

## *Calendar of Events*

### **STATED MEETING**

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month at 7:30 p.m.(except July and August when we are Dark) Dinner at 7pm

### **MARCH 2008**

- Craft Practice at 7pm Mar 30
- Master Mason Degree on Mar 27  
Dinner at 6pm work at 7pm

### **MAY 2008**

Installation of Bartimaeus Lodge Officers May 24 at 11am, lunch will follow. Lodge will be open at 10am

### **JUNE 2008**

7th – Lodge Breakfast 7am-10am (in conjunction with Brown County Shrine Club Car/Truck Show)

### **JULY 2008**

4<sup>th</sup> of July Breakfast - serving begins at 8 a.m.

### **CRAFT PRACTICE / TRAVELING**

Craft practice will be Thursday nights the weeks following the usual Stated Meeting.

Check the web page, or call for current activity.  
Contact Mickey Frost at: (812)837-9560 or email [mfrost@qrvconsulting.com](mailto:mfrost@qrvconsulting.com).

### **COMPUTER USERS!**

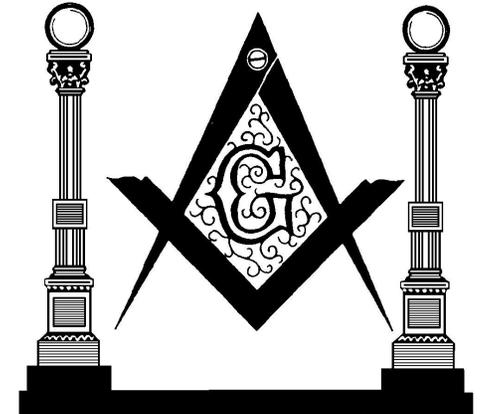
Email saves the Lodge money and improves our communication with you. Please email Secretary Richard White at [rickwhite4790@att.net](mailto:rickwhite4790@att.net) to get your copy via email. Check out our home page at [www.nashville135.org](http://www.nashville135.org).

**Nashville #135 F. & A. M.**  
Attn: Richard K. White, PM  
4790 Bellsville Pike  
Nashville, IN 47448-9091

# The Trestleboard

NASHVILLE #135 F. & A. M.

A Proud and Lawfully  
Chartered Lodge of the Indiana  
Free Masons



MARCH 2008

[www.nashville135.org](http://www.nashville135.org)

## Lodge Officers - 2008

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Mickey Frost, Worshipful Master

Martin Bock, Senior Warden

Jeff Keaton, Junior Warden

James Gredy, Treasurer

Rick White, P.M. Secretary

Darell Bruce, P.M. Senior Deacon

Gary Bedell, Junior Deacon

Randy Small, Senior Steward

Thomas Cory, P.M. Junior Steward

Clyce Hobbs, P.M. Chaplain

Richard Lawlor, P.M. Tyler

Dave Weddle, Trustee

Dean Back, Trustee

Richard Lawlor, Trustee

## MASTER'S MESSAGE

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Brethren, your lodge needs you. The state of our Lodge is strong but should be stronger. Our first priority should be the spreading of Masonic light to all good and true men, especially in our own community. Unfortunately our membership is shrinking with the deaths of so many of our valued brothers. Masonry is needed in our society now more than ever but has to compete with the many less wholesome distractions that are available to our young men. We can help improve the world one good man at a time. ***You can make a difference!*** Talk to your friends and family about our Lodge. Make sure that you have a petition handy that you can give to someone you think would embrace our philosophy and make a good Mason. Visit your lodge when you can. If you need assistance in getting to lodge do not hesitate to call me at **(812) 837-9560**. If you have not attended lodge for some time, don't think that you have to work your

way back into lodge. All you need is the Secretary's verification that you are a current member. **Believe me you will be welcome!** We need your suggestions for programs and activities that you think would help us to build membership, increase the visibility of the lodge in the community and that you would enjoy. Contact me at any time with your suggestions. You can help us to make your lodge a visible and valued part of Brown County and thus encourage those who are eligible to join our illustrious fraternity.

## A WORD FROM THE SECRETARY

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It is with deep regret that we announce the following Brethren have been called home by the Grand Architect:

|                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Reid Chapman                  | 11-29-06 |
| William (Joe) Rotino, P.M.    | 4-13-07  |
| Curtis Baker                  | 7-19-07  |
| Phil Keaton, P.M./Secretary   | 8-10-07  |
| Gary Artist                   | 8-14-07  |
| Ralph Thorsen                 | 9-9-07   |
| Richard L. Smith              | 10-26-07 |
| Robert (Bob) White, Treasurer | 11-26-07 |
| Donald M. Knight              | 2-3-08   |
| Harold D. Clark               | 2-11-08  |

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of these fine Brethren.

