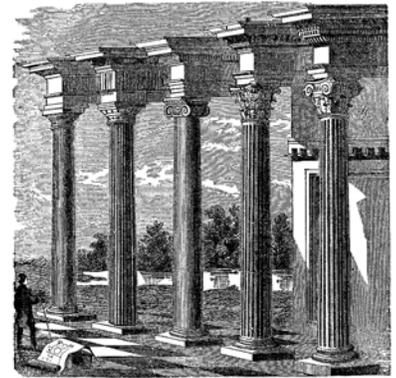


THE COLUMNS

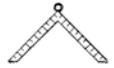
PLEASANTS LODGE #63 AF & AM

Located at 622 W. Campbell Ave. SW, Roanoke, VA 24018
Mailing address: P.O. Box 12067, Roanoke, VA 24022
Stated Meeting, Third Monday of each Month, 7:30 PM
Phone: 540-632-2163 Email: contact@pleasants63.org
www.pleasants63.org

April
2016



Greetings from the East,



I hope you all were able to enjoy your Easter holiday and got to spend the time with your friends and family. This holiday, as has happened with many, has changed over the years. These days we have a 6ft. rabbit that stands upright and lays chicken eggs that are brightly colored. He delivers baskets of bad eating habits, diabetes, and future dental bills to our children. Sometimes there may even be a few extra pounds for the parents. This is all well and good so far as traditions and fun for all but let us not forget the true story/meaning behind Easter. Let's not forget the ultimate sacrifice that was made on that day and those leading up to it. Simply take a moment to reflect and give thanks for what took place and why.

Remember brethren that we have two candidates waiting in the wings to start their masonic journey. This means we will need to brush up on our degree work. Each of the three degrees should be a meaningful and memorable night for the candidates. We owe it to each and every man that comes into our organization to make it that way. The best way to do that is to know what we are doing, minimize our mistakes, and make sure we have enough people to fill ALL parts of each degree. It also helps to have something good to eat afterwards. The best way to achieve this goal is by attending our weekly ritual school every Monday night at 7. We do ok with our core group of guys showing up but it's too often the case that we don't have enough participation (a common problem in most lodges). It sure would be nice to see a few new faces on school nights or at any lodge function for that matter. Yes this is a time for learning but its also a time to get to know your masonic family, find common interests, and maybe make a new friend. we tend to have plenty of laughs along the way and there are plenty of parts that need to be filled so come on out, have fun, and enjoy.

Michael Johnson
Worshipful Master 2016
Pleasants Lodge #63

2016 Officers of Pleasants Lodge

Worshipful Master - Michael Lynn Johnson

Senior Warden	Timothy Morris Shepherd	Junior Warden	Christopher Scott St. Clair
Secretary	Wor. Stuart Matthew Bain	Treasurer	Wor. Sidney Warren Bush, Sr.
Senior Deacon	Wor. Fred Marion Burns	Junior Deacon	Dr. Andrew Alfred Slemp, Jr.
Chaplain	Wor. Charles Henry Stowe	Tiler	Kenneth Ray Robinette
Senior Steward	Ronnie Lee Lester, Jr	Junior Steward	Wendell Lee Presley
Marshall	Frankie Wayne Barker		

From the West Gate



Greetings and salutations from the "West" brothers...

Welcome to spring brothers, that is I think it's finally here, it's been really warm and nice most days, then without warning there's a real chill in the air for several days..

Being a musician my band was scheduled to play an annual outdoor festival the Saturday before Easter weekend.. All that week the weather was beautiful in the seventies and summer like, then as Murphy's Law would have it, when Saturday arrived the temperature was in the mid forties and misting rain all day! Fortunately they had provided a giant circus tent that was enclosed and was equipped with some portable heaters, otherwise it would have been miserable, especially on the hands, trying to play guitar in those temperatures is not enjoyable...

Another outdoor event which took place following a hardy breakfast put on by the Director's Staff at the Kazim Temple, was Roanoke's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, attended by many brothers from the various Shrine Units, fortunately the weather was mild..

On a most excellent note, the Monday of that same week our lodge, with the welcome assistance of Wor. Fred Knapp and Wor. David Richards, raised Bro. John Carl Gurley to the Sublime degree of Master Mason... This was a meaningful moment of pride to me since I was the primary petition signer for John, who now follows his late father's footsteps into the Masonic Brotherhood. Congratulations old friend and God speed into Masonry!

I hope all you brothers had a glorious Easter, I know I did.. I was graciously taken in and well fed at dear Stephanie Scordas's annual Easter dinner, where to my surprise I discovered that her dad, who came over to the "States" from Greece, and after having known him for years, was also a Mason! It's a small world...

Well, now that all those activities have been completed I guess spring really is here, for I had to mow the lawn yesterday, after which unfortunately, I begin to have chills and body aches and if I wasn't in such a daze, I'd say I was coming down with the crud.. Just goes to show you, no good deed goes unpunished! So say some prayers please, especially for the house of the faithful...

Your Friend & Brother,

Timothy Shepherd

Sr. Warden, Pleasants #63

Secretary Sez



Brethren,

As we barrel through into the second quarter of the year, I will start sending out some reminder letters for overdue 2016 dues. If you run into any problems paying your dues, please reach out to me or the Worshipful Master so we can come up with a plan to keep you current.

Thank you!

S&F

Wor. Stuart Bain

Secretary

Birthdays

James Hardie Lawrence	Apr. 11	Fred Marion Burns	May 1	Ronald Wirt	June 10
Curtis Neal Dickerson	Apr. 24	Calvin Peter Keister	May 2	Donald Dean Gates	June 14
William A. Seymour, Jr	Apr. 26	Paul Garry Black	May 4	Barry Dale Light	June 15
Jerry Wayne McMillan	Apr. 29	John Walter Smith	May 9	Wendell Lee Presley	June 17
		Sidney Fulton Baker	May 12	John Robert Gibson	June 26
		David B. Baumgardner, Jr	May 14		
		J. Edward Conner	May 19		
		Anthony Todd Holland	May 20		
		Roger Sedgewick Pendrey	May 20		
		Lloyd Marion Holfield	May 23		
		Charles Henry Stowe	May 24		
		Joel Scott Wyatt	May 30		