James E. Goble of Prestonsburg, a 62-year member of Zebulon Lodge No. 273, F&AM, was honored by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and was the recipient of a plaque, which reads: “The Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F&AM, in honor and recognition of James E. Goble, Past Master, Past Secretary of Zebulon Lodge No. 273, in recognition of your 47 years of diligent service as Secretary of your Lodge, and your support of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F&AM.”

The award was presented by Grand Master F. Keith Dreier, at the recent meeting of the Grand Lodge at the Galt House in Louisville. Shown above at the time of the presentation are, from left, Grand Master Dreier; James E. Goble; and Joseph R. Conway, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge.

Fields Lodge No. 832 presented a check for $300.00 to the Coats for Kids Foundation to help children have a warm winter. Pictured, from left to right: Field Lodge Secretary, Jim Dixon; Sharon Kennedy, President, Coats for Kids; Tracy Kennedy; and Silas Whitehead, Master, Field Lodge, 2008, and District Deputy Grand Master for District 30. Community Service is alive and well at Field Lodge No. 832.

Members of Pond Fork No. 601, Indian Creek No. 614, and Waco No. 338 held a benefit for Brady Gibbons, whose father died in an automobile accident, and injured him. The benefit included an auction and singing from Jim Miller and Lynn Thompson from Waco Lodge. The benefit raised over $6,500 for medical expenses for the family.

Coats for Kids Foundation

Masonry In Action
Grand Master’s Message

HERMAN M. FORRESTER
Grand Master

As the leaves begin to fall and the weather becomes chilly and damp, it is once again that time of year when we celebrate Thanksgiving and prepare for the Christmas and Holiday Season. As we count our many blessings let us never forget the blessing of our Great Brotherhood, the many friendships of those whom we revere and cherish, whom if we hadn't knelt at the altar of Freemasonry, chances are we would not have had the pleasure of knowing these good and great men. These wonderful moments will pass in a twinkling of an eye and will soon be cherished moments we look back upon. As we celebrate this Holiday Season with fun, food, fellowship and gifts, let us not forget the greatest gift of all, the gift of our Lord, born in a manger, lived an impoverished life but loved all men despite their misgivings and shortcomings. Brethren we as Masons profess to be a certain kind of man, that stand for the things that are right and good, Men of honor and integrity.

Men who care and love one another, who love God, their fellow man made in Gods image, their families, their country and communities. Let us all be the Men we profess to be. As we enjoy and celebrate this Holiday Season, let us celebrate each other. Masons are men of all faiths, creeds and religions, let us be tolerant and respectful to all our brethren.

Each of you will soon be reviewing our Christmas Cards and the new Masonic Calendar, featuring many of our beautiful lodges across the Commonwealth. We hope you will favor us with your donation.

From the Grand Lodge Family to yours, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season. May God Bless you and yours.

ATTENTION SECRETARIES – Update on the Grand Lodge Computer System

We expect to have the new computer system ready for the Lodge Secretaries to begin using the system for reporting in January of 2009!!! We are very excited about getting started. Below is a list of items that we need from all the Secretaries who wish to start on the system as soon as it is ready in January. Please E-MAIL the information to webmaster@grandlodgeofkentucky.org AND send a copy to Chrissy@grandlodgeofkentucky.org. It is very important that we have the correct information for you to begin using the system. It is VERY easy to misunderstand someone over the phone or copy down the information incorrectly so we will not accept any information given to us in this manner.

Information needed:
- Secretary Name
- MEMBER Number
- Lodge Name & Number
- Address
- Home Phone
- Cell Phone
- E-Mail Address

Create the following for your use:
- User Name*
- Password*

*Please create a user password that YOU want. Understand that you are creating your own username and password to be able to get into the system. Also, VERY IMPORTANT: Passwords are CASE SENSITIVE and all User Names and Passwords must be at least 8 characters.

What you will receive from us: When your information, user name and password are received and entered into the system you will receive a return e-mail from us confirming that your account has been created. If you do not receive our confirmation e-mail within 7 days please contact us. Later next year we will be offering training for the new system. We have not scheduled anything yet but we will post the information in the Masonic Home Journal as soon as it is available. If you have any questions you can call the Grand Lodge Office at 502-893-0192, Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM EST.
HOLIDAY SEASON

As yet another year comes to a close, and we prepare to celebrate another Holiday Season, many of us are again saddened by the loss of family members, close friends and Brethren. It is a strong and understandable human trait to have these feelings of sadness, and even despair, in remembering those who were with us at this time last year- but have since been called to their heavenly reward.

