



Freemasons Lodge #363

790 N. Van Buren St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202



Lodge Activity

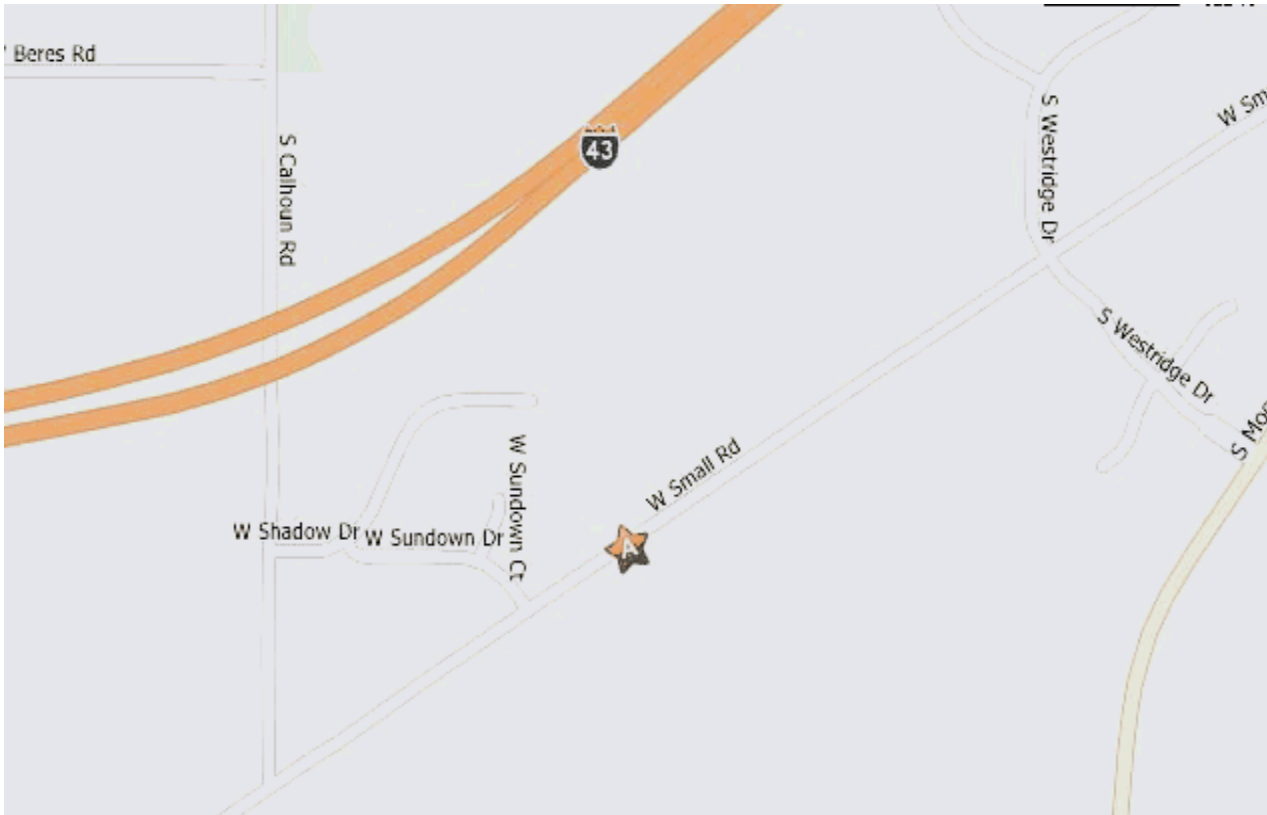
August 7	3:00pm	Annual Lodge picnic	Rich Loch's House New Berlin WI
September 3	5:30pm	Stated meeting	HSRMC
September 24	5:30pm	Degree work	HRSMC

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 7th 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.

FREEMASONS LODGE PICNIC
THURSDAY 7 AUGUST 2008
RICH LOCH'S HOME: 16767 W. SMALL ROAD
NEW BERLIN WI



\$20: SEND CHECKS TO FML AT 790 NORTH VAN BUREN STREET, MILWAUKEE WI 53202

Or just pay at the picnic.
GREAT FOOD, GOOD COMPANY AND A CHANCE TO UNWIND
LET'S GET TOGETHER AND DO EXACTLY THAT!!

