



**THE TRESTLEBOARD  
SAM DAVIS LODGE  
NO. 661 F. & A. M.**



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

P.O. Box 364  
Smyrna, Tennessee  
459-4576  
**SEPTEMBER 2009**

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

**FROM THE EAST**

Brothers, our Sep 26 Family Day is beginning to come together. We currently have about 80 adults and approximately 25 children scheduled to attend. If you haven't already signed up, please do. The sign-up list is located at the entrance into the dining hall. If you haven't had the opportunity to sign up but wish to attend, please contact me at 615-335-3171 or Brother Charles Percy at 459-3519. Family Day is scheduled from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM and there should be plenty of food and entertainment for both adults and children.

Please plan to attend Sam Davis Lodge for Master Mason's degrees on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of Sep. Brother Erick Scott Eastridge's degree is set for the 15<sup>th</sup> and Brother Dennis Gerele Kelly for the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Finally, I'd like to thank all the Brothers that turned out for the Sep stated meeting. It was an absolute pleasure to see familiar faces that I hadn't seen in a while. I'll say it again, Freemasonry is alive and well at Sam Davis Lodge.

Fraternally,  
Gary Wayne Leffew  
Worshipful Master

**Sounding Brass or a Tinkling Cymbal.**

What happened to true Masonic Charity? Have we lost the main idea of Charity? When we encounter a "poor distressed individual" does pity flow from our hearts and money from our purse freely?

Two things stand in our way. One: We are proud Americans and we do not do our benevolence on a quiet and modest way. We do them in an organized fashion and see to it that everyone knows we are involved so that we can get the maximum credit for our efforts. This enables us to brag and say how great we are even though many organized charities give less than twenty per cent of the money to the needy. The other eighty per cent is consumed by salaries and expense of gathering the money. Two: When Freemasonry is operating properly, it does things the hard way. We want none of that. We want efficiency. We do not want to put any more effort into it than we can avoid.

We like to handle our charity by passing the hat and dropping in a small amount and forgetting about it. Will that provide for the necessities or is it near the limit of your ability without causing injury to yourself?

I will tell you about a man I will call Lucky Luke. I knew him for forty- five years. I observed his charity without realizing what he was doing. Without saying a word or showing me how he taught me a lesson about how charity should be done. When a family nearby lost the tobacco barn and with it that years money crop he had trees cut into lumber and donated the lumber to rebuild the barn. The Masonic Lodge came together and rebuilt the barn and Luke was there. When he became aware of a family being hungry he gathered a box of vegetables and placed them at the front door. He told no one and made me promise to never tell what he did. I saw him stop and change a tire because someone needed it. He helped many neighbors save a crop from the rain because they had a need. He expected nothing in return. I observed him loan money many times to people who he knew would never repay it. The "loan" was to meet their needs and, save them embarrassment. The money he "loaned" was never repaid in his lifetime nor, did he ask for it. At his death did these people come forward and hand his widow the money? No, it was gone. He did it because it was right and they needed help. He did not expect anyone to tell him how good a man he was or to even know about his charity.

How much better would we be if we did our charity because there is a need and it came from the heart with no expectation of recognition or reward. If you are unable to reach into your heart and find a way to provide help to someone in need then keep your money in your wallet. At no time should you help another when it would cause injury to yourself. If you look you can find a way to help. Cut grass for someone because it is the right thing to do. Help neighbor move furniture. Help someone less fortunate clean up or paint the house for a widow. Do these things and do not tell anyone what you have done. Find some form or aid for someone in need. When you have done this see how good you feel. Charity is not giving money. Charity is giving help to people in need because it is the right thing to do and you are able to do so.