Our heartfelt sympathies go out at this time to the family and friends of Shirley Bibb, widow of Past Grand Master, J. George Bibb, who recently passed into Eternal Life. It was always a joy to be around Shirley with her friendly smile and positive attitude. May her Fiancé Brother Bill Lile, her Mother Pauline and daughters Paula, Sandra, and Susan find comfort in the Promise of our Creator.

For in the beginning there was a great promise made to us by the Grand Architect of the Universe that should gladden our hearts and bring eternal light to crowd out this darkness of sadness and despair; His promise to care for those who put their trust in Him. With that happy thought in mind, we can take great comfort in the knowledge that our loved ones are in the arms of a loving and caring God, and are enjoying eternal bliss.

So as we move into the spirit of this meaningful Holiday season, on behalf of the Grand Lodge Office Staff, Mary, Christy, Jamie, Jeanne, and yours truly, we wish for each of you the happiest of the Holiday Season, and may the “Reason for the Season” keep each of us mindful of our obligations to exemplify the tenets of our Fraternity, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth; those tenets revered by Freemasons worldwide!!

GRAND LODGE OFFICE CLOSED

The Grand Lodge Office will be closed, Thursday & Friday, December 25 & 26, 2008, for the Christmas Holiday and Thursday & Friday, January 1 & 2, 2009 for New Years.

LODGE SECRETARIES

Soon it will be time to elect and install the officers who will lead your lodge for the ensuing year. I realize, with all the activity, plus the holidays, which are so plentiful during this time of year, how easy it is to overlook some of the routine functions the lodge Secretaries must perform to keep our records current.

Listed below are several items that should be taken care of as soon as the information is available.

LIST OF LODGE OFFICERS AND MASONIC DIRECTORY FOR 2009

The next task facing the Grand Secretary’s Office is compiling the Masonic Directory. At the end of November each lodge should have received a form on which to list the officers elected for the year, the address and telephone number[s] of the three principal officers and the Secretary. As soon as the officers are elected, please complete this form and send it to the Grand Secretary’s Office as quickly as possible in order that we may process the information for the Directory. DO NOT hold up the notice if a Junior Officer has not been elected or appointed at that time. It is important that the Master and Secretary be listed in the Directory- any of the other officers may be reported at a later date as they are elected or appointed. Please note that you are to identify each officer by name and Lodge membership number. This procedure will reduce the opportunity for error in the Lodge Officer listing.

For the Directory to be meaningful, we must have it available as early as possible after the beginning of the new year. If the completed form from your lodge has not been received in the Grand Secretary’s Office before January 10, 2009, there is a good chance the officers of your lodge will not be listed in the Directory. Please do not let this happen.

Also, on the same form, we ask that you furnish the exact address, or location, of your lodge so that it can be easily found from the information provided in the Directory. It has come to our attention a number of lodges have relocated -- or their address has been changed -- with the old address still listed in the Directory. Hopefully, with the information you provide, the new Directory can be brought up to date.

You should have been sent, with your officers sheet a PRE-ORDER form for ordering the Directory. We have made arrangements for 1 (one) directory to be furnished to each Lodge, however, any additional Directories will have to be pre-ordered from this office at cost. We have a quote from a printing company for the cost of printing, with the price being determined by the number ordered. The price caps at 500, 750 and 1000 printed. The cost to you will be determined at each of these caps. We will order only the number we receive pre-orders for. It is our advisement that if you want/need a Directory that you send your pre-order form in to the Grand Lodge Office in a timely manner.

IRS REPORTING FORM

Also, on the bottom of the Lodge Officers form mentioned above is a space to list the information required by the Internal Revenue Service from each Subordinate Lodge. The information received from the Subordinate Lodges is compiled in this office and a summary transmitted to the IRS. Failure on the part of a Lodge Secretary to respond may result in a visit from an IRS Representative -- and there are penalties involved that could be imposed for failure to report.

Be sure the form is signed by the Lodge Secretary and the seal of the Lodge is placed thereon.

THought FOR THE Month

Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but confident in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy.

— NORMAN VINCENT PEALE
On Saturday, October 25, Neel Lodge observed a Family, Awards and Widows night with gospel singing by a local group, the Wagoners. A 50-year pin was presented to John Stephenson who was unable to attend. 40-year pins were presented to Clifford Hayes (absent), Donald Dillard and Scott Honshell. 25-year pins were presented to (pictured left to right) Wendel Wiley, Odes Wolfe and Bobby Morrow by Neel Master James David Holcomb. Included in the evenings presentations a 25-year pin was presented to OES member Dolly Wheet and to her sister, in May, a 25-year pin to Lois Logan (now deceased) by their sister Earnestine Jenkins. A good meal and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

At a regular meeting of Buford Lodge No. 494 F&AM in Midway, Kentucky two new members were initiated as Entered Apprentice Masons. Pictured, left to right, from row: Pete Padova; Joe Gardner; Clay Hawks - EA; Justin Barrier - EA; Delynn Gibson; Neil Craig; and Herman Pittman. Second row: Larry Wilson; John Coyle; Tom Barrier; Art Craig; and Gary Finnell. Third row: Andrew Coyle; David Jefferson; Ben Vandgrift; Ray Duncan; Bill McDaniel; and Charles Beagle.

