



## **FREEMASONS LODGE #363**

790 N. Van Buren St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53202



## **LODGE ACTIVITY**

|          |        |   |                                    |
|----------|--------|---|------------------------------------|
| July 12  | 5:30pm | FC Degree work & Bastille Day After Glow Affair | HRSMC                              |
| August 7 | 3:00pm | Annual Lodge picnic (a Thursday)                | Rich Loch's House<br>New Berlin WI |

*Happy summer... enjoy the "dark" times with some "Light"!  
It's been a busy Masonic year for our lodge... kick back for the summer, enjoy some picnic, and see you in the Fall! Meantime, please come out to join us for the lodge picnic on August 9<sup>th</sup> at brother Rich Lock's place in New Berlin. Price is \$20/person.*

**If you are receiving this Trestleboard as a printed edition and would like to help the lodge save costs by subscribing to the email version instead, please contact the editor at [gnostictom420@yahoo.com](mailto:gnostictom420@yahoo.com).**



# THE SOUND OF THE GAVEL

Master's Message  
by Bob Roth

My Brothers,

I am writing this note to you as I pack up and head home from the 164<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Free & Accepted Masons of Wisconsin at Madison. One hundred and sixty four years! What's that old in this country! Brothers Jan F. Talaga and David W. Alderfer joined me at what was an effective, excellent session, chaired by MWGM JB Van Hollen and where we got to see our new Grand Master, Dr. John W. Wilke installed, along with, and this was special, seeing our lodge brothers, Joe Harker and Bob Strader installed at Senior Grand Warden and Grand Orator, respectively. What a singular honor for our Lodge, having two leaders in the Grand Lodge line at one time.

Grand Lodge activities are a vital part of your lodge officers' connection with the rest of the Craft in this state, and we did our best to represent you. Yours truly addressed the session twice, once as Board Chair of the Wisconsin Masonic Home, Three Pillars. The other time was later in the afternoon, all dressed up in my Revolutionary War Officer's suit. I had the humble privilege to honor our Nation's Flag by presenting the National Sojourner's "Toast to the Flag" at the request of MWGM Wilke during his installation. Now that was fun! For those of you who might think that getting into the officer line is a lot of work, you are right, but it is oh so worthwhile.

The next forty-five days are packed with important work at the Lodge and we need helpers and sponsors to really step up to the plate. Brother Strader is hard at work (while recovering from his work at Grand Lodge as well) getting the FC team ready on 25 Jun and 12 Jul. Lodge Counselor Br. Bill DeLind is busy herding cats, uhh, I mean managing 24 candidates, and really trying to impress upon them that lesson of Masonry that some memory work is really needed in a timely way to move forward in the degrees. If you are called upon to help with posting work, or to help out on degree events, do really try to find the time to pitch in. If we can get all the EAs to FC by close of business on 12 Jul, we do believe we can then find the time and support from Grand Lodge and the District II leadership to move most if not all to the sublime degree of Master Mason by year's end. We all owe these very special candidates our best efforts, and I know they will get it.

Date conflict issues plague our summer picnic date, and as of now it will be at Rick Loch's place on Thursday, 7 Aug 08. Cost will be \$20 bucks a head. More information will follow in the July Trestleboard.

Please give a hearty welcome to our two new EAs, Brother Mike Miller and Joe Lieunah who began their Masonic journey on 28 May 08. A fine time was had by all and my special thanks to those EAs who especially wound their way down to us and joined in the occasion.

Lodge night on 4 Jun was special indeed, with a batch of the EAs showing up for a short presentation about Three Pillars, our great Masonic Charity in this state, and then we exited stage left for a great time at Brother Jose Zarate's restaurant, La Fuente where many other Master Masons from the Lodge met with those that had been at the stated meetings and had just one exceptional evening. Brother Jose, thank you so much!

On a very good note, it should be mentioned that we passed our foundation bylaws, and with a generous gift of many thousands of dollars began the long march to a financial place of strength where we will be much better able to make charitable contributions to Masonic and other worthy projects in the future. It took work to get this done, and it will take time for it to mature. With patience, we will see it through. It was a time of quiet

pride for the Lodge. My special thanks to PM Frank Bevsek for his steady steering of this project through the Lodge.

For those of you who haven't been around lately, you are really missing out. Lodge is fun, the work is good, and the times we spend together are even better. Come and see!

Bob Roth  
Worshipful Master  
Freemason's Lodge #363  
2008



Brothers Mike Miller and Joe Lieunah just after their first big step!

## **JUNIOR WARDEN'S STATION**



**“To Call the Craft from Labor”**

By Tom Curtis

Brethren:

I'll be off to my ancestral home on the wild and rocky coast of Maine later this month...but prior to doing so, I'll be attending to the furtherance of our Sponsorship Program. I'll send out to each sponsor the name and address of his specific new Mason....and, at the same time, I'll send that newly initiated individual the name of his sponsor. If you are a sponsor or new brother Mason, please work together to make it a rich experience. This is one of those rare opportunities that each of us has to build our Lodge into the sort of place where Masons can experience what true Masonry is really all about...brotherhood in its deepest sense. If you have any questions regarding the program, please email or call me and I'll work with you as to the answers.

