



Eureka Lodge #283 AF & AM

PO Box 283
China Grove, NC
28023

Volume I, Issue I
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From the East—Worshipful Master Doug Earnhardt

Greetings from the East:

I would like to welcome everyone to a New Year at Eureka Lodge No. 283. I would like to thank all the brethren for their vote of confidence in electing me as your Master 2006. I am very honored and proud to serve such a strong lodge as ours. I will strive to not only uphold the standards set before me but will work to make us even stronger in 2006. This opportunity and experience for me is one that will go down as *one of the greatest events in my life.*

We are already into a very busy year. We have *completed* an Entered Apprentice degree and have *had* two Entered Apprentices *prove their proficiency* and will receive their Second degree on 2/20/06. *One*

petition will be voted on and we have several others out to potential candidates. Obviously, we will have a great deal of Masonic degree work to perform during the upcoming months and would like each and everyone of our members to come observe or participate in these degrees.

This brings up a real concern for me as Master this year. Both Steward *positions are unfilled* this year. These chairs are the beginning of an enjoyable learning process and experience for a Brother who wants to learn and serve this lodge. All of our officer positions are important to the operations and proceedings of the lodge and having someone consider these positions is very important for future growth within

Eureka Lodge. Please take time and give this matter your consideration.

We are looking forward to another *charitable* year in all our projects supporting the Children's home, Eastern Star home and our local *youth activities*, as well as needy families. Plans are already underway for our annual Charity Ride and our Golf tournament. Quickly we will be working on our plans for Farmer's Day and our annual car show. We need help for all of our supporting projects including our monthly Eastern Star breakfast which is a big contributor to our operating capital and is for a great cause.

Again thanks everyone for the vote of confidence. This Lodge is one of the greatest lodges in North Carolina and every member should be proud of Eureka #283.—Doug Earnhardt, WM

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2006 Quarterly Newsletter

Greetings Brethren. On behalf of the Worshipful Master and the Newsletter and Publicity Committee, let us say hello and offer our hand in friendship and brotherly love to all of you. In this first newsletter of 2006, let us take the opportunity to remind everyone of some important information and upcoming dates of activities. Enjoy this newsletter and send us feedback for future information and articles.

Newsletter & Publicity Committee

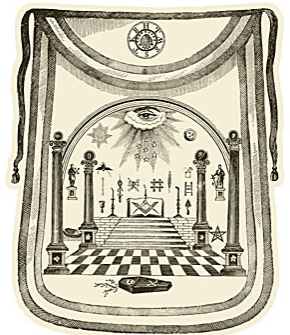
Brothers: Rob Thornton, Chad Roberts, Roger Hosey, Joe Summerlin

The Finance Committee has completed the budget and returned it to the WM and the Lodge for their approval. In all, there appears to be enough income to cover our expenses so things are well with us.

Since there is a committee to handle this procedure, I thought I would share some insight as to how the budget comes to be.

First we know there are known costs every year that must be paid for such as Gas for cooking, Electricity, Water, Telephone, Building Supplies, Yard Maintenance, Building Insurance, Officers (Treasurer, Secretary and Tyler). Next, there are certain functions that we sponsor such as Flowers for the departed Brethren, the OES Reception at their installation, our Christmas Party, and Awards Banquet. Other miscellaneous items include Per Capita to the Grand Lodge, and miscellaneous expenses that may hit us during the year. We can estimate or know the exact cost of all of these things to give us a dollar figure that we must pay during the year from our annual dues. This year it is \$16,860.00. We estimate how many members we could lose to non-payment of dues, so that we have a more accurate figure in the event that some members are unable or unwilling to pay their dues for the year. Next, we take the number of active members in the lodge (198) and multiply times the dues (\$80.00) to get our income before other sources. We add the other sources, such as the Eastern Star Breakfast and the amount of money they provide us as well as new members likely to petition the lodge. This amount comes to a total of \$17,890.00 and gives us an overage of approximately \$1030.00 before any unforeseen expenses occur. We do not anticipate these unknown expenses but are prepared for them. That is how the budget comes to be. This year we added a new line item expense for creating and maintaining a web site for the lodge.

One final item, without the Eastern Star Breakfast money, we would be short at least \$500.00 and possibly more since they usually contribute at least \$1,500.00 per year. See you at the Breakfast.