Pulaski County Mason’s recently hosted a Family Day Cookout for families and neighbors. The cookout hosted by Sievers Lodge No. 491 in conjunction with Somerset Lodge No. 111, Mt. Gilead Lodge No. 255, Burnside Lodge No. 634 and Woodstock Lodge No. 639. The turnout was overwhelming and everyone enjoyed good food, music and fellowship.

District Deputy Bill Jackson, of District #17 has been traveling to visit the Lodges in his district with his unofficial visits. Bill (left) while visiting Eminence Lodge No. 282, along with Master Mike Sullivan (right). There were visitors from several other lodges that heard the DDGM speak of Grand Master Herman Forrester’s plans of Masons Helping Masons. We would like to extend a HEARTY WELCOME to all brothers to come a visit Eminence Lodge No. 282. Please visit http: District #17.kymasoniclodges for more info.

Worshipful Master, Carl Corley, of Fortitude Lodge No. 47, far right is shown above presenting 4 newly raised Brothers their Masonic Bible, Aprons, and Kentucky Monitor. Pictured left to right: James Patterson; Nicholas Vinson; Michael Murphy; and Tom Bulgrin. Congratulations Brothers, it’s a pleasure to have you with us. We were honored by the presence of so many visitors along with the DDGM #17 Kevin Reardon and The Grand Lodge.
Lodge News & Activities...

District 16 – Traveling Gavel

On November 3, 2008, Greensburg Lodge No. 54 F&AM held its regular communication. Steve Curry, DDGM #16, presented the District 16 Traveling Gavel to Pittman Lodge No. 124 with the efficient numbers. DDGM Steve Curry wishes all districts and Lodges to participate in the Traveling Gavel Program. Pictured, left to right: Walt Parrott, Jr., Master; Steve Curry, DDGM #16; and Gary Hunt, PDGM.

Burnside Lodge No. 634 – Master Mason Degree

The Valley of Lexington Scottish Rite Travellers Degree Team recently performed the “Legend of the Temple” at Burnside Lodge No. 634 and raised two Brothers to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Front row, left to right are new Master Mason Bob Boon, John Gallagher, Master, and Jerry Blevins, new Master Mason. Burnside Lodge appreciated the fine degree work by the Travellers.

Sunset Lodge No. 915 – Host Alabama Lodge

On September 20, 2008 Sunset Lodge No. 915 hosted Semms Lodge No. 878 from Mobile, Alabama. Breakfast was served to over one hundred Brothers that were in attendance. Most Worshipful Grand Master of Alabama, Larry Stinson was introduced and given grand honors along with James Webb, Grand Orator, Grand Chaplain, Chas McGee, Jesse Stinson, Grand Steward; and Bob Pitts, Grand Junior Deacon.

Brother Joe Graves introduced Most Worshipful Grand Master of Kentucky, Herman Forrester, Don Yankey, Grand Junior Warden, David Carter, Past Grand Master, and several Grand Lodge committee members were also present. Both Grand Masters brought greetings from each Grand Jurisdiction.

Brothers Tom Lott and Randall Knapp conferred the first section. The second section was conferred with Grand Master, Larry Stinson in the East in a very impressive manner. After the conferring of the Alabama Degree, lunch was served and prepared by the ladies of Sunset Lodge members.

Afterwards, Grand Master Stinson thanked all who attended and plans are being made to continue this visitation in years to come. Thanks goes to Brother Mel Mullins, for all his work in putting this visitation together.

GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY WEB PAGE

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Also visit the Masonic Home Journal at this site. The Web Page is updated and informative, so please visit us at the site listing above.

Bloomfield Lodge No. 57 – Family Night

Bloomfield Masonic Lodge No. 57 F.& A.M. located in Bloomfield, Kentucky held their Annual Family Night on September 20, 2008. Approximately 78 were in attendance. A delicious potluck meal was served with the Lodge furnishing the ham and chicken.

Following the meal, Brother Mickey Cheatham, Zoneton Lodge No. 964, was presented with an Honorary Membership to Bloomfield Lodge No. 57 by Master Larry Husband. Service pins were presented by Master Larry Husband with the assistance of Secretary William W. Madd to the 25, 40, 50 and 60 years members. Picture above, left to right: Paul Wayne Simpson, 50-years; Larry Thomas Husband, 25-years; Herbert David Goff, 40-years; Arlin Hobbs, 50-years; Timothy E. Hardin, 25-years; Bobby J. Prather, 50-years; and Owen H Lansford Foster, 60-years pin.

