

# PACIFIC MASONIC LODGE # 325, A.F.M.



## THE TRESTLEBOARD

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1      JANUARY, 2009



### IT'S NEVER TOO LATE

This newsletter will be distributed via e-mail PRIOR to the start of 2009. I'm doing this in hopes of getting one or two more donors for our first Masonic Blood Drive on Jan. 2 from 9:00 - 2:00.

Come on out and support us as we help out community during a time of need.

And this is the start. We hope to make this an annual event. Is it too late for you to take a few minutes out of your day to be a major part of this worthy event? NO.

Speaking of time, I urge you to check your Dues Cards and make sure you have your 2009 card. I would also urge you to consider the Perpetual Life

Membership Program that has been adopted into the by-laws of the Lodge.

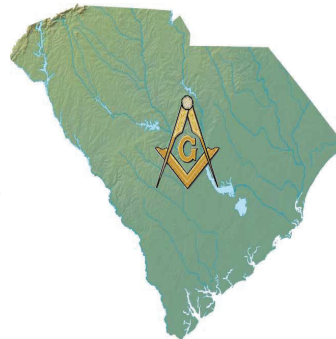
Imagine never having to pay dues again. Never being hounded by the Secretary or W. Bro. Doyle!

It's never too late and we are at the start of a new year. Our incoming Master has some great ideas, including a "Rusty Nail Degree" that we have been talking about for ages. This is for Brothers who may not feel comfortable in coming to the Lodge, thinking they may be rusty in the work. We aim to fix that.

We are blessed to have such an active Lodge. Looking forward to another GREAT year, I remain, S&F, Bosie

All Brothers are welcome. Please be prepared to show a valid dues card or have a Brother vouch for you. This is not done to embarrass anyone, but rather to ensure that all who pass are duly qualified....

### Under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge A.F.M. of South Carolina.



### HAPPY NEW YEAR - ANOTHER BUSY ONE

What a way to get off on the start of a new year! We initiated FOUR candidates in December and raised 2 more. We would have had one more on the EA degree, but his daughter got ill and his wife was out of town. This leads me to remind you that your zeal for the

Institution is not to come before your family obligations or your usual vocation be they what they may.

There is an old saying of "Families First." Nothing could be more true. We are facing difficult financial times in our country. I pray

that you and yours will be able to weather these times. May the Great Architect of the Universe bless and keep you and yours in the coming year. May you be blessed with peace and prosperity. Wishing you safe travels, Bro. Bosie

### OFFICERS FOR 2009

- *Brian Gambrell, W.M.*
- *David Dowden, S.W.*
- *Vardie Corley, J.W.*
- *Jim Jaco, Treas.*
- *Bosie Martin, P.M. Sec.*
- *Bill Yandle, S.D.*
- *Jan Barkan, J.D.*
- *Wayne Whitworth, Stew.*
- *Lindsay Bacon, Stew.*
- *James Glyn Smith, Chap.*
- *Michael Hershberger, Tyler*

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Ed Strickland, P.M.

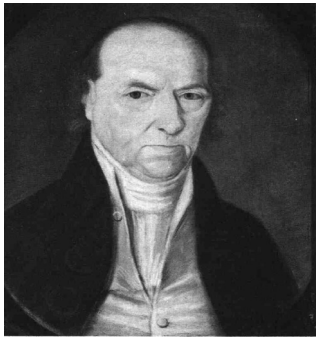
## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - W. BRO. ED STRICKLAND

I don't believe I have mentioned W. Bro. Ed Strickland in this spotlight. W. Bro. Ed was Master the year I first visited Pacific. He was in the east when this guy from Scotland came over and presented him with a "travelling gavel"

and other items. That "guy" was W. Bro. Steve Wilson, PM of Lodge St. John Muthill # 192 on the Roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. I don't know if Bro. Ed really knew what to think, but he made Steve and me feel so

very welcome at Pacific. W. Bro. Ed manages our Charity Fund and does a great job. He is married to Dorothy who keeps him out of trouble I'll have more on him in a future edition. Thanks W. Bro. Ed, for all you do!