Larry C. Hooper

**Eastern Star Spaghetti Supper**

Sam Davis Chapter OES will be having a spaghetti supper on Nov. 14 from 4 – 7 PM. A donation of \$7.00 would be appreciated for the supper. We hope

**Mailing list for Trestleboard**

Our plans are to start emailing the Trestleboard to those wishing to receive it by email instead of by US Mail. If you wish to be added to this email list, please email Mike Ferrell at [Leeferr@comcast.net](mailto:Leeferr@comcast.net)

Let us take time to celebrate and honor our Brothers and Sisters of the Order of the Easter Star.

The forerunner of what we know today as the Order of the Easter Star was known as "Adoptive Masonry". Adoptive Masonry sometimes referred to as Female Masonry, had its origin in France where it was most extensively promoted, and spread to other parts of Europe. The purpose of the Order was to provide a means by which the wives, widows, mothers, sisters, and daughters of Masons might be brought into closer relationship with the Order of Freemasonry, might share in the benefits of Masonry to a fuller extent, especially in obtaining assistance and protection when needed, and might be given the privileges of closer cooperation with Masonic Lodges in their labors of charity, and in their endeavors for human progress.

Adoptive Masonry was never introduced into America as such. Rob Morris attempted to introduce an imitation of it, which he had invented, under the name of the "American Adoptive Rite". It consisted of a ceremony of initiation, intended as a preliminary trial of the candidate, and of five degrees named as follows: 1. Jephthah's Daughter, of the daughter's degree; 2. Ruth, or the widow's degree; 3. Esther, or the wife's degree; 4. Martha, or the sister's degree; 5. Electa, or the Christian Martyr's degree.

The purpose of the adoption Rite, which he proposed to call "Eastern Star", as expressed by Rob Morris, was similar to the original purpose of the Rite, which had become so popular in France and throughout much of Europe.

My personal thanks to the Sam Davis Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star for all their fine work in assisting and promoting Masonry in our area. I am happy to be a proud member of this organization.

Fraternally,  
Larry Kent Smith  
Historian

#### Happy September birthday to the following brothers:

James William Allen	9/17/30
Oscar Osteen Beckham	9/8/24
William Steven Bell	9/30/54
John Raymond Carter	9/26/38
Jessie Warren Cox	9/22/16
James Glenn Crook	9/20/34
Jerry Lee Davis Jr	9/1/66
Floyd Bracy Dennis Sr	9/9/36
Harold Davis Grider	9/25/39
Milton Dwayne Hicks	9/10/63
Robert Marion Igou	9/26/58
Robert Alan Jackson	9/29/72
Derwent Langley Jr	9/11/30
Jerry Ray McConnell	9/30/56
Brian Allan Melendy	9/3/71
Joseph Anthony Nock	9/18/29
Randall Edward Norfleet	9/9/73
Charles Raymond Pearcy	9/25/29
Joe Edward Poole	9/5/42
Charles Lee Ramiller	9/21/49
Anthony Samuel Ross	9/15/41
Doyle Gene Short	9/18/44
Leon Wampler Whitmore	9/8/22
Garlin Ray Wilson	9/25/38

#### Happy Masonic birthday to the following brothers:

Henry Wayne Bain	9/24/02
Douglas Addison Haynes	9/25/01
Larry Carlton Hooper	9/30/68
Chester Joseph Kaczneski	9/6/77
Jerry Lamont Laney Sr	9/30/82
Gary Wayne Leffew	9/21/04
Edwin Lee Raymer	9/25/84
Thomas Lee Scott	9/17/74
Robert Dale Sewell	9/13/83

#### Upcoming Events:

15 Sep MM Degree for Brother Eric Scott Eastridge  
22 Sep MM Degree for Brother Dennis Gerele Kelly  
26 Sept – Family Day  
7 Nov – Country Ham Breakfast  
14 Nov – Sam Davis Chapter OES Spaghetti Supper

#### Grand Commandery Inspection

There will be a Commandery inspection at Mt. Moriah Lodge in Murfreesboro on October 31, 2009. Our own Robert Waldron, PM is the Grand Commander for the Grand Commandery of Tennessee for the current year. Let's all get out and support Brother Waldron at this important event.

#### 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

#### 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)