Pictured Roger N. Thompson, DDGM of District 15, congratulating Owen H Lansford Foster on his 60 year membership, and Larry Thomas Husband, Master Bloomfield Lodge No. 57 F. & A.M. Unable to attend, but earning pins were: Darrell Rodney Burgin, 25-years; and Marvin N. Powell, 50-years.

After the pin presentations, entertainment was furnished by Brother Herbert David Goff and his band. They played a variety of songs which the audience thoroughly enjoyed. Special guests of the evening were Brother Roger N. Thompson, Miles Lodge No. 341, District Deputy Grand Master of District 15 and Bro. Mickey Cheatham, Zoneton Lodge No. 964, Past DDGM of District 15.

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Acme Lodge No. 851
Service Pin Award

Recently at an Acme Lodge meeting, Brothers Herman Clark and Scott Giralds received their 50-year service pin award. Congratulations and thank you for your many years of service.

Woodbury Lodge No. 280
25 Year Service Pin Award


Hanson Lodge No. 766
50 Year Service Pin Award

Hanson Lodge No. 766 recently traveled to Detroit, Michigan to present Brother Mahurin his 50-year service pin. Pictured, left to right: James Prow, Secretary; Eddie McCrady, Master; Larry Mahurin, Chaplain; David Rednour, Junior Warden; and Terry Howerton, Senior Warden.

Leitchfield Lodge No. 236
Honors James C. Allen

On Saturday, August 9, 2008, Brother James C. Allen was awarded his 50-year service pin at the Leitchfield Lodge No. 236 Family Night. Congratulations on your many years as a proud Mason.

Highland Lodge No. 311
Service Awards

Highland Lodge was proud to present Brother Jerald Amyx (center) with his 60-year service pin.

Highland Lodge was proud to present Brother Tommy Steel (right) with his 40-year service pin.

Highland Lodge was proud to present Brother Wayne Banks (right) with his 25-year service pin.

Want to see Your Lodge in the Masonic Home Journal?
Email articles & photos by the 10th of each month to:
masonichomejournal@hotmail.com
On September 13, 2008, Sunset Lodge No. 915 held its annual Past Master Night. Master Lou Flam and Most Worshipful Grand Master, Keith Dreier were introduced and given honors.

J.R. Riggs was presented with his 25-year service pin by his wife, Donna and stated he was honored to received this award. Also presented that evening were 40-year service pins to Donald Bryant; John Carter; Otis Horn; Chas Owens; and James Ruclingham. Brother Jack Stephens was presented his 60-year service pin by Grand Master Keith Dreier and stated he would be back for his 75-year service pin.

A tribute was performed for all deceased Past Masters and Brothers that passed away in 2008. Thirteen Past Masters were present and honored.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Keith Dreier spoke on what it means to be a member of the greatest Fraternity in the world.

After the awards, light refreshments were served.

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Pewee Valley Lodge No. 829 Honors Willie Magers

The Senior Warden of Pewee Valley Lodge No. 829, Brother Brian Willey, shown above presenting Mrs. Willie Magers her husband's 50 year pin, gold membership card, and a Holy Bible. Mrs. Magers was unable to be at the Lodge for the Past Masters Dinner, so Brian went to her home along with others to make the presentation the next day. Past Master Willie Magers looked forward to receiving his 50 year pin, but unfortunately passed away earlier this year.

Woodbury Lodge No. 280 60 Year Service Pin Award

Deputy Grand Master, Herman Forrester (right) and Grand Senior Deacon, Lowell Hightower (left) presented Brother Jim Thomas (center) with his 60 year pin at Woodbury Lodge No. 280 on Saturday, September 6, 2008.

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Corydon Lodge No. 799 Service Pin Awards

On August 21, 2008, the following members of Corydon Masonic Lodge No. 799 received pins for years of service. Pictured, left to right: Don Nunley - 40 years; Don House - 40 years; James Holeman, Jr. - 40 years; Jeff Walker - Master; Kenneth Fox - 25 years; Felix Thomas - 50 years; John Tom Utley - 50 years; Luel Overstreet - 50 years; Bob Rowland - 40 years; Charles Littlepage - 40 years; Dennis Wicker - 40 years; and Donald Dixon - 40 years.

Beavercreek Lodge No. 335 50 Year Service Pin Award

On October 3, 2008 at the stated communication of Beavercreek Lodge No. 335, Lawrenceburg, Kentucky, Brother O.H. “June” Gritton, II was presented with his 50-year service pin award by Master Dough Roach and O.H. Gritton, III. Congratulations Brother Gritton on this milestone accomplishment.