## FAMOUS MASONS: M.W. BRO. JOHN BLAIR, JR.



John Blair, Jr. (October 1731–August 31, 1800) was an American politician, Founding Father, and Patriot.

**Associate Justice Supreme Court of the United States**

**In office:** February 2, 1790 – October 25, 1795

**Past Grand Master of Masons in Virginia - 1778**

John Blair was one of the best-trained jurists of his day. A famous legal scholar, he avoided the tumult of state politics, preferring to work behind the scenes. But he was devoted to the idea of a permanent union of the newly independent states and loyally supported fellow Virginians James Madison and George Washington at the Constitutional Convention. His greatest contribution as a Founding Father came not in Philadelphia, but later as a judge on the Virginia court of appeals and on the U.S. Supreme Court, where he influenced the interpretation of the Constitution in a number of important decisions. Contemporaries praised Blair for such personal strengths as gentleness and benevolence, and for his ability to penetrate imme-

diately to the heart of a legal question.

Blair opposed Patrick Henry's extremist resolutions in protest of the Stamp Act, but the dissolution of the House of Burgesses by Parliament profoundly altered his views. In response to a series of Parliamentary taxes on the colonies, Blair joined George Washington and others in 1770 and again in 1774 to draft non-importation agreements which pledged their supporters to cease importing British goods until the taxes were repealed. In the latter year he reacted to Parliament's passage of the Intolerable Acts by joining those calling for a Continental Congress and pledging support for the people of Boston who were suffering economic hardship because of Parliament's

actions.

When the Revolution began, Blair became deeply involved in the government of his state. He served as a member of the convention that drew up Virginia's constitution (1776) and held a number of important committee positions, including a seat on the Committee of 28 that framed Virginia's Declaration of Rights and plan of government. He served on the Privy Council, Governor Patrick Henry's major advisory group (1776-78). The legislature elected him to a judgeship in the general court in 1778 and soon thereafter to the post of chief justice. He was named Grand Master of Freemasons in Virginia under the newly organized Grand Lodge of Virginia in 1778.

© Wikipedia

## MASONIC EDUCATION: HAIL OR HALE



This word is used among Freemasons with two very different significations. (1) When addressed as an inquiry to a visiting Brother it has the same import as that in which it is used under like circumstances by mariners. Thus:

"Whence do you hail?" that is, "Of what Lodge are you a member?" Used in this sense, it comes from the Saxon term of salutation *hael*, and should be spelled *hail*. (2) Its second use is confined to what Freemasons understand by the *tie*,

and in this sense it signifies to *conceal*, being derived from the Saxon word *helan*, to *hide*, the *e* being pronounced in Anglo-Saxon as *a* in the word *fate*. By the rules of etymology, it should be written *hale*, but is usually spelled *hele*. © Phoenixmasonry.org

## WORSHIPFUL BRO. BRIAN GAMBRELL, ESQ.

My Brothers and friends, we are fortunate to have our in-house counsel, Bro. Brian C. Gambrell serve this coming year as Master of Pacific. He takes the helm at a critical time in the history of our country as well as our Lodge. Bro. Brian will see the transition of Forest Acres Lodge as they consolidate with us. He will lead us during the most difficult financial times our country has seen in the last 50 years. We have also seen

some changes in adjacent jurisdictions (North Carolina) that, while these will be addressed by the Grand Lodge, we cannot help from recognizing the importance of them. We, as masons, will have the final say so in all such matters, for we ARE Grand Lodge.

I trust that W. Bro. Brian will lead us in a very positive direction, closely abiding by the Constitution and Edicts of the Grand Lodge. He will

use his legal background to help us in decisions we will be making regarding property we will gain as a result of the merger of Forest Acres.

Worshipful Bro. Brian will lead as well as follow. He will follow the direction and will of the Lodge in accordance with Masonic tradition. Look well to the East, and welcome our new Master. Make a pledge to assist him whenever possible. God Bless and God Speed!



## DISTRICT INSTRUCTIONAL MEETING—JAN. 23

A reminder to ALL officers of the 10th Masonic District that the annual District Instructional Meeting will be held January 13 at the Scottish Rite on Garner's Ferry Road. Officers are required to attend, but ALL Master Masons in good standing are welcome to join for an evening of enlightenment.