Freemasons Lodge #363, Milwaukee, WI

www.freemasonsloodge.org
 Webmasters: Jan F. Talaga

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Robert W. Roth	(262) 782 – 3922
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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
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Deputy Jr. Steward	Vincent J. Michuda	(414) 764 – 5773
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Tiler	Vincent J. Michuda	(414) 764 – 5773
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 1st Wednesday, monthly

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The Sound of the Gavel

Master's Message
by Bob Roth

It goes without saying that this Lodge has often done some extraordinary service to the Craft, but raising eight EAs to FC on 25 Jun 08, and then, with another dose of heart and joy and real skill, ten more on Saturday, 12 Jul 08, was just something to behold. All of us should be rightly proud of our degree members and teams, led so well by Brother Bob Strader. The Saturday session was just great, with two separate degree teams working, one in the Lodge Room and one on the auditorium floor, and each working throughout the day, one candidate at a time. The combined lectures at the end of the day were just as well done, with a tour de force performance of the Middle Chamber Lecture by Brother Ray Lane and Brother Mike Kugler's patented and polished Charge. Add to that some really great support from visiting district officers and from lodge officers of Waukesha Lodge and we had a recipe for real brotherhood and real accomplishment. Thank you all! The afterglow event was fun, and the spread laid out by Brother Childers and his Pub crew was outstanding. Thanks so much!

And now let's take a breather. Enjoy your summer, your families and all that is great about Wisconsin at this time of year. Our core goal to make men better happens when we do our work and care about each other, but it is always important to take those lessons and use them for the greater good in the community and the family. Take a moment to reflect about your own Masonic Journey, whether active in the Lodge or an appendent body, and just know that the journey continues with you while you do your day to day activities, knowing that you can always come back to the Lodge and share time with us.

On a very different note, I'd like to specially ask you to remember Brother Thomas W. Godfrey, who laid down his working tools on 8 Jul 08. Brother Tom was our fourth Worshipful Master, serving in 1995, and was one of the great Masons this state has seen. He is the first of our Masters to pass on. His extraordinary life and work as a community leader, attorney, and Masonic mentor to so many Masons, myself included, is of considerable note. Please say a prayer for his family and ask the Grand Architect to speed him on his final journey to that Promised Land.

On 7 Aug 08 starting at 3PM, out in the sylvan woods of New Berlin, Rich Loch is hosting our summer picnic. Great food, good libation, and the relaxed company of your brothers always make this a special event. Also remember that this event is open to non-Masons who are men of good report and who might have an interest in joining us in a Masonic journey. We'll look them over and welcome them warmly, and that is certainly one of the goals of the picnic activity. Tents, port-a-potties, tables, chairs and all of that will be set up so we're good to go, rain or shine. Let's relax and enjoy ourselves.

September will find us back at work, with our stated meeting on 3 September and degree work at the Lodge on Wednesday, 24 September. Since we've got a mixed bag of EAs, FCs and MMs to do, I won't call the shot on which degree team will be at work on 24 Sep until we get closer to the September stated meeting.

But there is one more thing to mention. Most Worshipful Grand Master John W. Wilke sends his best wishes and congratulations to us for all the great degree work we've been doing. He is mindful of the load we carry, and in his special way, wants to lend a hand. And what a hand it is. On Saturday, 13 Sep 08, the Grand Lodge officers of the State of Wisconsin will form their own Master Master Degree Team and confer that degree on three of our FC Brothers in a special session at the Grand Master's farm at Kendall, Wisconsin. That's over by Tomah and Fort McCoy, and yes, this is really a special deal. It's a bit early in the planning to announce which

FCs are going, but I can tell you those that do will have to have their prove up work down pat. A delegation of Lodge officers and brothers will accompany the three FCs, and the Grand Master tells me that the work will start in the mid-morning that day, one candidate at a time, with a wind up by three or four PM's in the afternoon, allowing ample time to get home at a reasonable hour from the hills of west central Wisconsin. There will be more details to follow.

What a great year to be in this Lodge. Thank you all for all you do, all the time to make our collective Masonic experience as good as it is. And those of you who can, and haven't been down to sit with us and share time with us lately, please do. We miss your company, and the more the merrier.

Have a great summer, all of you!



June 25th new FCs

(from left to right)

Daniel Riedel
Dan Bruckner
Steven Bruckner
Sylvester Cutler
WM Bob Roth
Jon Gehl
Jason Stiebs
Rob Wiczorek
Michael Miller



July 12th new FCs

(from left to right)

top:

Mike Geiger II
Anthony Gaglione
Keith Wein
Todd Garrison
Dejan Ristic

front:

Joe Lieunah
Angelo Ruiz
WM Bob Roth
Zach St. Martin
Adam Zlotocha
George Voell

REMEMBERING A PASSED MASTER...



Past Worshipful Master Thomas W. Godfrey laid down his working tools on 8 Jul 08, after an exemplary life of social service and professional excellence in our community. Tom Godfrey was a lawyer by profession, but found great satisfaction in other kinds of community work. His Masonic work included a board chair tour at the Wisconsin Masonic Home, Three Pillars, and decades of service to the Scottish Rite, where he served in many capacities and as a 33d Degree Mason.