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Kentucky Order of the Eastern Star

DIANA FORD GILROY
Worthy Grand Matron

WESDIE LEE WEBB
Worthy Grand Patron

DECEMBER ITINERARY

02 Inspection - Providence # 304, Dist. 16
06 NO SCHOOL
08 Inspection & 100th Anniversary - Centertown # 78, Dist. 13
13 Grand Officers/ Christmas Party
16 CV - C S Hoffman # 211, Dist. 16
17 Christmas Party @ OES Home
19 CV - Ermine Ford # 9, Dist. 15
25 Merry Christmas!

January 2009
01 Happy New Year!
02 Inspection - Shady Grove # 505, Dist. 16
06 Inspection - Rising Sun # 415, Dist. 1
06 Inspection Valley # 65, Dist. 1
07 Inspection Evening Star # 374, Dist. 1
08 CV - Harmony # 273, Dist. 1
10 District 22 School @ Mayfield

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Have you made your contribution to the St. John’s League?
In her own words
Resident's story moves 209th Annual Communication

This year's Grand Lodge Communication highlighted the Masonicare connection between Kentucky Masons and the Masonic Homes.

The connection has been at the forefront since the 208th Communication, when Keith and Debbie Dreier launched the Fruits of Our Labor campaign to support Masonicare residents. Fruits of Our Labor inspired Masons, lodges and others to contribute more than $95,000 for Masonicare residents at the Homes.

To tell first-hand about Masonicare, Masonic Home of Louisville Personal Care Center resident Josephine Jordan addressed the Communication. Mrs. Jordan moved into the Village Apartments in 2005 following the death of her husband, a member of Plumb No. 862. At 89 years old, Mrs. Jordan was known among Village residents as a great cook who would regularly share soup, casseroles and pancakes with neighbors.

In late 2007, Mrs. Jordan injured her back and entered the Louisville Health Care Center for rehabilitation therapies to complete her recovery. She soon realized she would not be able to continue living independently. Mrs. Jordan was approved for Masonicare and moved to the Louisville Personal Care Center.

"I loved my apartment and did not think I would enjoy living anywhere else," Mrs. Jordan said. "When I got settled into my new home in the Personal Care Center, I was proved wrong."

Mrs. Jordan told the Communication how much she enjoys the Masonic Home lifestyle. "I love meals in the dining room," she said. "The food is fabulous, and I don't have to cook or clean up."

An array of activities keeps residents engaged. "You Masons are not cheap," she reported. "You throw great parties with plenty of entertainment and gifts."

Mrs. Jordan said she was especially pleased with the staff. "The staff does not hover around, but they are always there when I need them."

"If you have not been to the Masonic Homes, you will be pleasantly surprised at the wonderful home you have given us," Mrs. Jordan said. "Thank you!"

Congress renews IRA gift opportunity

If you will reach the age of 70½ by December 31, 2009, and have a traditional or Roth IRA, the federal government has re-opened a window of opportunity for 2008 and 2009 that allows you to do more for the Masonic Homes of Kentucky and other causes you love.

Similar to the 2007 IRA charitable rollover legislation, the 2008 law allows citizens who are at least 70½ on the day the distribution is made to request their IRA administrators to make distributions directly to charities, including the Masonic Homes.

This transfer can be counted toward your required minimum distribution if you choose. If the gift is from a traditional IRA, it will not be counted as a taxable distribution to you. An individual is allowed to make distributions of up to $100,000 to charities in any given year.

If you are over 70½, or will be by December 31, 2009, we encourage you to consider this renewed opportunity to make a significant difference in those cared for by your Masonic Homes.

Please contact the Homes’ Senior VP of Mission Advancement Bruce Lott at 502.259.9627 or blott@mhky.com for details.
Giving Tree planted on Shelbyville campus

A new tree has taken root in the Masonic Home of Shelbyville.

The Giving Tree will soon be growing along the first-floor hall, nurtured by charitable gifts from Masonic lodges, resident family members and other friends. The gifts will not only help the Giving Tree grow, they also will help fund programs and initiatives at the Masonic Home of Shelbyville.

Gifts of $300, $500 and $750 will be commemorated with bronze, silver and gold leaves on the Giving Tree. Small stones will commemorate gifts of $1,000 and large stones will mark gifts of $2,500.

VP of Mission Advancement Phyllis O’Daniel says the Giving Tree will do more than support programs and services at the Shelbyville Home. “It provides opportunities to remember former residents, to honor special events in the lives of friends and loved ones, and to acknowledge exceptional care provided by individual staff members,” she said.