Groups will be broken up by

office. If you are interested in the duties of the various officers, or if you are inclined to offer yourself in the future for a chair, this is a great opportunity to get to know what is required and expected of the officers within the Lodge.

There are not many guarantees in life, but I can promise you, that if you attend, you WILL learn something about

the Craft. These sessions are interesting and informative and will probably not last more than an hour.

Square and Compass will meet at 6:00 to install officers. We will eat at 6:30 and the Instructional will begin at 7:00. Come on out and join in the fellowship and education. It's always good to learn something new!



R.W. Edward Neeley, DDGM of the 10th Dist. Will lead us.

## WELCOME TO OUR BROTHERS FROM # 410

It is official. Pursuant to approval by the Grand Master, Pacific Lodge has now consolidated with Forest Acres Lodge # 410. We want to take this opportunity to welcome our newest members and let you know if you need anything at all, just ask.

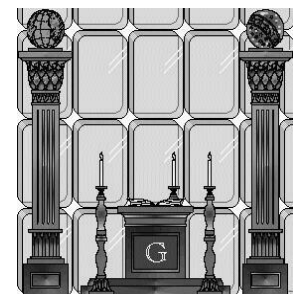
Now, when I say "newest" members, I should perhaps

elaborate as we are gaining on our rolls two (2) PAST GRAND MASTERS. M.W. Bro. Tommie Brant grew up a "lint head" as he so proudly calls it, just around the corner in the Granby Community.

M.W. Bro. Ron Mitchum grew up in Charleston, but has lived in Columbia long enough to where we can un-

derstand what he says. Seriously, these two Brothers, in addition to ALL the Brethren, will be a welcomed addition at Pacific.

As we have said, we don't like to see a lodge fall by the wayside, but this will STILL be Forest Acres Lodge, just known by a slightly different name, PACIFIC.



ON THE WEB  
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WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.PACIFIC325.ORG

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BOSIE MARTIN, P.M.,  
SECRETARY & WEBMASTER

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MASONS IN ACTION

MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

### SETTING THE WORK

January 2 - First Annual Masonic Blood Drive

January 6 - Regular Communication

January 13 - Entered Apprentice Degree

January 20 - Fellow Craft Degree \*

January 23 - Square and Compass Club of the Midlands followed by  
District Instructional Meeting—Scottish Rite, Garners Ferry Rd.

February 3 - Regular Communication

JOIN US FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP!

Any questions, please call

W. Bro. Bosie Martin, Secretary at 803-960-9136

or

Bro. Brian Gambrell, W.M. at 803-920-8131

(\* ) Denotes tentative Special Communication

ALL SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS DEPEND ON THE BALLOT BOX AND  
THE CANDIDATES...

We eat at 6:45 and Meet at 7:30

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## AIM HIGH AND REMAIN RESOLUTE

As the new year arrives, we tend to make resolutions to improve or better our lives. I encourage each of you to not only to make your "New Year's Resolutions", but I charge you to keep them.

Our incoming Master has some very good ideas he will put forth before the Lodge. These are lofty goals, but I admire them and I know he will remain strong in trying to get his goals accomplished. Now, in order for you to find out what those goals are, you will have to come to our Regular Communication.

We will not only welcome our new Brothers from For-

est Acres # 410, but will also be honored with a visit from our Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Barry Rickman. I hope you will come out and see us. Come enjoy the good food, companionship and meet our "newest" members.

One of my goals for the year is to be more active in our community. While we already offer flu-shots to the elderly in the area, I pray that our blood drive on Jan. 2 will be a success. If you can think of **anything** we can do to improve or better our community, or simply touch the life of some needing soul, please let the Mas-

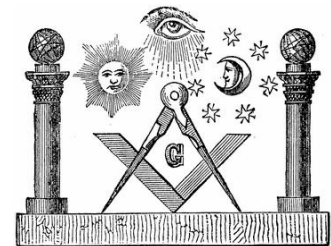
ter know. We need to show the world that we are here to make a difference. We are working to make the world a better place to live. We can't do this alone. **We need YOUR help.** We need your ideas. We need your support.