Special points of interest:

- Annual Dues are due, please make checks payable to Eureka Masonic Lodge for \$80.00
- Eastern Star Breakfast every 2nd Saturday of the month. Come and enjoy a GREAT breakfast, \$5.00 at the door. Come and Help or just to Eat!
- We have several candidates in the process of receiving their degrees, come and participate.
- School of Instruction—May 10 & 17th at Andrew Jackson and Fulton Lodges.



New Members 2005—Present

Name	Initiated	Passed	Raised
Jason Patrick Whitley	10/04/2004	02/07/2005	03/28/2005
Gregory Daniel Honeycutt	02/02/2005	06/06/2005	07/21/2005
Rusty Earl Lipe	03/07/2005	04/18/2005	05/09/2005
Donald Elwood Bringle	03/21/2005	02/20/2006	
Roger Lee Hosey	08/01/2005	09/19/2005	10/03/2005
Charles Ray Scarborough	11/28/2005	02/20/2006	
Paul Lewis Blackwelder	02/06/2006	02/20/2006	



Deceased 2005—Present

We had many Brothers continue their journey to that undiscovered country from whose borne no traveler returns. They will be missed but not forgotten.

- Howard James Dabbs—02/04/2005
- Roy Summerell Kirk—02/07/2005
- Robert Monroe Davis—04/02/2005
- James Riley Raymer— 05/24/2005
- Raymond Lee Daugherty Jr.— 09/11/2005

- Herbert Eugene Hall—09/19/2005
- Grady Alexander Morris—10/03/2005
- Alfred Dean Ennis— 10/07/2005
- Jerry Mack Kline— 01/24/2006

We mourn their passing.



Upcoming Charity Events

2006 is going to be a great year! Our goals include achieving a higher level of income through our charitable events to support eh Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, The Masonic & Eastern Star Home, as well as our local youth activities. The events that are scheduled for this year include the Annual Golf Outing, Farmers Day Event, Charity Bike Ride, and our newest event the Annual Car show. IF you are interested in

assisting in any of these events you can contact the Charity Committee for advice on the best approach.

I would like to take this opportunity to let all Brothers know that at our Golf Outing, Bike Ride, and Car Show event, we will need door prizes to use as a means for fund raising. Now is the time to start asking family, friends, acquaintances, local businesses and anyone else you can think

of for support on these events. Let people know about these events and how they can participate as well. We need golfers, riders, and cars to be shown as well as donations. Together we can all contribute to making 2006 another strong and charitable year not only for Eureka Lodge but for us individually as well.



Lodge Committees for 2006

WM Doug Earnhardt has announced the following committees for 2006:

Finance & Budget

Chair—Tom Lentz
 Doug Earnhardt
 Rob Thornton
 James Foy
 Joe Summerlin

Building Rental:

Rob Riddle
 Wayne Lipe

Charity:

Chair—Fred Shipwash
 Gerald Jennings
 James Foy

Reference:

Chair—Joe Summerlin
 Mike Beaver
 Gerald Jennings

Orientation/Greeter:

Chair—Doug Earnhardt
 Doug Pruitt
 Rob Thornton

Masonic & Eastern Star Home:

Chair—Tommy Ellor
 Jerry Edwards
 Fred Shipwash

Masonic Home for Children:

Chair—Tommy Ellor
 Jerry Edwards
 Harold Moss

Coaching:

Chair—Willie Beaver
 Bill Greene

Reference:

Tom Lentz
 Ron Riddle
 Joe Summerlin

Bldg & Grounds:

Chair—Eddie Ritchie
 Willie Beaver
 Joe Summerlin

Clean Up:

Chair—Doug Earnhardt
 Wayne Lipe
 James Foy

Masonic Education:

Chair—Rob Thornton
 Larry Brown
 Cecil Kieth

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Chair—Rob Thornton
 Larry Brown
 Cecil Kieth

Reference:

Doug Pruitt
 Chad Roberts

Visitation:

Chair—Glenn Tyson
 Willie Beaver
 Tommy Ellor

Special Projects:

Chair—Joe Summerlin
 Greg Honeycutt
 Jason Shell

Newsletter & Publicity:

Chair—Rob Thornton
 Chad Roberts
 Roger Hosey

Ten Year Plan:

Chair—Bill Comer
 Cecil Kieth

STEWARDS NEEDED!!!