To learn more about the Giving Tree or to make a gift, contact O’Daniel (phone: 502/259-9627; e-mail: podaniel@mhky.com).

Worth a thousand words

Homes’ Board member Jim Judy (left) accepted $250,000 from Kasair Charities Board President Leonard Sewell (center) and Ron Miller (right). The check is the second installment of the $1 million Kasair Charities grant for the Kasair Charities Pediatric Day Care Center on the Louisville campus.

NIC Creative’s Nicole Candler (left) presented Homes’ Sr VP of Communications CJ Parmish with the Public Relations Society of America’s Award of Merit for the communications program promoting the development and dedication of A Place Called Home, the sculpture donated by the Masonic Home Alumni Association.

Phyllis Cummins and Opal Sargent were honored for their support of the Homes through a gift matching program at Levi Strauss. The Homes’ Gary Marsh (left) and J Scott Judy presented certificates while District 18 Ambassador Alton Cummins looked on.

Maintenance Director Dan Carey and Director of Nursing Sally Jo Magness manned the grill at the Shelbyville employee picnic.
A Masonic Journey...

The economic chaos in our country has inspired me to write this letter. Looking at the failure of our representatives to do what the constitution says is their responsibilities, has caused me to reflect on how many Brethren in our Masonic Fraternity are also not fulfilling the duties which by tradition they have accepted responsibility.

It has been a blessing and a curse, that during my entire Masonic journey, I have had to travel away from my home and lodge. The blessing is that during my journey, I have had the opportunity to visit lodges in twenty-one states across the country and a lodge in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. I have served pro-tem in many of the lodge chairs during my visits.

The curse is the only office I ever held at Apperson is Junior Deacon. It is my ambition to serve as a memorable Worshipful Master.

Over several years, I have had the misfortune to see many lodges falling into apathy. The cry of our leaders that our membership is going down has led many lodges to make changes that over time are going to prove dire for our fraternity. Oh yeah, I can see you now- shaking you heads, not us! Brethren, you are right. Apperson Lodge has for many years, had a wonderful tradition as a traveling lodge. For many years, I looked at the flags and memorabilia on the walls at the top of the stairs, and have always been proud of our tradition. I continue to be proud of that tradition today and having been a part of that same tradition and to carry it further down the years.

When I look at the success of our Lodge, I reflect on why we have been so successful. The answer I always come back to is two-fold. First, we have always guarded our door well. Secondly, the men we have traditionally allowed to come in our doors have already looked into their hearts and knew themselves to be Masons!

This is the true key to our success!

Our tradition has always come down to these two questions: "What does it mean to be a Mason?" and "Does membership in a Masonic lodge make you a Mason?" The answer to these questions is as different as the number of men reflecting on them. To the men who are not reflecting on them, I ask, "Why are you here." The fraternity came to me from other men who added to our shared experience, and I hope by the time I see the great celestial lodge, I will have added to this experience as well. You may ask yourself how I am able to do this since I rarely attend lodge. The answer is; it is unusual that I do not attend a lodge somewhere on my trips. Often serving as an officer or taking part in our Masonic ritual work.

When I began to learn my memory work, my Mentor Brother Kenny, worked in mine reclamation and I worked as over the road truck driver. When Brother Kenny was home and I was home, he gave me all the learning and encouragement I could hold. Because of our difficult work schedules, it took me longer than some to complete the three degrees. The friendship we forged during this time is still strong today- fifteen years later.

When Brother Mark Tucker was serving as Worshipful Master, the Grand Senior Warden came on an official visit. During that visit, he gave the G lecture. Now it is true the reason he did this, is we did not have anyone in lodge prepared to do it. The Grand Senior Warden stepped up without any preparation whatever, and gave the lecture cold. To be sure, when I arrived that day, if asked, I would have said I was already doing my part. Seeing and hearing that brother do more, inspired me more than anything else ever had before. I sat there and knew in my heart, I wanted to be a ritualist like him. On that day, I began to learn the Master Masons Lecture.

Craftsmen, I will not say it was easy, because it was not. What I will say is that over the six months I spent learning it, I met many wonderful Masons who not only encouraged me, but gave me the most special gift of all-their TIME. I want to add to this, that the many ovations I have received and the rewards some Brethren have presented me for my ritual work, these are treasured memories that I keep close to my heart. However, my true goal, to inspire other men of the Craft, to find the beautiful wonders of Masonic ritual work, seems to be less successful. I had hoped that another Craftsman would find inspiration and follow my example. I know Brother Norm has also been hoping for a Craftsman to learn the Stair Lecture. These lectures may be difficult to start with, but a brother may find the Fellow Craft "G" lecture an easier place to start or perhaps the Entered Apprentice apron lecture or charge, as these are shorter lectures. Brethren, let me assure you from my own experience, that Brother ... . . . . , Brother , Brother , and others, all stand ready to assist you in achieving whatever goals you might choose to pursue in the Craft. With their ready assistance, you can reach the same heights of success as many who have gone before.

