

Bridgeport Temple CO-ORDINATOR



Volume XXXX

January, February, March 2010

NUMBER 1

January

Jan. 4, Monday, #162 Craft Practice	7:00PM
Jan. 6, Wednesday, #162 Stated Meeting	7:00PM
Jan. 12, Lodge of Instruction.....	7:00PM
Jan. 13, Wednesday, # 162 Called Meeting	7:00PM
Jan. 18, Monday, #162 Craft Practice	7:00PM
Jan. 20, Wednesday # 162 Called Meeting	7:00PM
Jan. 27, Wednesday, # 162 Called Meeting	7:00PM

FEBRUARY

Feb. 1, Monday, #162 Craft Practice	7:00PM
Feb. 3, Wednesday, #162 Stated Meeting	7:00PM
Feb. 12, Wednesday, # 162 Called Meeting	7:00PM
Feb. 15, Monday, #162 Craft Practice.....	6:30PM
Feb. 17, Wednesday, # 162 Called Meeting	7:00PM
Feb. 20, Saturday, GEORGE WASHINGTON DINNER....	6:00PM
Feb. 24, Wednesday, # 162 R&R	7:00PM

MARCH

Mar. 1, Monday, Craft Practice	7:00 PM
Mar. 2, Tuesday, DeMolay Fun Night.....	7:00 PM
Mar. 3, Wednesday #162 Stated Meeting	7:00PM
Mar. 8, Monday #513 OES Stated Meeting	7:00PM
Mar. 9 Thursday, DeMolay Stated Meeting	7:00PM
Mar. 10, Wednesday # 162 Called Meeting	7:00PM
Mar. 15, Monday # 162 Craft Practice	7:00PM
Mar. 16, Tuesday, DeMolay Fun Night.....	7:00 PM
Mar. 17, Wednesday # 162 Called Meeting	7:00PM
Mar. 18, Thursday Auxiliary	11:00AM
Mar. 20, SaturdayKnife & fork degree.....	6:00 PM
Mar. 23 Thursday, DeMolay Stated Meeting	7:00PM
Mar. 24, Wednesday # 162 Called Meeting	7:00PM
Mar. 29, Past Matrons & Patrons	6:00PM
Mar. 30, Tuesday, Past Masters Association	7:00PM
Mar. 31, Wednesday # 162 Masonic Education.....	7:00PM



BRIDGEPORT LODGE #162
BRIDGEPORT, INDIANA ESTABLISHED 1854

Hello, Welcome and Thank you again as we start 2010!

I appreciate the wonderful turn-out for our Installation and your other officers and I are excited about the New Year! I would like to review some of the plans we have put in place for 2010:

Schedule (Calendar):

A Past Master shared with me months ago, that he felt one of the reasons participation had dropped was we got out of the habit of being at the lodge EVERY Wednesday. That makes sense, if you knew there was something every Wednesday, it would become habit to be there. With that in mind, beginning January if we are not putting on degrees, we will be having our craft practices on Wednesday instead of Monday. Oh, if we get busy every week with degrees, than we will need the Monday practices again, but if not we'll just be there Wednesday. (Our Dark Month's January, February, July and August are excluded of course).

Also, if we are having an EA it will be on the second Wednesday of a month, FC the Third and MM the fourth to create further consistency. I have seen other lodges do this and I believe it to be a good idea.

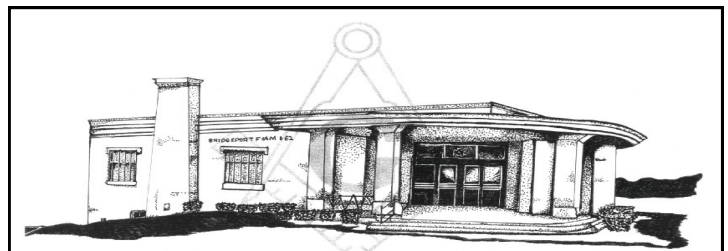
Fundraising:

Last year all of our Fundraising efforts out-performed 2008. With the Kroger Cares card we have generated an additional \$1,300.00 in 18 months with 24 Active Cards among 14 users. For the first time since I joined Bridgeport Lodge (2005) our cash balance has increased rather than decreased. To continue finding new ways for our donations to improve, I have created a Fundraising committee consisting of SW Greg Jett and WB & Secretary Lonnie Hubbard. I know these two brothers will be successful in finding other new contributions and it will ensure Greg has a successful term.