Best wishes to all during the summer months.

As ever, fraternally  
Tom Curtis, Junior Warden

## Freemasons Lodge #363, Milwaukee, WI

www.freemasonsloodge.org  
Webmasters: Jan F. Talaga

Trestleboard Editor: Thomas A. Baas II  
STATED MEETING:  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday, monthly

## LODGE OFFICERS

|                    |                       |                  |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Worshipful Master  | Robert W. Roth        | (262) 782 – 3922 |
| Senior Warden      | Jan F. Talaga,        | (414) 852 - 6292 |
| Junior Warden      | Thomas P. Curtis II   | (262) 703 – 0797 |
| Treasurer          | William M. Coyle      | (262) 662 – 9809 |
| Secretary          | Robert E. Manske      | (414) 259 – 9634 |
| Senior Deacon      | Jeffrey Norman        | (414) 358 – 3613 |
| Junior Deacon      | Michael Reindl        | (262) 821 – 1815 |
| Chaplain           | David R. Miracle      | (414) 839 – 0948 |
| Senior Steward     | David W. Alderfer     | (301) 604 – 7675 |
| Junior Steward     | Jeff Day              | (262) 784 – 6311 |
| Deputy Jr. Steward | Vincent J. Michuda    | (414) 764 – 5773 |
| Counselor          | William V. DeLind II  | (414) 271 – 8525 |
| Tiler              | Vincent J. Michuda    | (414) 764 – 5773 |
| Deputy Tiler       | Thomas A. Baas II     | (414) 217 – 7853 |
| Trustees           | Robert C. Strader, PM | (262) 827 – 1607 |
|                    | Jeffrey D. Schwartz   | (414) 273 – 3320 |
|                    | Frank S. Bevsek, PM   | (414) 698 – 3297 |
| Organist           | Michael J. Hill       | (414) 364 – 4455 |

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## THE WINDING STAIRS

Editor's Light  
Report from the "East" - By Tommy Baas



Brethren-

After a beautiful week out East and some magical poetry performances by old and new friends in some sincerely great venues, I got back to Wisconsin a little early. I'd been dealing with one of my notorious sinus headaches and Amelia's grandma was dying, so we all caught earlier flights. Prayers go out to her and her family in these times.

It was an honor for me reading poetry in the house where Harriett Beecher Stowe wrote *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Right down the street and later in the week, other poets participating in this Connecticut Beat Poetry Festival read at the old house of Mark Twain, who, besides being an American literary legend, was a brother of the Craft.

Most interesting perhaps though was the cozy barn in which my best friend Amelia read her magic, beyond the garden behind the Webb Deane Stevens Museum in Wethersfield. Against the backdrop of General Washington on his horse leading his troops, what's the first thing that catches your attention when you check out the museum's webpage? <http://www.webb-deane-stevens.org/> Look closely at the emblem on that tea kettle. During the American Revolution, the house served as Washington's headquarters in May of 1781. The barn has been used for meetings and weddings, and as we held a poetry reading there, I got to wondering if maybe George and his boys held Masonic ritual there back in the day. Amelia is particularly aware of spirits, and we both could sense a historical, yet timeless presence within the walls of that barn and skirting about the gardens around.