Free Masonry is my Fraternity and Apperson is my Lodge. I am proud to be a member of both. The members of Apperson Lodge deemed me honest in my desire to become a Mason. I believe in my heart that I have shown that they were not mistaken in their judgment of me. Therefore, allow me to ask you one final question. What is there about your Masonic Journey that would inspire another man to knock at the Door of Free Masonry?

-Wallace C. Kemp, Jr.
El Paso, TX

Anderson Lodge No. 90 – Entered Apprentice

On August 8, 2008, at the stated communication of Anderson Lodge No. 90, Lawrenceburg, Kentucky, the Entered Apprentice Degree was conferred on Brother Corydon William Jenkins. With his initiation, Brother Jenkins becomes the fourth generation Mason in his family. Congratulations Brother Jenkins.

Burnside Lodge 634 – Merit Badge Class

Members of Burnside Lodge No. 634 recently conducted a Coin Collecting Merit Badge class as part of Merit Badge Tech held recently by the Boy Scouts in Lake Cumberland. Brother Ron Hutchinson conducted the class, assisted by Brothers Charles Sizemore and Donnie Brake.
Harlan Lodge No. 879
Service Pin Awards
Recently Harlan Lodge No. 879 and Harlan York Rite Bodies had the pleasure of presenting Brother Jerry Shepherd with his 50-year awards for all bodies. Pictured is Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, Brother Jim King presenting Jerry with some of his awards. We at Harlan Lodge are so proud of him and wish him many more years in Masonry!

H.A.M. Henderson
Masonic Lodge No. 15
50 Year Members
Pictured above is Cletus W. Gearlds receiving his 50-year Masonic service pin by his son and Master of H.A.M. Henderson Lodge No. 515, Jeffery Gearlds. Also shown is Gary Emberton and Charles Thomas who were also present for Gearlds’ award.

Service Pin Awards
Brother Edward Franklin “Pete” Vowell received his 25-year service pin recently at a stated communication of Harlan Lodge No. 879. Pete, a soldier in the US Army first entered his Masonic walk seeking light at Camp Knox Lodge No. 919, in Radcliff, Kentucky in early 1978. However, because of his Army duty he did not get the EA Degree until June 12, 1978. After retiring from the US Army in March 1980 he moved to Loyall, Kentucky and petitioned Loyal Lodge No. 930 to finish his journey. He was raised on December 12, 1983 by Loyal Lodge. He demitted from Loyal Lodge No. 930 to Harlan Lodge No. 879, Harlan, Kentucky on February 12, 2007 where he is a beloved and respected member. We wish him many, many more years of Masonry!

Salem Lodge No. 81
50/60 Year Service Awards
Our newest 50 Year Members, pictured, left to right: Harold Belt, Chaplain; Dave Conyer; Vance Ramage; and Deonn Williams, Master.

Over 50 Year Members, pictured, left to right: Randolph Croft, Treasurer; Ralph Hardin; Deonn Williams, Master who presented Certificates of Merit; Franklin Stalion; and Don Phillips.

Brother Conrad Wring Jr. (left) receives his Certificate of Merit from Master Deonn Williams (right).

Want to see Your Lodge in the Masonic Home Journal? Email articles & photos by the 10th of each month to: masonichomejournal@hotmail.com

Benny Roberson presented a check in the amount of $5,000.00 to H.A.M. Henderson Masonic Lodge on behalf of Donald and Geraldine Roberson. Donald was a 50+ year member of H.A.M. Henderson Masonic Lodge.

Brother Harry Bradley Jr. (left) was presented a Certificate of Merit for being an over 50-year Mason from Master, Deonn Williams (right).
Tandy Frazier

Dunavan Lodge No. 292 – Boston, Kentucky

WHEREAS, it has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom, to call from labor, here on Earth to His reward on high, our beloved Brother, Tandy Frazier who died on October 9th, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Brother Tandy served his Lodge faithfully for 59 years; and

WHEREAS, in his passing, the family has lost a true and upright man and Mason the community a valuable citizen; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we extend our deepest sympathy to his bereaved family and friends, and direct them to comfort to Almighty God; be it further

RESOLVED, that the Charter of Dunavan Lodge No. 292 be draped for a period of thirty days in mourning for the passing of Brother Tandy.

Richard E. Morgan, Secr.

