the same place I was. After the gentleman came out and was looking at the parts, he noticed my Masonic sticker on the tail light and asked if I was a brother. Yes sir, I am, and very proud to be one. After some small talk we went inside and visited with other brothers that I found out also worked there. It was apparent they too are very proud. Except the owners son, who seemed very confused and angry at

some of them and I tried to explain to him ...you can't judge a book by its cover because it is the internal and not the external that makes a man. So we will see if there is a change when he comes back from the Marine Corp that he currently joined.

On another note, we are trying to come up with different ideas on how we as Masons can get noticed. If you have any ideas or would like to help, let us know so we can share with the lodge. We are going to step out of our comfort zone and do things different. The first thing that comes to mind is we are going to help out with volunteering at the North Richland Hills Holiday Magic evening. The city contact that I have is telling me there are about 17,000 people that will come to

that event and I'm figuring this will be an awesome start. So with that in mind, let us all make sure we have a safe, and yes I am going to say it with pleasure, "**Merry Christmas.**"

Fraternally,
Mike Byers
 Junior Warden



Email: mmbyersone@sbcglobal.net

The Secretary's Desk



Brethren,

Another year has come and gone, and the Lodge has seen it's biggest boom in membership in recent years.

I am looking forward to the Grand Lodge Communication in December, and especially the annual 64th District Breakfast. This is when we announce the incoming District Deputy Grand Masters and if tradition holds, whoever is picked for our district,

will make his official visit at our January Stated Meeting. I look forward to meeting and working with the new District Deputy.

We recently were honored to present the 50 year award to Brother Tracey Hancock! What an honor it was to present this special award.

Brethren I always hate to bring this up, but it is an important part of keeping the Lodge going. Membership dues are due by December 31st. If you haven't sent those in yet, please do so soon.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Fraternally Yours,
BR Campbell
Secretary**



Email: brcampbell@smithfielddodge.com

The Tarrant County Ambassador's Club

The Tarrant County Ambassador's Club is open to all Tarrant County Master Masons. The Tarrant County Ambassador's Club organization has no dues, however, a badge is being designed and will be made available to the members at a small cost.

The Tarrant County Ambassador's Club was created in July 2005. The purpose in organizing such a club is to visit other lodges outside the 64th Masonic District to spread the cement of Brotherly Love and Affection. It is the Brotherhood that creates excitement and regenerates enthusiasm in our Fraternity. If 50 to 75 people showed up to your stated meeting the

members would be talking about it for the next several years. What a wonderful way of communicating to Lodges outside of the 64th District that we care about their lodge and about our fraternity as a whole.

Some of the guidelines are as follows:

- Plan on just attending the stated meeting and not to eat. 50 to 75 extra people can put some lodges in a bind.
- We will meet at one central location and travel in caravan to the Lodge.
- Plan on having a great time visiting new lodges while meeting new brethren.
- Remember that you are an ambassador of good will from Tarrant County, and invite

the brethren to visit your lodge.

Visits are not limited to just Stated Meetings, but other significant Masonic events (outdoor degrees, Golden Trowel Awards, etc...) outside Tarrant County. There is a lot of Pride in Tarrant County Masonry that promotes goodwill within itself, and it is exciting to show off that Pride to other districts.

To join, call Gary Alexander or David Keefer at (982) 556-0870 or send an email to sbaugh1@sbcglobal.net

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Junior Steward

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Tiler

Jim Mendenhall

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 building. 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

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Masonic Birthdays for December, 2007

The following Brethren will observe their Masonic Birthdays this month:

J.W. Allen, PM	12-10-57	D.R. Davis	12-19-72
S.I. Aarnos	12-13-84	M.R. Shepherd III	12-20-80
W.C. Stark	12-18-56	B.A. Tyre APM	12-18-01

Congratulations Brethren

Calendar of Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Times</u>
Dec 6-8	Grand Lodge Communication	Grand Lodge of Texas-Waco	
Dec 6	Covered Dish Supper	Smithfield Lodge #455	6:30pm
Dec 6	Stated Meeting	Smithfield Lodge #455	7:30pm
Dec 23 - Jan 2		Lodge is Dark	