

Greeting from the East. This will be my last newsletter. It has been an honor being you Worshipful Master for the year 2010. Thank you all for the Honor.

I want to say thank you all for help you have given to me this year. Thank you to everyone who helped at the Dinner Bell before, during, and after the County Fair and the Dog Show. It's been a great year.

I was recently reading the history of the Lodge Given to me when I was raised.

In 1860 the dues for the lodge was \$2.00. Then in 1861 it was raised to \$5.00. As a Civil War living historian I can tell you the pay for a soldier was \$13.00 per month in 1861 and it was considered good pay. I could not see myself paying half a months pay (in my case over \$800.00) for membership unless I was really into something.

I was also struck by the fact that in 1866 the Trustees were ordered to get the Lodge room thoroughly cleaned and get spittoons and have the Brethren spit in them. Times some things change and then some things do not change.

In March 1872 it was recorded that a committee was appointed to visit all Brothers in arrears of dues.

January 1881 All dues in arrears be remitted except the dues for the year of 1881 which were \$3.00.

August 1887 Brother Samuel Jump died at the age of 65. He was Master for Whitney Lodge 14 times.

1915-May 26 a motion to donate out of the general fund the sum of \$38.00 for

the Masonic Home for Widows and Orphans Fund, which would be equal to \$1.00 per member.

In various Years it is mentioned (starting in the year 1872) members in arrears with dues.

It's that time of year again and Dues are now due. They need to be in the hands of the Secretary by the 31st of December or you pay a \$5.00 penalty and after the 1st of January any fees associated with mailing Notices. If you are unable to pay or need a Demit or Remit you need to have it voted on at the December stated meeting if possible to prevent any confusion.

A few months ago I was looking at the recorded minutes for the last 30 years and it seems each year we are doing the same thing, trying to get members to pay their dues. Let us try and start a new Tradition by having all dues in arrears by the end of the year.

We have a great history as a Lodge and some very good Traditions. I again want to thank you all for the support you have given to me during this year. I again want to say I'm very much honored to be the 105th Master of Whitney Lodge. Thank you.

Dennis O. Curtis Sr.
Worshipful Master
Whitney Lodge #229

Masonic Scholarships will be available in early January 2011.

Dues need to be in the Secretaries hand by the 31st of December. If you need help you may ask for a demit or a remit of dues.

Interested in going to other lodges? Check out this web site:

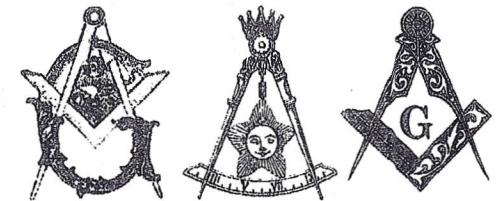
<http://www.masoniccalendar.blogspot.com/>

Check out Whitney's facebook page.

Masonic Footnote:

The Trowel

T is for the tools of the first three degrees
R for every rule as each brother agrees;
O is for the oath, in making all brothers true
W is for the work each one of us must do;
E is for the effort to answer every call
L stands for love...the most important thing of all;
These letters spell TROWEL, and as every brother knows;
It spreads love and friendship, wherever it goes.



You can get Masonic graphics for your own use at www.whitney229.org

Our answering machine is updated frequently with the activities that are scheduled for the Lodge. Call the Lodge at 765-282-8599. We look forward to seeing you!