Norris Goode

L. M. Cox Lodge No. 327 – Crofton, Kentucky

Once again a Brother Mason, having completed the designs written for him on life’s trestle board, has passed through the portals of eternity and entered the Grand Lodge of the New Jerusalem and hath received as his reward, the white stone with the new name written thereon; and

WHEREAS, the all wise and merciful Master of the Universe has called from labor to refreshment our beloved and respected Brother; and

WHEREAS, he having been a true and faithful Brother of our Order; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that L. M. Cox Lodge No. 327 F&AM in testimony of her loss, be draped in mourning for thirty days and that we tender to the family of our deceased Brother our sincere condolence in their deep affection, and that a copy of these Resolutions be sent to the family.

William Henry Sebastian

Burlington Lodge No. 264 – Burlington, Kentucky

In memory of Brother William Henry Sebastian who died September 28th, 2008.

Once again a Brother Mason, having completed the designs written for him on life’s trestle board, has passed through the portals of eternity and entered the Grand Lodge of the New Jerusalem and hath received as his reward, the white stone with the new name written thereon; and

WHEREAS, he having been a true and faithful Brother of our Order; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Burlington Lodge No. 264 F&AM in testimony of her loss, be draped in mourning for thirty days and that we tender to the family of our deceased Brother our sincere condolence in their deep affection, and that a copy of these Resolutions be sent to the family.

Melvin T. Perry, Secr.

Robert J. Powell

Salt Lick Lodge No. 682 – Clearfield, Kentucky


Once again a Brother Mason, having completed the designs written for him on life’s trestle board, has passed through the portals of eternity and entered the Grand Lodge of the New Jerusalem and hath received as his reward, the white stone with the new name written thereon; and

WHEREAS, the all wise and merciful Master of the Universe has called from labor to refreshment our beloved and respected Brother; and

WHEREAS, he having been a true and faithful Brother of our Order for over 50 years; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Salt Lick Lodge No. 682 F&AM, Salt Lick, Kentucky drape its Charter in mourning for a period of thirty days in testimony of our loss, and we tender to the family of our deceased Brother our sincere condolence in their deep affection, and a copy of this Resolution be sent to the family, and a copy spread upon the minutes of the Lodge in his memory, and a copy be sent to The Masonic Home Journal for publication.

Eddy D. Copher, Master; Billy C. Evans, Secr.

DEVOTION LODGE NO. 160

At the first stated communication in the month following publication of this notice in The Masonic Home Journal, Devotion Lodge No. 160, F&AM will vote on a resolution to allow Bluegrass Lodge No. 956, F&AM to consolidate with and into Devotion Lodge No. 160. All members are encouraged to attend.

WILEY TURNER

Sievers Lodge No. 491 – Nancy, Kentucky

Once again a Brother Mason, having completed the designs written for him on life’s trestle board, has passed through the portals of eternity and entered the Grand Lodge of the New Jerusalem and hath received as his reward, the white stone with the new name written thereon; and

WHEREAS, the all wise and merciful Master of the Universe has called from labor to refreshment our beloved and respected Brother; and

WHEREAS, he having been a true and faithful Brother of our Order; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Sievers Lodge No. 491 F&AM in testimony of her loss, be draped in mourning for thirty days and that we tender to the family of our deceased Brother our sincere condolence in their deep affection, and that a copy of these Resolutions be sent to the family.

Committee.

John Calvin Wade

Fields Lodge No. 832 – Cumberland, Kentucky

WHEREAS, the all wise and merciful Master of the Universe has called from labor to refreshment on October 15th, 2008 our beloved Brother John Calvin Wade; be it

RESOLVED, that in his passing the family has lost a beloved member and the Fraternity an upright man and Mason; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Charter of Fields Lodge No. 832 be draped for thirty days in his memory; therefore be it also

RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the family, a copy spread on the minutes of this Lodge and a copy sent to The Masonic Home Journal for publication.

Committee.

By-Laws

Linton Lodge No. 783

At the stated meeting of Linton Lodge No. 783, October 16th, 2008, a motion was made and agreed upon by those present to make an amendment to the By-Laws of the Lodge to change the date of our stated meetings from the 3rd Thursday of each month to the 4th Saturday night with the time being the same at 7:00 p.m.

Mercer Lodge No. 777

At the first stated communication in the month following publication of this notice in The Masonic Home Journal, Mercer Lodge No. 777 will vote on changes to its By-Laws

Warfield Lodge No. 882

At the first stated communication in the month following publication of this notice in The Masonic Home Journal, Warfield Lodge No. 882 will vote on proposed changes in its By-Laws concerning its meeting night. It is proposed to change from the 4th Saturday night to the 2nd Saturday night with the time being the same at 7:00 p.m.

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from

**The Masonic Home Journal**