We are already into an active year and are lacking stewards for our Lodge. We are looking for any brother that would like an opportunity to take an active roll in the business of the Lodge. You are required to have stood your 3rd Degree proficiency before being installed in the

seat or progressing further in the Chairs of the Lodge. The Stewards assist the Junior Warden in all functions regarding the craft at refreshment. It is not necessary that you know how to cook or anything like that, but be willing to assist in meal preparation, serving, and clean-up. This year,

Brother Rob Thornton is the Junior Warden and as he likes to cook, the duties would fall more in line of assisting with serving and clean-up. Degree nights are more strenuous on the Junior Warden and the Stewards play a critical role in ensuring all Brothers are well cared for prior to our degrees. Being installed as a Steward is a commitment of time and that should weigh on your decision to accept this post. If you are interested, Please contact WM Doug Earnhardt or any of the officers of the lodge and let

Come See Us Again in 2006

Brethren,

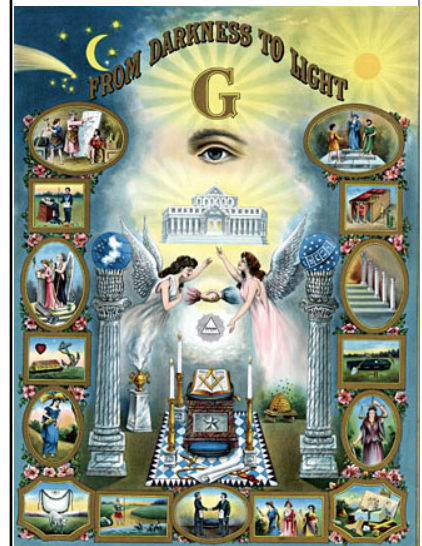
Over the past couple of years we have noticed that mostly the same brothers come to most of our meetings. While this is encouraging for it is a larger crowd than other lodges have on a regular basis, there are a large number of brothers in the lodge that I have only either seen at a charity event or near the beginning and end

of the year when our annual dues are required. Having said that, we encourage all of our brothers to come back to see us at the lodge. There is a large pool of Masonic information and experience that we could really use to help keep us on the path of Friendship and Brotherly Love.

Also, if anyone knows brothers that would like to

attend the lodge but can't physically get there, please let the officers of the lodge know so that we can try to make informal arrangements to assist them in joining us as often as possible.

Sometimes people feel that after they have been gone for a certain amount of time, it is hard to come back. Believe us when we say, we will always welcome you and truly wish to share your presence again.





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“Freemasonry, a beautiful system of Morality, veiled in Allegory and illustrated by Symbols”.



**We're coming
to the Web**

**Come visit us online at
www.eureka283.org**

The photo shown below is a copy of the last known photo taken of Brother Grady Morris. He has finished the trials of his probationary state, but before leaving us he was able to get this photo with our newest Entered Apprentice at the time. Kneeling to the right of Grady (in wheelchair) is Brother Roger Hosey.



Masonic Education

The Masonic Education in this issue will be in the form of a Frequently Asked Question (FAQ—pronounced fak)

What is a Mason? This is a simple and complicated question to answer. The simple answer is that a Mason or Freemason is a member of a fraternity known as Masonry. A fraternity is a group of men (just like a sorority is a group of women) who join together because:

There are things they

want to do in the world that they enjoy doing with a group of like minded people and there may even be things they want to do “inside their own minds” that may require some introspection.

Masonry is the oldest fraternity in the world. No one knows exactly how old it is because its origins have been lost over time. Probably it rose from the stone guilds that built the castles and cathedrals of the

middle ages. In 1717, Masonry created the first Grand Lodge in England out of the four existing Lodges in London. Since America was one of the English Colonies at the time, Masonry traveled across the ocean to this land and the Grand Lodge of England chartered Lodges in the Colonies. After the American Revolution, the Grand Lodge for each State was created as the States joined the Union and they Chartered Lodges within their juris-

dition.

Above all else, Masonry is a beautiful system of Morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. The most ancient society in the world. It's principals are based on pure morality, its ethics are the ethics of pure religion, its doctrines the doctrines of brotherly love and its sentiments the sentiments of exalted benevolence. It encourages all that is good, kind and charitable; and reproves all that is vicious, cruel and oppressive.