Membership:

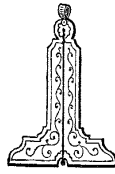
Brothers, frankly this area needs a lot of work. New Members do not out-pace Members who demit or move on to the Great Lodge Above at a 2-1 or 3-1 rate. In 2008 we were at a net (-13) and 2009 a net (-11). At this rate we will have exhausted our 289 active memberships and our Lodge will cease to exist in 24 years (2034).

[Continued on page 5](#)



“Morning”,

As this article is the first as Senior Warden, thank you WB Matt Dean for a very good year of leadership. Welcome to the new Master, Dave Pearson, may the year be filled with many good memories. I would like to congratulate all the officers on their positions and I look forward to being able to pay honest wages to each of you.



I would like to say a very Big THANK YOU to all the support staff, supporting orders, groups, and friends that make Bridgeport Lodge the wonderful, supportive organization that it is. I know it easy to overlook the behind the scenes workers but you are much appreciated. Please accept my applause for a job well done.

The Worshipful Master has laid out a very active schedule for us. We find degree work, Lodge of Instruction and Founders day during January, George Washington Dinner in February. Pancake breakfasts, Fish Fry and other dinners and celebrations throughout the year. Every one is going to be needed to go beyond just sitting in a chair or on the sideline to make this a great year.

In looking over the roll call of the craft, I find several lectures are being performed by a limited number. There are many dedicated lecturers within our lodge who are willing to help teach, coach, mentor, etc, any lecture you are willing to learn. I encourage each master mason sitting on the side line to pick a lecture and make it your own. Those of you performing lectures, start twisting some arms to get others to learn what you so faithfully have studied.

Gregory W. Jett
Senior Warden, Bridgeport #162 F and AM

Greetings from the South

Quote from the Farmer's
Almanac of 1823:

“A real Freemason is distinguished from the rest of Mankind by the uniform unrestricted rectitude of his conduct. Other men are honest in fear of punishment which the law might inflict; they are religious in expectation of being rewarded, or in dread of the devil in the next world. A Freemason would be just if there were no laws, human or divine except those written in his heart by the finger of his Creator. In every climate, under every system of religion, he is the same. He kneels before the Universal Throne of God in gratitude for the blessing he has received and humble solicitation for his future protection. He venerates the good men of all religions. He gives no offense, because he does not choose to be offended. He contracts no debts which he is certain he cannot discharge, because he is honest upon principle.”



Happy New Year! May the Masonic light illuminate your pathway, now and forever. Join us at the Lodge this year for good times and great brotherhood.

I hope to see you soon.

Fraternally,
Patrick Leo Jones
Junior Warden

Greetings to all in our Masonic Family,



By now the holiday season is coming to a close and I trust there were memories made, and precious family time was enjoyed by all. As we start another new year our new officers have been installed. I wish each of you well, and I'm available to assist each of you as requested. I also want to express my appreciation to WB Mathew A. Dean for his outstanding year and leadership as Worshipful Master of Bridgeport Lodge in 2009. Thank you to both Matt and Lisa for the efforts both of you made for our Lodge!

By the time you receive this article, your 2010 Lodge Dues are due. To all you Brothers who have already paid them and were able to make a donation your Lodge appreciates it very much! The approach of asking for a donation by those who can give extra, instead of raising our dues worked very well in 2008 & 2009 and we have tried this approach again in 2010 in hopes of the same results. To the Brethren who have not paid your 2010 dues, you are delinquent. Your dues are due by 12-31-2009 for 2010. As the Lodge Secretary, and knowing the process and extra work required in collecting the late dues I ask you to promptly pay them, and save the additional work and cost it creates. We all were informed at the completion of our third degree about being required to pay annual dues and its time to take care of your responsibility. If by chance you did not receive or have lost your dues notice contact me and I'll mail another copy.

I want to remind our entire Masonic Family about the Kroger's Care Program and the success we have experienced to date. We have received several checks from Kroger totaling over \$1,300.00 that we have used to offset some of our inflationary costs. We have been working the program for about 18 months now, and are seeing success with it. I also want to point out we have reached this goal with a very limited number of members participating in the program. Once again I strongly encourage you to look into this program, it's very easy to use and everything sold at a Kroger, Owens, Hilander and Pay Less Stores counts towards the total we all spend. This can be a very effective source of revenue for the Lodge, think about it everyone needs groceries, prescriptions, gas, etc. that these stores sell. Contact me with any questions you may have, or to get involved in the program, its easy for me to get you a card allowing you to help with raising funds for our Lodge.

