

Thomas M. Holt Lodge # 492 A.F. & A.M.

Regular Meetings 1st and 3rd Thursday of the Month at 7:30pm

Address: 512 Johnson Avenue, Graham, NC, 27253

Website: www.thomasmholt492.org



The Holler Log - Winter 2016 Edition

Messages from the East:

Brothers,

Greetings from the East!

2016 is posed to be another great year for the lodge and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as Master. This year we already have a few fundraisers in the works, with the first being our 2nd Annual Golf Tournament scheduled for Saturday, May 21, 2016. More details on this will be forthcoming as we get closer to the date. If you'd like to participate, sponsor a team or hole, please let one of the lodge officers know.

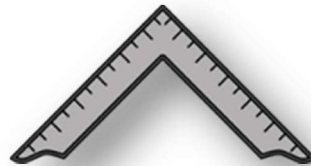
The official visit for the 22nd Masonic District by the NC Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Bryant Webster, will be on March 22, 2016 at Jefferson Penn Lodge #384 in Reidsville. Anyone planning on attending the dinner, please let me know so that I may forward reservations along to their Junior Warden.

The official visit to Thomas M. Holt Lodge from DDGM - Alvin Billings will be held on February 18, 2016. Please come out and show your support!

I'd also like to take the time to encourage all of the brothers who haven't been to the lodge recently to come back and attend a meeting. Joining us for one of our great meals and a meeting is the perfect time to reconnect with your brothers and see some of the friendly faces that you haven't seen in a while.

Fraternally Yours,

Mike Hunter, Worshipful Master



Welcome to Our Newest Brothers - Raised in January 2016

Steven Wayne Craven

Charles Shawn Moser

Joseph Steven Walker

Congratulations on your recent raising to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason!

- From the Worshipful Master and the Brothers of Thomas M. Holt Lodge

Upcoming Events

February 4

Dinner @ 6:30 PM

Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM

February 18

Dinner @ 6:30 PM

Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM -

DDGM Official Visit - Alvin Billings

March 3

Dinner @ 6:30 PM

Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM

March 17

Dinner @ 6:30 PM

Stated Meeting @ 7:30 PM

March 22

NC Grand Master - District 22 Visit

Jefferson Penn Lodge, Reidsville, NC

Important Announcement

2016 Lodge Dues are now Due !!!

Please make sure you pay your Lodge Membership Dues for the 2016 Calendar Year, so you can receive your Masonic Dues Card.

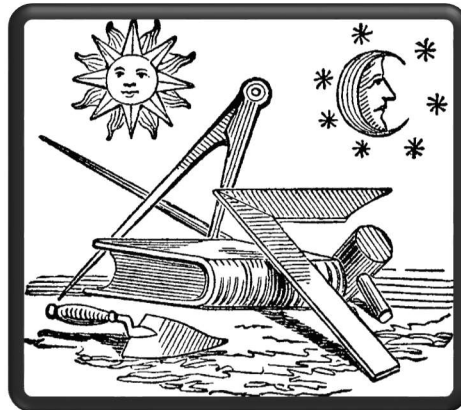
- Gene Hunter - Secretary

Lodge News:

- ❖ Donations to replace the window on the front of the lodge are still being accepted. We currently have collected about 1/3 of what is needed to complete the project.
- ❖ Congratulations to Worshipful Brother Stan Mullis of Bingham Lodge 272 on being elected as an honorary member of Thomas M. Holt Lodge. We are honored to have you!

Thomas M. Holt # 492 Lodge Officers for 2016:

Mike Hunter – Worshipful Master
Chip McFalls – Senior Warden
Jason Simons – Junior Warden
Jeff Lightcap – Senior Deacon
Kevin Dean – Junior Deacon
Al Layton – Senior Steward
Barry Adams – Junior Steward
Gene Hunter – Secretary
Ken Qualls – Treasurer
Rick Mann – Chaplin
Mike Rogers – Tyler



Masonic Trivia:

- ❖ As Master of his Lodge, President George Washington leveled the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol.
- ❖ By Ancient custom, the King was always covered while his subjects were never covered in his presence. The American custom of the Master of the Lodge wearing a hat as a symbol of his authority is apparently a result of that ancient custom.