So while you are thinking of what your resolutions are for the coming year, I ask you to think of what you can offer the Lodge to make our community, our state, our nation and yes, our world a better place. Keep your goals high and remain resolute in making those goals a reality!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO  
ALL! Bro. Bosie



Support YOUR Lodge



MASONS IN ACTION

**BROTHER JAN BARKAN BRINGS US**

This which comes from the book written in 1939 by our Late Brother C.C. Hunt of the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

<p>"Of the Masonic cable tow which can never be broken, consider the following by Brother W. A. Spalding of Los Angeles:</p>	<p>"For who shall count in units Of foot, or yard or mile, The length of a hearty handshake, The breadth of a cheery smile;</p>	<p>"And sickness and death are the portion That fate allots to all - Our brother is sitting in sackcloth, And his face is to the wall.</p>
<p>"How long is your cable-tow, brother? Does it span across the street? Can it stretch the length of a hand-throw, or perhaps a thousand feet?</p>	<p>"Or estimate the distance A human heart may go, When a brother reaches a brother With the length of his cable-tow?</p>	<p>"Ah, then is the time propitious - Occasion waits sublime - For the cable reaches farther Than at any other time.</p>
<p>"Is there any definite measure That cold mathematics may teach To give the scope of your cable, And limit its ultimate reach?</p>	<p>"Every one has his troubles; Reverses and sorrows must come; And the hour of sorest trial Is when they are striking home;</p>	<p>"For the pull is very little, And it giveth strength to the strong. How long is your cable-tow, brother? How long - how long?"</p>

**ANOTHER CONTRIBUTION DISCOVERED BY BROTHER DAVID NEWMAN**

**FREEMASONS AND FREEMASONRY**

Extract of an address by James A. Henderson  
Lansdowne, Ontario. June 1878.

Our duties as Masons are reverence and obedience to the Most High, brotherly love, charity and truth to our fellow men. On these grand principles has our Order been reared up and limited to no sect, rank, or nationality. Masonry from its inherent goodness has become diffused over the world, and endeavors, as far as human aid can detect, to promote peace in raising the structure of moral duties, in promoting good feeling toward man, in inculcating courtesy to all, in refraining from allowing difference of opinion to disturb good feeling, in softening the roughness of temper, and in flinging a certain ray of sunset over the evening of life, when clouds gather around and storms threaten to ruffle it.

We wish it to be understood that we do not, as Masons, arrogate to ourselves the character of being better than other men. There are thousands who have not joined our fraternity who are as good and true as any of us, but we believe the true practice of

Masonry has a natural tendency to refine and improve the hearts of all those who truly follow its precepts; that it wakens in our minds feelings of brotherly love and universal benevolence, thereby enabling us to become better members of society than we were before.

The Bible, ever open in our Lodge, teaches us the duty we owe to God and likewise to our fellow-men; it inspires us with awe and reverence to the Great Architect of the Universe; it orders us to practice truth, justice and charity to our fellow-men. But we do not attempt to usurp the position of those who minister in holy things or set ourselves above them, but rather seek to follow the guidance of our spiritual pastors and teachers, content that Freemasonry shall be recognized as the handmaid of religion. Let a man's religion be what it will, we do not exclude him from the benefits and advantages of our Order, provided he believes in the Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth, and practices the sacred duties of morality.

Many thinking and serious persons object to Freemasonry on account of a few of the brethren not acting up to their professions, but these should remember that the abuse of a thing is no valid objection to its inherent goodness. How many call themselves Christians who are a disgrace, yet ultimately hurt not the Gospel, but themselves. A Judas existed among the holy Apostles of Christ. We have no fear for the existence of our Order; it shall endure as it has endured; it has stood as it shall stand, on its own merits. It has resisted the sword of the barbarian and the bigot, and the persecution of the powerful; it has been enabled to withstand all assaults made on it by virulent and implacable enemies; our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity founded on strength and stability.

'As some tall cliff that lifts its awful form Swells from the vale and midway meets the storm; Though round its breast the rolling clouds are spread, Eternal sunshine settles on its head.'