We have labored to improve our communications with each of you by using our Lodge Database. I ask you to please take time to provide me with any changes to your address, home and cell phone numbers, and your e-mail address for those of you who use e-mail. Having accurate and current information in the database enables us to ensure that we can communicate with you regarding important issues relating to your Lodge, and also saves us funds when preparing and sending mailings.

To all our Masonic Family who has traveled to the warmer climates for winter, enjoy yourselves and the weather. We who stay here realize that snow is a four letter word, and it's only around when it's cold. Stay in touch and bring us back some of the citrus delights the south offers when you return.

Lonnie Hubbard PM
Secretary

BRIDGEPORT LODGE

No. 162, F. & A. M.

OFFICERS FOR 2010

Temple Phone No. 241-0563

Worshipful Master..... Dave Pearson

Senior Warden..... Gregory Jett

Junior Warden..... Pat Jones

Treasurer..... Michael A. Hoover PM

Secretary..... Lonnie Hubbard PM

Senior Deacon..... Tom Jones

Senior Steward..... Logan Able

Junior Steward..... George Armstrong

Tyler..... Roger Padgett

Chaplain..... Ken Hoffman

Sick and Indisposed Bridgeport—#162 F & AM

Please remember these brethren with a card, a call or a visit

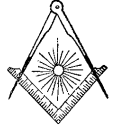
Franklin Everett

Orsa Reed

Dilbert Ludlow

Charles Wells

Robert Babcock



Hello Brethren,

I'm putting my Tyler's sword in the sheath and picking up the Senior Deacons staff.

I would like to welcome three Brothers, as new Officers. Brother Roger Dean Padgett will be the new Tyler, Brother Logan Marshall Able as Senior Stewart and Brother Larry Dean McWilliams as Junior Deacon. The year 2010 brings us new and exciting challenges. Bridgeport Lodge will continue to host the annual Fish Fry, spring and fall breakfasts, Wednesday night meetings and other fun events.

Part of my duties as Senior Deacon includes reporting of our sick or indisposed brethren. If you know anyone in the Bridgeport family who needs our thought and support please contact me at my home phone

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting. I hope your Holiday Season was a great and safe one.

Fraternally Yours,
Thomas Jones
Senior Deacon

**#162
50 Year Awards of Gold
Year 2009**

**William Duncan
Ronald J Stansbury
Kenneth Hoffman
Donald G Skaggs**

25 Year Pins for 2009

**Lester W. Lull
Lyndon R. Shields
Gene A Lee
Claude E Stinson**

**TRUSTEES OF
BRIDGEPORT LODGE**

Parke B. Everett PM

Charles Lippens PM

Justin Everett

BRIDGEPORT CRAFT CLUB

David B Pearson WM
President

Lonnie R. Hubbard, PM
Sec./Trea.

Masonic Service Board

Lonnie R. Hubbard, PM

PAST MASTERS' ASSOCIATION

President.....

Vice-President.....Robert F. Mack PM

Sec/Treas.....Ronald Sparks, PM

Visit us at www.bridgeportlodge162.org
Comments or questions about the coordinator can be sent to
Chuck Lippens, PM

Michael A. Hoover, PM

Dear Sisters, Brothers and Friends,



It is noticeable that another year is sweeping by us with great speed. The summer has come and gone, the harvest is coming in and the snow is starting to fall. What wonderful reminders of God's creation and great power. Even in the smallest of snowflakes, he arranges for individuality. So it is with each of us. We all have wonderful gifts that make us unique.

To all who are sharing their gifts of cooking, cleaning, and service; THANK YOU. We could not be an effective chapter without each of you. My special thanks to all those who came for our Christmas get together. We shared pizza, decorated the lodge and watched A Charlie Brown Christmas together.

We have also been busy preparing the meals for the Past Master's dinner and the Lodge Installation. To all of the new officers of Bridgeport Lodge #162, congratulations and thank you for the hand of fraternity that you extend to us and to the community.

As a reminder, the chapter no longer meets during January and February so please make sure to put the 2nd Monday of March in RED on your calendars. To the members that are traveling South, safe journeys and we truly look forward to your return.