A Masonic Chuckle:

A little before Lodge is about to open an old man totters up to the Tyler and says, "I'm here to receive my 2nd degree."

Well, they all look at this guy, who appeared to be older than Methuselah, and they ask him to explain.

"I was entered on July 4, 1922. Now I'm ready for my 2nd degree."

So they go scurrying for the records, and sure enough, there was his name, entered on July 4, 1922.



Upcoming Birthdays

January 2016

03 – Gene James
07 – John Isley
09 – David Maness II
11 – Gene Nolf
12 – Reid Myrick
14 – Donald Ray
17 – Stephen West
20 – Jerry Shields
31 – Robert Drumwright

February 2016

10 – Todd Smith
11 – James Overman
13 – Jack Pickard
14 – Tim Collins
15 – Joseph Sykes Jr.
17 – Gary Moser
21 – David Quigley Jr.
23 – Roger Jefferson

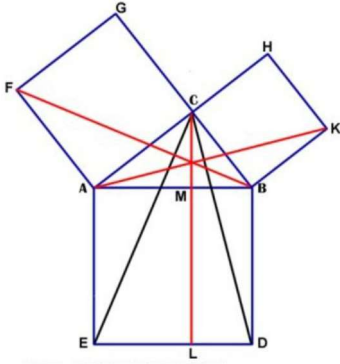
March 2016

02 – Derrick Campbell
11 – Clinton Howard
13 – Thomas Pickard
14 – Alvin Isley
17 – Donald Holt
20 – Williams McDade
24 – Ishamell Mills Jr.
31 – Jesse May Jr.
31 – Ken Qualls

The Brothers of Thomas M. Holt Lodge would like to wish you all a Very Happy Birthday !!!

"Where have you been all these years? What took you so long to be ready for your 2nd?" they ask.

He replied: "I was learning to subdue my passions!" ☺



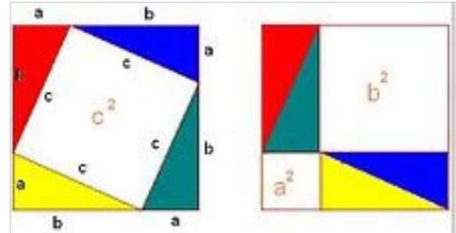
Masonic Education: The 47th Problem of Euclid

We probably all learned about it in grade school. Although, none of us knew it then as the 47th problem of Euclid, but rather the Pythagorean Theorem, $C^2 = A^2 + B^2$, or the 3 - 4 - 5 triangle.

So, why is the Pythagorean Theorem also known as the 47th Problem of Euclid and what does it mean?

The famous mathematician, Pythagoras, is credited to have formulated the "proof" of the 3 - 4 - 5 triangle. Pythagoras' proof is shown

to the right. The two large squares each contain four identical triangles, arranged differently. Therefore, the white space must have the same area. Equating the area of the white space yields the "proof", $c^2 = a^2 + b^2$.



Later, Euclid included the theorem in his Elements, a series of books containing his mathematical teachings. Euclid of Alexandria was a Greek mathematician often referred to as the "Father of geometry." Euclid wrote a set of 13 books called, Elements, a collection of definitions, axioms, theorems, and mathematical proofs of propositions.

In the books, Euclid deduced the principles of what is now called Euclidian Geometry. Books 1 to 4 deal with plane geometry, books 5 to 10 introduce ratios and proportions and books 11 to 13 deal with spatial geometry. In total, the Elements contained 465 problems in 13 books. The 47th problem was set out in Book I.