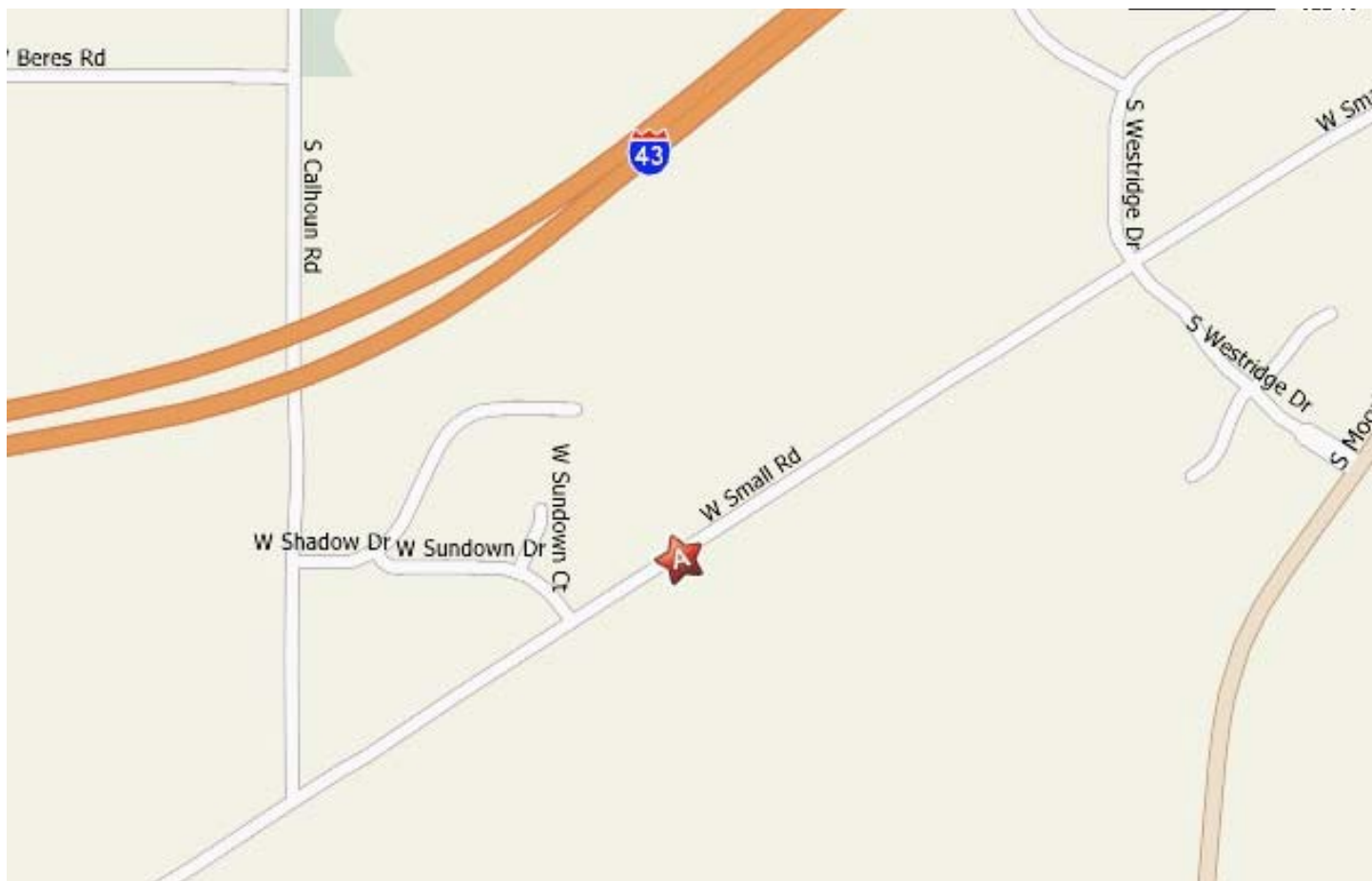
Neither was my little vacation without both Masonic comradery and interest. A Waukesha-native poet friend of mine also participating in the festival has shown interest in joining our lodge. One of the organizers of the festival also yields an interest in the Craft, his father being a brother, and may be looking into joining out there. As it turns out the other main organizer of the poetry fest,

reflectively a very generous and accommodating host, already is a Mason and involved in the York Rite, though not in Connecticut. Apparently in Connecticut, as he told me, Masonry is strictly hereditary, though a little googling on the matter cannot confirm this. Whatever the case, and as one might imagine, Freemasonry yields a particularly proud presence in New England where our great nation and its philosophy took seed.

## **LODGE PICNIC**

**THURSDAY 7 AUG 08**

**RICH LOCH'S HOME: 16767 W. SMALL ROAD  
NEW BERLIN WI**



**TWENTY BUCKS: SEND CHECKS TO FML AT 790 NORTH VAN BUREN STREET, MILWAUKEE WI 53202**

**GREAT FOOD, GOOD COMPANY AND A CHANCE TO UNWIND  
LETS GET TOGETHER AND DO EXACTLY THAT!!**

**FEES FOR DEGREES**

Petition.....\$.....  
 E.A.....\$.....  
 F.C.....\$.....  
 M.M.....\$.....  
 Geo. Wash. Mem. ....\$.....  
 .....\$.....  
**TOTAL**     **\$**.....

**PETITION FOR DEGREES**



Date .....

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren

of .....Lodge No. ....

**Free and Accepted Masons**

I, the undersigned, respectfully state, that, unbiased by friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, I freely and voluntarily offer myself as a candidate for the Degrees of Masonry; that I am prompted to solicit this privilege by a favorable opinion conceived of the institution, a desire for knowledge, and a sincere wish of being serviceable to my fellow creatures, and should this petition be granted, I will cheerfully conform to all the ancient established usages and customs of the Fraternity.

Full Name .....Age .....  
First Middle Surname

I was born at .....on the day of .....  
Month Year

I reside at.....  
No. Street City-Town-Village Zip Code

My occupation is.....

I am employed by .....Soc. Sec. #.....

My telephone numbers are .....Residence .....Business .....

I have resided at the address given for the .....years last past. Spouse's Name.....

For the five years last past I resided at the following addresses and places.....

.....

Have you ever before petitioned any Lodge for the Masonic Degrees?.....

If you did, give name, number and location of the Lodge with full explanation .....

.....

.....

Have you ever been convicted of a felony?.....If yes, explain .....

.....

All the statements I have made in this petition are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature .....

Print Signature .....  
First Middle Surname

We, the undersigned, are personally acquainted with the above named petitioner, and from our confidence in his integrity do cheerfully recommend him as a proper candidate for the Degrees of Masonry.

Signature .....Petitioned .....Lodge, No. ....

Print Signature .....

Signature .....from.....Lodge, No. ....

Print Signature .....