Until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hands,
Cheryl Kuritz
Worthy Matron

Past Matrons and Patrons
President
Jane Fields PM

O.E.S. NO. 513
Worthy Matron.....Cheryl Kuritz PM

Worthy Patron.....Danny Groover


Associate Matron.....Marjorie Beals

Associate Patron.....Lyle Beals

Secretary.....Sue McFarland

O.E.S. AUXILIARY
President.....Shirley Huffer PM

In Memorial
#162
Donald Lee Thompson
Leroy Sanders Compton
Robert Lee Thomas



#513
Helen Rhodes
Betty J. Carson
Winifred Hightower

George Washington Dinner
Saturday February 20th
6:00 P M

Have you used your Kroger card Lately? It will help support your lodge. If you don't have one contact the lodge secretary.

Continued from page 1

This is why the Grand Lodge had the Open House in November, and we will need to address this need aggressively in 2010. I know it's breaking with some traditions but I encourage you to openly share about the Lodge, especially when it comes to telling a friend or potential petitioner "WHAT IS IT YOU GET OUT OF BEING A MASON!"... What is the benefit? How rewarding it is for you? The friendships, fun and personal gratification you receive. I can assure you the better you become at telling another person WHY YOU DO IT and WHAT YOU GET FROM IT; the more they will take or ask for a petition. I cannot strongly encourage this enough given everyone's commitment to see Bridgeport Lodge flourish in the future.

JW Pat Jones and WB Harvie Stevenson are heading up our membership efforts which include evaluating a PO box in Avon to drive more requests the Grand Lodge receives our way, joining the Avon Chamber of Commerce as a Not-for profit member, and additional membership events and functions.

Community:

I know this next topic is controversial, but I believe the reality for 2010 is we are in competition with Men's time between their family activities (donating time to Scouting or Coaching Sports), other Social Organizations (Optimists, Eagles, Kiwanis, Lions, etc...) and Entertainment (Watching the History channel, etc...) We all know time is a valuable resource, but people less familiar with what we do or why we are here, have limited opportunities to know us and fear us less.

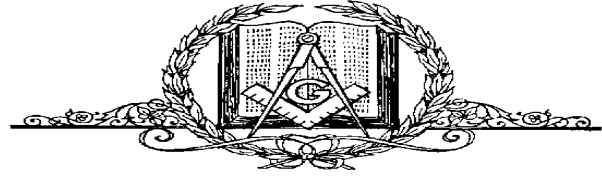
To that extent I was excited to walk with my apron on in the Heritage Festival parade, and am committed to do it again this coming September. I also hope we can do the same at any other area festival or event. My desire is that the community around us sees us as a resource and a place of contribution or that makes a difference instead of fear and doubt.

Any suggestions regarding how to further raise our awareness; please let me know, I would love to hear any of your ideas or feedback on the topics I have discussed.

I hope we have a record breaking turnout for the George Washington dinner at 6:00 PM on Saturday February 20th... ALL ARE WELCOME!

And, all Masons are welcome to join us for a Knife and Fork degree on the first day of spring, Saturday March 20th at 6:00 PM.

Thank you and God Bless,
Dave Pearson, WM



The Age of Information!

It's out there. Everywhere you look there is an abundance of information about Masonry. Go to any library, watch a little television or spend time on the Internet and you can "learn" more about Masonry than in any time in the history of the fraternity. Sadly the information you see is too often inaccurate, inflammatory, sensationalized beyond recognition or written out of ignorance. We live in a time where information is abundant. People are searching for answers to more issues and topics than ever before. Although the Internet is a wonderful tool to seek out answers, it's clear that most of the information available is inaccurate. The information that is correct is often slanted to make the facts seem sinister and conspiracy theories abound,

The questions now become "How are we viewed by our neighbors and the community in which we live?" What affect does this have on someone who might be interested in petitioning the lodge? How should we respond to the anti-masonic rhetoric and misinformation that abounds? The answers to these questions and many others are not easy. The fraternity is built on the solid foundation of faith, hope and charity. As such we are required by the oath we take to hold fast to these principles. We proudly display license plates, bumper stickers and lapel pins that identify us as members of the oldest and most honored fraternity. When asked about masonry, we respond to the questions by the lessons taught through the degrees and lectures and by the principles that govern who we are as individuals. By doing so, we convey the principles of the fraternity in the way we live our lives and in turn demonstrate to the world the true meaning of being a Mason.

Fraternally,

Masonic Education Committee

**THE REAL SECRET OF
FREEMASONRY**
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

Chili

Cook-Off

January 30, 2010

Time: 4:00 - 7:00

p.m.

Bridgeport Lodge

No. 162 F & A.M.

8697 W. Morris St.

Indianapolis, IN

Phone number:

317-241-0563