

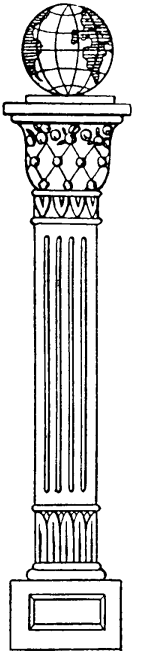
THE COLUMNS

PLEASANTS LODGE #63 AF & AM

622 W. Campbell Ave. SW
Roanoke, VA 24018

Stated Meeting, Third Monday of each Month
Phone: 540-725-1134 Email: Pleasants63@cox.net
www.home.earthlink.net/~pleasantslodge/

April 2010



Worshipful Master - Archer Davenport Livengood, Jr.

Senior Warden	Stuart Matthew Bain	Junior Warden	Sidney Warren Bush
Secretary	William Arthur Seymour, Jr.	Treasurer	Thomas Edward Purves
Senior Deacon	Fred Marion Burns	Junior Deacon	David Eugene Campbell, III
Chaplain	Charles Henry Stowe	Tiler	Kenneth Ray Robinette
Senior Steward	Stephen Kendrick Sprague	Junior Steward	Dewey Rickie Taylor

What "If Nobody Ever Volunteered?" (Partly excerpted from "Rick Warren's Toolbox.")

Imagine if your church had no volunteers next week. No one to park cars. No one to pass out bulletins. No "Greeters." No one to show visitors where the Sunday School Classes were. No one to display music lyrics on a screen for worship. Imagine that your Pastor and the Church Staff has to do absolutely every single thing next Sunday.

Crazy? Yes, but the staff at Highlands Fellowship in Abingdon, Va., knew that a weekend without volunteers was an ideal way to show the congregation just how much volunteers mattered to the running of the church. They decided that for just one Sunday, they would show everyone just what it would be like, "If Nobody Ever Volunteered?"

When the creative team of Highlands Fellowship in Abingdon, Va., started talking about the idea as part of a weekend focus on "Crazy Service," Pastor Jimmie Davidson, the church's senior pastor, thought the idea sounded risky. They depended upon their volunteers to help make the service effective and well-run, the kind of worship service where people wanted to invite their friends. But the Highlands team also knew that a weekend without volunteers was an ideal way to show the congregation just how much volunteers mattered to the running of the church.

Highlands has always been the kind of church that takes risks. So on a selected Sunday morning Pastor Davidson and his staff gathered the volunteers for a very early thank-you breakfast. That's when he told volunteers they wouldn't be volunteering that day. The church would "run itself." No Volunteers.

When people came into the worship services that weekend, they were struck by a completely different kind of experience. No one was there to hand out bulletins, help with parking, put the lyrics to the music on the screen, or greet people as they came in, or just welcome them and show them where things were.

Only one person was up front leading worship – not the typical worship team and praise band. The staff handed out the song lyrics copied poorly on sheets of paper.

And although Jimmy had told the church this would be a bad weekend to bring their friends, few people listened. There were many first-time guests. In time Davidson explained what was happening to the congregation and apologized to guests. People seemed to "get it." During the service, 500 people committed to serve at Highlands. (The church has about 1,250 volunteers throughout a typical week.)

How does this relate to Our Lodge? This past week, Pleasants Lodge #63, AF&AM of Roanoke, Virginia, with the help of many, many Brothers and Sisters, put on another Commonwealth of Virginia Masonic Child ID Program "Big Event". During that long day, the group of volunteers processed 279 children with very little waiting time for any family group. This was well under expecta-

Lodge Statistics as March 15, 2010 (for the year)

Demits Processed: 3 Suspensions: 3 Deaths: 2 Affiliated: 1
Raised: 0 Restorations: 1

Honorary Members: 4 Life Members: 11 50 Yr. Members: 19
Remitted Members: Hardship 2, Illness 1 Officers: 3

Current Lodge Membership: 138 plus 4 candidates, 1 petitioner

Total Dues Paying Members: 98

Petitions outstanding

One, not read yet. No Signatures
Awaiting Initiation

Initiated as Entered Apprentices

Tyron Heath Cassell
Mark Anthony Gibson

Passed to Degree of Fellowcraft

Timothy Daniel Robertson
Matthew Howard Gregory

tions but nice weather and other events in the Roanoke Valley just provided too much competition. We had wonderful participation from many brothers, their ladies, DeMolay and Job's Daughters representing their lodges and or Kazim Units. We even had a clown (Ray-Ray) there for most of the day delighting the children by making balloon "animals". Thanks, Ray!

Special thanks to Kevin Jones of Lee Lodge in Waynesboro (he is also the regional director for that area) for bringing the Lee Lodge unit for us to use and for his time spent processing children.

Each one of these events that we put on generates many comments from the parents on how wonderful it is for us to be doing this. We would hope that any of the brethren who have NOT participated would find it in their heart to come on out and help at any of the events. Our next Child ID event will be at the West Hampton Christian Church on Grandin Road, April 17. It's just North of Lakeland Lodge. Our Lodge Secretary will send out some more info on this and other upcoming events in a day or so to his regular mailing list. Brethren (and "Sistern") we are a volunteer organization. If no one volunteers, nothing gets done. If you are one of the wonderful persons that participated in our Big Event, thanks "muchly" from Pleasants #63. Thanks also to Worshipful Duffy Ferguson, our Lodge Child ID Ramrod. Good job "Digger."

Brother Archer

**DON'T FORGET THE CHILD ID EVENT AT
WEST HAMPTON CHURCH
APRIL 17, 2010 10:00 AM
VOLUNTEER TO HELP NOW**

Contact: Wor. Duffy @ 540-798-5891 or Bro. Bill @ 540-819-9029 to Volunteer

Birthdays

Robert Glen Bishop	April 2	Fred Marion Burns	May 1
James Hardie Lawrence	April 11	Joe Jackson Hatcher	May 2
Michael Kevin Riley	April 20	Robert Denny Tucker	May 9
Curtis Neil Dickerson	April 24	Sidney Fulton Baker	May 12
William Arthur Seymour, Jr.	April 26	David Bruce Baumgardner, Jr.	May 14
Jerry Wayne McMillan	April 29	Roger Dale Pauley	May 15
		J. Edward Conner	May 19
		Roger Sedgewick Pendrey	May 20
		Anthony Todd Holland	May 20
		Lloyd Marion Holfield	May 23
		Charles Henry Stowe	May 24
		Harry Kenneth Shelton	May 27