In the community his work included, among other activities, serving as the Village of Elm Grove president.

A lifelong member of First Congregational Church in Wauwatosa, Godfrey was involved with the Congregational Home in Brookfield, including serving as its president and sometimes legal counsel.

“He just believed in caring for people,” said his wife, Susan Godfrey. “Whatever care people needed — whether it was at the Congregational Home or the Masonic Home or the Children’s Learning Center — he wanted to be involved in things that made other people’s lives better.”

In other roles, Godfrey served as board chairman or president of organizations including the Blood Center of Southeastern Wisconsin, Friends of the Milwaukee Art Center, and the Greater Milwaukee Chapter of the American Red Cross.

His family first lived in Wauwatosa and then in the Town of Brookfield — what would become Elm Grove — where his parents built their home.

His cousins were the Davidsons — as in Harley-Davidson — “and they rode motorcycles to the high school,” she said. His father, Kneeland A. Godfrey, became the first village president. Brother Tom served as a village trustee in the early 1970s, before being elected village president, serving from 1975 to 1981.

“It was a volunteer job, and he felt that it should be volunteer,” his wife said. “We paid for every chicken dinner we went to that was affiliated with the village,” she said, laughing at the memory. Brother Tom first earned a degree in accounting from the University of Wisconsin in Madison and then served with the U.S. Air Force. He returned and went to law school at the University of Michigan. He was a third-year law student when he was introduced to the former Susan Gaikema, then a teacher, by one of her fellow teachers. They married six months later, now 45 years ago.

Brother Tom joined his father’s legal firm, which became Godfrey, Braun & Frazier, where he acted as managing partner. “Earlier he did a lot of trial work, but as he said, trial work is a young man’s game,” Susan said. He moved into estate planning and work with small to medium businesses. “We live in the house where he was raised,” she said. “He had values, and he lived by them.” Other survivors include daughters Margaret Douglas and Caroline Godfrey; and grandchildren.

This Lodge was really privileged to have him serve as Master in 1995, and to have him mentor many of us about the importance of “civitas”; the old Roman idea that if you are even modestly successful in life, you owe

back to your society, especially in these United States, a debt of public selfless service. Brother Tom exemplified that notion, and set a great example of that Masonic Landmark which all of us should try and emulate.



FOR THE GOOD OF THE RITE

Spotlight on a brother

By Tommy Baas

In such a particularly big and active lodge, made up of so many great men of so many varied walks of life, it's good to take time to take note of each particular individual and his service within and without the lodge. The Craft puts glory on both the personal merits of the individual and his interaction with the community at large. We recognize in reverence good character and charity when we see it. And I'd like to use my Editor's Corner here this week to give a shout-out to a brother whose involved activity within the lodge sometimes comes and goes, but whose service to the community and fraternal benevolence among brethren never stops.

Jeff Farkas of American Conservators and his wife Mary Anne, a professor at Marquette University, in their compassionate commitment to illuminating children, convinced their long time friend artist Kristina Nemethy Shaoul to dedicate her immense gallery mural *Old Jerusalem* to the Joseph and Rebecca Peltz Center for Jewish Life in Mequon, WI. The mural, which now hang proudly in the halls of this Jewish preschool, is 30 feet long and 6 feet high. With its wondrous depiction of the Holy Land's illustrious landscape, it is bound to imbibe the young children with a beautiful sense of their Judaic heritage

A dedication took place on Wednesday, June 25th as part of a 25th Anniversary Celebration Dinner chaired by Mr. and Mrs. Neena and Rick Florsheim, honoring Rabbi Motty and Ms. Rivkie Spalter and paying tribute to the memory of Ms. Lynne Hellman. In attendance, besides brother Jeff and his son David, was Yours Truly (one of the few gentiles present). As is the way among the Brotherhood, brother Jeff likes to do what he can with his connections and resources to lend a hand to other Masons, and I personally owe a debt of gratitude to Jeff for helping find this "starving" freelance writer some clientele and work.

Our mutual friend Kristina Nemethy Shaoul is pictured here (left) with her *Old Jerusalem* mural which she dedicated to the Peltz Center. It's impossible to fully behold in a simple photograph the immensity of this mural, which captures the full breadth of the city of Jerusalem in all its agriculture and social life as it surrounds the Temple that of course holds particular symbolic affinity in the great legends of our Craft. Whether Jewish, Christian, Muslim, or of any of the millions of non-Semitic faiths, we as Masons can appreciate both the work and the art that goes into the structural development of a profound temple of a community, be it physically or symbolically or both. In the temple of brotherhood, each brick as it falls is both a foundation and a bridge to support other bricks, that we might all together share and benefit from the treasures of our individual merits therein housed.