So, although the mathematical rule was actually used for hundreds of years before Pythagoras by ancient Egyptians and the Chinese, it was Pythagoras who discovered the first "proof" of the rule. Later, it was Euclid who included the rule in his Elements.

The next time you're attempting to square a corner using a 3 - 4 - 5 triangle, remember our friends Pythagoras and Euclid and how they are joined together in one of the most commonly known Mathematical principles.

Masonic Education: The Trestle Board or Tracing Board

A Masonic trestle board is a design board for the Master Workman (Architect) to draw his plans and designs upon to give the workmen an outline of the work to be performed. In today's terms, we might call it a blueprint.

It is one of the 3 Movable jewels.

A trestle board is a framework consisting of (usually 3) vertical, slanted supports (or legs) with one or more horizontal crosspieces on which to hang or display an item. Today, it is better known as an "easel".

Some jurisdictions around the world call it a tracing board. It would be somewhat of a "circular logic" task to argue the difference, as, while neither can be fully proven (in historical writings), the "Tracing board" may very well have preceded (come before) the use of the word "Trestle board" because lodges in Europe (which pre-date American lodges), use the word "Tracing Board".

Hiram's Tracing Board: Hiram Abif's tracing board is believed to have been made of wood, covered with a coating of wax. Each day he would draw his Master architect's measurements and symbols into the wax in order to instruct his Master Masons of the work that was to be accomplished.



At the end of the day, he would simply scrape off the wax and pour a new layer of hot wax onto the board to ready it for the next day's work.

Masonic Tracing Board: Much later, in the days where lodge was held in secret areas and on hills and vales, (valleys) once lodge was in session, the Tiler (or Tyler) would draw an oblong (rectangular) or oblong square depiction (image) into the dirt that represented the form of the lodge.

Again, onto that tracing board was drawn the architect's plan...the working tools in the degree that was to be worked.

Masonic Trestle Board: Through the years, the Masonic Tracing Board progressed to charcoal or chalk on the floor of taverns where lodges were held back in the 1700s. After the lecture, the Stewards or the Entered Apprentice, as a lesson in secrecy, would get a mop and bucket and remove all trace of these drawings.

This, obviously, was a somewhat tedious and messy procedure, so cloths or rugs were created which could be laid onto the floor and simply folded up when the lecture was complete.

Later, these cloths (or rugs) were placed onto a table. As time passed, they were finally hung onto an easel... (a trestle board) much like a drawing board at a construction site where each workman could receive clear instruction as to what his specific participation entailed.

When the team's work was completed, it was obvious that each Master Mason not only understood their specific part in the undertaking, but how their part (no matter how small), contributed to the construction of the entire edifice (building).

The meaning of the words "Nothing further remains to be done, according to ancient custom, except to disarrange our emblems" is a reference to the now antiquated use of these trestle boards (or tracing boards) during which the dirt on the ground was erased or the chalk marks on the floor of these lodges was mopped or scrubbed, to leave no trace of the form of the Lodge or the contents drawn thereon.

The reason why our lines of travel are at right angles within the lodge and thus the reason that we "square" the lodge is a "throwback" to the antiquity of the ritual.

If the brethren were to walk atop the markings made in the dirt on hill and vale; atop the chalk on the floor of the taverns; or tread upon and thus soil the cloths or rugs used to provide the workings of that degree, the message of that lecture which was being worked could be partially or fully destroyed.

Therefore, "Squaring the Lodge" in a semi-military-like precision, goes back many centuries as the means of preserving the ritual and the degrees being worked so as not to destroy the symbolism of their markings before their usefulness on that day has been completed.

**** Please help the Lodge reduce costs: If you'd like to receive future editions of the Holler Log via email instead of paper copy, please email Mike Hunter at: mike.hunter.nc@gmail.com**

Lastly Brothers, we hope you have enjoyed this new format of the Holler Log and found it informative if you have any comments, or have any items that you would like to see, or share in future Editions of the Holler Log please send an email to: hollerlog@thomasmholt492.org

