

The Trestle Board



Messalonskee Lodge #113

Oakland, Maine

www.messalonskeelodge.org

Phone 207-465-2021

Wor. Brett Hoskins, Master

Meetings on the Third Tuesday at 7:30 PM

Fall Edition 2012

FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

Last spring we were very busy at the Lodge with MeCHIPs programs and a "Bike for Books" program. On May 5 we put on a MeCHIPs program at Messalonskee Middle School in conjunction with the Kiwanis "Children's Health and Fitness Fair". We processed 58 children through the program that day. On May 18 we held our first "Bikes for Books" program at the Atwood Elementary School. This program is designed to promote reading among the younger children. Shawn Gibson was the Chairman of this very successful event at which a girls and a boys bike was presented to students in each of the four grades at the school. The children read many hundreds of books and for each book they got to put their name in for the drawing of the bikes. The MeCHIPs programs continued into the summer with a program at the "Taste of Greater Waterville" on August 1 with 46 children being processed and a program at the "China Community Days" with 40 children being processed through the program.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Brethren,

We still have some members that have not paid their \$43.00 annual dues for 2012 yet. We would appreciate getting the dues paid as soon as you are able to. If you are having problems and are not able to pay the dues please contact me at 314-6676.

Dana W. Wrigley, Secretary
453 Fairfield Street
Oakland, ME 04963

BIKES FOR BOOKS

On the morning of May 18th, Wor. Linwood Hall, Wor. Kenneth Libby, RW Peter Davis Couture, Gerald Grams, Shawn Gibson and Wor. Dana Wrigley gathered at the Atwood School gymnasium for the purpose of presenting bikes to students on our first annual "Bikes for Books" program. The Bikes for Books program, starts from the end of February vacation until the end of April. Every student who reads a book gets one chance to win a bicycle. These new bicycles were presented to one girl and one boy in each of the four classes. A total of 8 bikes were presented to the students. In addition, one bike, with unknown heritage and suspicious safety was presented to the Principal of Atwood School in recognition of her help in this program. Shawn Gibson is Chairman of the Bikes for Books program which was well received. He hopes to add 2 more grades next year.

SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

This is the first year of the Merton Leach Scholarship. The \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating high school student, who has Masonic ties to Messalonskee Lodge #113, and will be going to a college this fall. There are 3 applicants this year. The winner will be announced soon.

PARAPROSDOKIANS

Figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected; frequently humorous, for example:

"Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak"

"I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you."

TIDBITS OF TRIVIA

From *To Light* by Larry Jacobson, *The Nebraska Mason*, Spring 2012

Montana's first livestock brand was the Square and Compasses and is still in use. It was registered by **Poindexter & Co.** of Beaverhead County, MT in 1873.

Between 1890 (when it became a state) and 1951, every Governor of Wyoming, except one, was a Mason. The one, Mrs. William A. Ross, was the wife of a Mason and a member of Eastern Star.

Thomas Jacob Shryock served as Grand Master of Mason in Maryland for 32 years. He died after being elected to serve his 33rd Term.

Operative Lodge #140 in Aberdeen Scotland is unusual in that it is only open to operative stonemasons.

The letters of the English word GOD are the first three letters of the Hebrew words for Beauty, Strength and wisdom. G in Gomez, O in Oz and D in Dunbar.

The Rev. William Dodd, first Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of England, was hanged for forgery on June 2nd, 1777.

In *Hammer v. State*, 173 Indiana, 199 (1909), the Supreme Court ruled that it was a criminal offense to wear the emblem of any society or organization of which one is not a member. The court based its decision on the fact that the membership in such societies is the result of fitness and selection and that wearing of such emblems by non-members is a deceit and false pretense.

July 23, 1751, Ferdinand VI of Spain issued an edict against Freemasonry. Father Jose Torrubia secured a special dispensation from the Pope, joined a lodge, secured the names of its members and proceeded to have them arrested. Hundreds were arrested, persecuted and imprisoned.

INTEGRITY

I don't know if any of the individuals involved in the following article were Masons but I would like to think so.

Pulling into my service station 45 minutes late one morning, I shouted to the customers, "I'll turn the pumps on right away!" What I didn't know was that the night crew had left them on all night. By the time I got to the office, most of the cars had

filled up and driven off. Only one customer stayed to pay. My heart sank. Then the customer pulled a wad of cash from his pocket and handed it to me. 'We kept passing the money to the last guy,' He said. We figured you'd show up sooner or Later."

Masonic Home Journal, July 2012

JAMES BOWIE

James Bowie was born in Tennessee in 1795 but his family moved out of the U.S. and into the French province of Louisiana in 1802. He became a Linguist - English from his well-educated mother and Spanish and French from the people he associated with. He still had the skills of a frontier person but was also well-grounded in the social amenities of the city when he decided to move to Texas settling in San Antonio in 1828. He became a legend with his knife but he learned that to be able to make a living in Texas he had to embrace Catholicism and become a Mexican citizen. That he did and soon married the daughter of the governor of Coahuila & Texas. Two years later he lost his wife and two children to cholera and sided with the Texans being commissioned a colonel in the Texas Volunteers. His first assignment was to inspect the Alamo to determine if it could be held and, if not to destroy it. He collapsed with a fever and was bedridden when Santa Anna Attacked. According to the Bexar County Probate Court Records, dated July 25, 1838, a "well-worn Masonic Apron" was found his effects when his estate was probated. *Philatelic Freemason, July August 201.*

INSPIRATION

"Whenever you are to do a thing, though it can never be known but to yourself, ask yourself how you would act were all the world watching, and act accordingly" *Thomas Jefferson*

FROM THE EDITOR

My sincere thanks to Wor. Brother Blaine Ellis for his continuing efforts in producing the articles & pictures he sends for each edition of the Trestleboard. Without them I would be hard pressed to produce the interesting newsletters that I know you expect.

Fraternally, RW Peter Davis Couture, Editor