

# The Trestle Board



**Messalonskee Lodge #113**

**Oakland, Maine**

[www.messalonskeelodge.org](http://www.messalonskeelodge.org)

**Wor. Richard K. Penney, Master**

**Meetings on the Third Tuesday at 7:30 PM**

## From the East

### May Message

Brethren;

Wow! Spring is here and none to soon," its like a breath of fresh air". Even with a tough winter we had a fair number of our Masonic Brethren that were faithfully turning out for our Stated Meetings at Blue Lodge as well as the other bodies here at Messalonskee Lodge.

We are planning a M.M. degree to be conferred on May 19th on Brother Paul Silverman. A 6:30pm potluck supper is scheduled also. By the time this news letter goes out we will have held an E.A. school of instruction accompanied by a potluck supper.

On May 2nd we are working a Chips program at the new Oakland Junior High for the Kiwanis Club so you can see we are keeping very busy. We are hoping that we can fit in a couple of more events at the Lodge before our summer break.

Brethren I encourage those of you that haven't been to Masonic Lodge lately to come back and join us for supper and a degree. Please give it some thought. Enjoy the warm weather and visit those that you know who are housebound.

### June Update:

On May 18th Paul Silverman was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason at our annual inspection. Wor Blaine Ellis was presented with his 50 Year service pin. A Chips program was held at the Oakland Public Library. On our June 16th stated, There will be a recognition night starting at 5:30 pm for Dwight Lemuel Taylor. He is now 99 yrs old

Fraternally,

**Wor. Richard K. Penney, Master**

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## My visit to a Masonic Lodge in Tennessee

Wor. Blaine A. Ellis



During the many years that I have been a Mason I've had the opportunity to visit many of the lodges in our district here in Central Maine. While visiting relatives in Jasper, Tennessee this year I was introduced to Brother Paul West, Secretary of Olive Branch Lodge #297, F. & A. M. He provided me with a history of the lodge that he had written and he gave me a tour of the building. After hearing rumors that the famous Sam Houston had once spent the night in the building I was curious to know more about this lodge building and it's history. During our many visits with relatives in Jasper over the years I had never had the opportunity to attend a lodge meeting there.

On Oct. 7, 1824 Olive Branch Lodge #53, F. & A. M. was established in Jasper, Tn., just 11 years after the State Grand Lodge was organized. Among the 38 charter members was Chief John Ross of the Cherokee Nation. Chief Ross, 1/8<sup>th</sup> Cherokee demitted from the lodge in 1827 as a Master Mason in good standing. At that time the Cherokee Nation was forced to relocate to Oklahoma in the Trail of Tears March. He took his

demit papers with him along with important papers of the Cherokee Nation.

Construction of the current lodge building was started in 1855 and was not completed until after the Civil War in 1867. The building was constructed by a slave named Alfred White who was a skilled brick layer and carpenter. Alfred White, bought his freedom and that of his family with his labor for constructing this building and two houses near by. After Alfred White became free he apparently found it difficult to provide for his family and in 1862 signed a bill of sale giving himself and his family to a man named William S. Griffith.

The unfinished building during the Civil War was slated to become a school, it was used as a hospital by both sides at various times. The brick walls were inscribed with names and writings of soldiers from both the North and South. The Sam Houston Academy ceased to be a school in 1922 and the Masonic Lodge purchased the building in 1931 for \$1000.00. At times this building was used as a school, a Civil War hospital, a court house and finally a Masonic Lodge.

### Ellis, Hoskins and Milligan Receive Service Pins

At our May stated meeting/annual inspection, Wor. Blaine Ellis was presented with his 50 year service medal by RW Fred Milligan, DDGM . He made a short speech to the brethren about his time in Messalonskee Lodge. Also Fred Milligan received his 25 year service pin from Wor. Richard Penney and talked about how quickly the time had passed. Wor. Brett Hoskins was presented a 25 year service pin by both RW Fred Milligan and Wor. Richard Penney. Wor. Brett talked about his time with Messalonskee Lodge and Master of Negumkeag Lodge in Vassalboro

I was unable to locate a picture of Wor. Brett receiving his service pin at this time.



### BIRTHDAYS

Kevin Douglas Rhein	5/7/1956
Emmons M. Pinkham	5/8/1933
Kevin Gordon Davidson	5/12/1967
John D. Kerr	5/14/1935
William Arthur Trafton	5/14/1941
David Alan Witham	5/16/1950
Courtney Sheffield Blood	5/18/1949
John Hobart Pierce	5/21/1929
Arthur W. Greeley	5/23/1925
Robert Harold Reed	5/23/1926
Horace M. Pullen	5/24/1930
Michael Norman McKenney	5/24/1957
Paul Charles Adams	5/27/1941
Theodore Stein Anderson	6/1/1926
Joseph Edward Bolduc	6/11/1957
Donald L. Sabins	6/13/1933
Terrence Gerrish Hughes	6/18/1942
Frederick Lynn Stevens	6/2/1941
Richard Grant Catteau	6/20/1931
James D. McMullen	6/20/1946
Paul David Booker	6/20/1965
Wallace L. Sheive	6/30/1931
Wayne Edward Weeks	6/5/1936
Roger Paul Bard	6/5/1944
Edward J. King	6/6/1923
Charles Rafford Bridges	6/9/1944

### Happy Birthday to all of You

From All of Us  
Dave.

### From the Secretary

Would all of you that have an email address please forward it to me so we can send future Trestle Boards to you by email. We we are now sending the Trestle Boards by First Class Mail which is a great expense.

Wor. Dana W. Wrigley, Secretary  
207-465-3830

My new email is: [dwwrig@myfairpoint.net](mailto:dwwrig@myfairpoint.net)