Brethren, within the past month, the Lodge found out that two of our members passed away without anyone in the Lodge knowing about it; one Brother passed away over a year ago and he was a 65 year Mason! Some families request Masonic services while others do not know such a service is available. However, having said that, not all families want a Masonic funeral service. The point is, we need to make sure our families are made aware of our desire to have a Masonic funeral service when the time comes. Planning starts now!

## Awards of Gold

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The following Brothers received their 50-year Award of Gold in 2007:

**Robert Gipson**  
**Max Kritzer**  
**Arnold Goldman**

According to the archives of this Lodge, Brothers **Jack McDonald** and **Ralph (Scotty) Bush** will receive their 50-year Award of Gold in 2008. We intend to present the award of Gold to Brother Jack at our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Breakfast. Please make plans to attend this event if at all possible. Brother Scotty will not make the pilgrimage up from Florida, but we all send our best wishes and congratulations to him.

## Upcoming 25-Year Pin for 2008

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Gary I. Snider (Raised 7-30-83)

## Parting thoughts ....

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Brethren our Lodge membership is getting older every day. If we don't start recruiting and grooming new members now to take our places, our future looks mighty dim. In 2007, we did **not** raise one Master Mason! When was the last time that happened? Our ***total membership has declined every year for the past six years!*** Our annual dues do not even cover our annual operating expenses. Luckily, our active members have voted wisely in the past 6-8 years and we have been able to draw money from interest earned on our investments...but we can't continue this way of doing business. If every member would recruit just one member, this will preclude having to eventually raise member dues again and insure the future life of our Lodge. **Think about it!**

## Special Events

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**Benefit Breakfast** – On June 7 Nashville 135 will be serving as scrumptious breakfast, with any proceeds being donated to local charitable organizations. Breakfast will be from 7am until 10am and will be open to the public on a donations accepted basis. If you are desirous of helping out in this worthy endeavor please contact **Marty Bock** at (812)597-4307.

**Brown County Shrine Club Car and Truck Show** – On June 7 the Brown County Shrine Club will host their Annual Car and Truck Show on the streets of Nashville. This will be a great day to visit your lodge and help promote Masonry in our community.

**Installation of Bartimaeus Officers** - On May 24 at 11am Nashville 135 will be hosting the installation by Grand Lodge of the Bartimaeus Lodge officers for the ensuing year. Our own **Brother Stanley Fishel, P.M** will be installed as Worshipful Master. Lodge will be opened at 10:00 a.m. followed by installation at 11:00 a.m. This event I am sure will be one of the most attended events our history. Please plan on attending and show your support for Brother Stanley.

**Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Breakfast and Flag Raising** – Please join us for breakfast at 8am on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Breakfast is served at 8am and is followed by an inspirational presentation by a noteworthy Mason, Masonic Awards and the raising of a new American Flag. This annual event is our way of bringing our members together to reflect upon what is important to us as Masons, renew our friendship and express our patriotism.

## Potential Events in Discussion

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**CHIP – Child Identification Program** - We have begun discussions about doing the CHIP program at the Brown County Fair this year in cooperation with and the assistance of the Brown County law enforcement activities.

A parent's worst nightmare is the disappearance of a child. To give families a measure of protection against this ever increasing problem, the Grand Lodge of Indiana and Indiana DeMolay have developed the Child Identification Program. The Indiana Freemasons Child Identification Program (CHIP) addresses the alarming fact that over 1,000,000 children are reported missing in the United States each year. The Indiana Freemasons' CHIP is the most comprehensive child identification program currently available to our communities. CHIP helps concerned parents to promote the safety of their children by providing a fast, simple packet of information to help authorities identify and recover lost, missing or exploited kids. It also provides an opportunity to educate our children on safe practices, which will reduce their risk of abduction or exploitation.

All identifying materials are given to the parent or guardian once the child has been processed. No materials or private information is retained by the Freemasons or any law enforcement agency.

**Senior Warden Marty Bock** has been appointed to investigate the feasibility of Nashville 135's participation in this program and report back at the next stated meeting. Please address any thoughts or comments to Marty at the next stated meeting or give him a call at (812)597-4307.

## A Poem to Contemplate

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### Let's Go To Lodge Tonight

**My brother, let's go to Lodge tonight;  
You haven't been for years.  
Let's don our Lambskin Apron white  
And sit among our peers.**

**I feel a kind of longing, see,  
to climb those creaky stairs;  
I know it'll be a thrill for me  
to lay aside my cares.**

**We'll meet the Tyler at the door  
and though he'll hesitate,  
we'll hear him say just as before,  
"Come in or you'll be late."**

**I'd like to get out on the floor--  
Come on, let's get in line;  
I want to face the East once more  
And give the same old sign.**

**I want to hear the gavel rap  
the Craftsmen to attention  
and see the Master don his cap;  
a night without dissention.**

**So come! Pass up that picture show,  
or your wrestling bout or fight;  
Switch off that TV set! Let's go!  
Let's go to Lodge tonight.**