



Stated Meetings  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 7:00 PM  
Gary Wayne Leffew – Worshipful Master

**THE TRESTLEBOARD**  
**SAM DAVIS LODGE**  
**NO. 661 F. & A. M.**  
**P.O. Box 364**  
**Smyrna, Tennessee**  
**459-4576**  
**JULY 2009**



Practice and Degrees  
Tuesday Nights at 7:00 PM  
Charles Pearcy - Secretary

**FROM THE EAST**

Our Worshipful Master is away this week visiting with his brother who is very ill. We should all keep Gary, his brother and family in our prayers during these difficult times. I'm also sure that he would want us to keep Brothers Harold Grider and Cletus McGowan in our prayers and wish for their rapid recoveries from their recent illnesses.

Michael Lee Ferrell, PM, Editor

**How can I get the most from being a Mason?**

In some ways, being a Mason is like having a bank account. You can only take from a bank account what you put into it plus a small amount of interest. If you desire to get the most from being a Mason then you must invest in it. Being a mason will take a small amount of your funds, but this is in the form of dues or assessments. If you came looking for money you came for the wrong reason. What the Masonic order does best is to take a good man and make him better. The way for you to invest is to invest your time and help with this task. Attend when you are able. Learn as often as you can. Find a newly made mason and teach him how to be a good mason. Show him how to behave in the meeting. Help him learn his lectures and at the same time learn about him. Find an older, well informed mason, spend time with him, and learn from him. Find a part in the ritual and learn to do that part and when someone you know is made a mason be ready to do that part. Come when we practice and learn both about the ritual and the men who perform it. Pass what you have learned on to the newly made brother. Remember what you take away you must first invest. The interest is paid in friendship and the association with good moral men, like yourself.

**Larry Hooper, Senior Warden**

**A few phrases that we should be familiar with are as follows:**

DESIRES SHALL FAIL..... This is used in certain Masonic rites in a figurative sense, referring to the infirmities of old age when men are no longer concerned about the carnal or material things of life.

FEARS SHALL BE IN THE WAY.....As used by Masons this phrase describes the failing courage of old age, the nervous and excited state of mans' mind in his declining years.

KEEPERS OF THE HOUSE SHALL TREMBLE.....This is a figurative expression indicating the failings of the body in old age or as weakened by the approach of death; the keepers symbolize the limbs of the body.

AND THE ALMOND TREE SHALL FLOURISH.....the reference is to the white flowers of that tree with the allegoric significance of old age when the hairs of the head become gray.

**Larry Smith, PM, Historian**

On December 31, 1951, I flew into Ashiya airbase, Japan with a plane load of GI's from Korea for 5 days and nights of R & R. Our destination was the city of Kokura. Our reception was great with shaves, showers and clean O.D. uniforms. There were steak dinners at the service club and a huge New Years Eve party at the NCO club. What a night!!

I had made friends with a fellow soldier from South Carolina and he and I checked our bags at the R & R Center. He held the claim check. He hooked up with a Japanese girl at the New Years Eve party and disappeared. The next morning, I discovered that I could not get my bag with toilet articles and clothing because my friend had the claim check. I went to the storage area seeking to secure my bag and was told by the corporal in charge "no ticket – no bag".

The corporal and I were having a heated verbal discussion when this tall, gray haired, Master Sgt. walked onto the scene. He addressed us both, then turned to me:

"What's your problem?" he asked – I gave him my side of the argument and, all the while, he was looking at my hands and my Masonic ring. Finally, he said "Come with me." - I followed him down the hall and into his office.

The following conversation took place:

M/S: Where are you from?

BB: Nashville, Tennessee

M/S: What lodge do you belong to in Nashville?

BB: Buena Vista 639

M/S: Is that lodge still located at 9<sup>th</sup> and Cheatham, upstairs over an H.G. Hills store?

BB: Yes sir! How could you know?

M/S: During WWII, I was stationed at Camp Forrest in Tullahoma. I have sat in your lodge, many times. Come with me!

We left his office and returned to the storage area where he instructed the corporal to give me my bag and anything else I needed. When I thanked him, he said, "If I can't trust you, I can't trust anyone".

This happened over 58 years ago, and I still marvel that here I was, half-way around the world, and found a brother who helped me in a time of need. From this Masonic experience, I have retained two thoughts that govern my life.

1. The great "I am" is in control of our lives – he places us where he can use us and teach us.
2. We must never under estimate the length of our cable-tow. In my case, it was half-way around the world.

Fraternally,  
Robert E. Burgess  
(Master Mason)



### Upcoming Events:

19 Sept – Family Day

Every Fri. night – Line dancing at 7:00 PM



#### AFFILIATE BODIES MEETINGS:

**ORDER OF THE EASTER STAR** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays. Covered Dish at 6:00 p.m., Open at 7:00 p.m

**YORK RITE MURFREESBORO** 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

**SMYRNA-LAVERGNE SHRINE CLUB** 4<sup>TH</sup> Thursdays at Jim and Nicks BBQ in Smyrna

#### SICK

Brother J.T. Burnette, PM is in Mayfield Manor Nursing Home, Room 100. He would be most appreciative of your visit with him. Also, we're sure that George Kersey would appreciate a visit as he doesn't get out to the lodge as often as he would like. Also, please keep our Worshipful Master's brother in your prayers along with Brothers Harold Grider and Cletus McGowan.

#### WEB SITE

Check out our web site at <http://samdavislodge.home.comcast.net/~samdavislodge/> A special thank you to Brother Floyd Dennis, Jr., our webmaster, for all of his great ideas and the time that he has donated in order for us to be on-line.

#### TRESTLEBOARD INFORMATION

If you have any information or announcements that you would like in the Trestleboard, call Mike Ferrell at 615-223-0379 or send him an email at [Leeferr@comcast.net](mailto:Leeferr@comcast.net)