



January-March 2023

TRESTLEBOARD

Tropical Lodge No. 56 Free & Accepted Masons
10868 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers, FL 33966



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IMPORTANT DATES

Lodge Meetings

Tropical Lodge No. 56 meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month.

Dinner is served at 6:30 pm

Lodge starts at 7:30 pm



From The East

Worshipful Master Tom Knafel

Brothers,

Greetings for the first time from the East. I would like to thank all of you for allowing me to serve as your W.M. for 2023. Please be assured that I will strive to be worthy of your trust.

I would like to begin 2023 with the same thoughts that I shared in my first Trestleboard post as the S.W. last year. They were true then and continue to be so today. I made a few minor changes so the quote is not an exact one. “Tropical Lodge's outlook for 2023 is a very positive one. In addition to the impending sale of the Lehigh property, and the positive impact that it will have on our Lodge, we are seeing an increased level of membership interest. I believe that this will grow as we continue to make physical improvements to our building and grounds. A key to turning interested individuals into members of Tropical is the impression that we make on their initial visit(s). When you see someone that you do not know, I encourage you to introduce yourself, introduce as many officers as possible, offer a tour of the lodge, and ensure that they don't eat alone. Our collective goal should always be to send them home with a positive impression of our Lodge and membership.”

Finally, I would like to thank all those that have and continue to serve our Lodge in a variety of capacities. Along with those thanks comes a challenge to all Brothers to find areas where you can be of service. We have many committees to fill and your time and talents are needed. If you have an idea, area of interest or question about getting more involved, you are always welcome to call me or any of our officers.

I look forward to seeing all of you throughout our 2023 Lodge year.

Fraternally,

Tom Knafel
Worshipful Master
(317) 379-6923

Senior Warden's Message

Brother Aaron A. Averhart



Greeting from the West Brethren,

Thank you for allowing me to continue serving the craft as an officer of this Lodge. It is an honor to be a part of this wonderful family, and I promise to remain steadfast in my commitment to my duties, our Lodge and our community. We have so much going on at Tropical Lodge, from the recent Town Hall with the Grand Master, a roaring comic convention, the returning coin show and more. Please stay tuned to the Tropical Lodge website for up-to-date information and access to our calendar of events. In particular, we hope you will join us on Tuesday, April 18th, 2023, for an Entered Apprentice Degree. It promises to be an exciting night, as we welcome a large new group of candidates to our Masonic family.

Please make sure to thank Brother Shawn Hubbard for helping us assure refreshment continues to be served on time, and to all the Brothers who help make sure Lodge is set up and broken down with each meeting. We hope you can join us at our next communication.

Fraternally,

Aaron A. Averhart, SW



Junior Warden's Message

Brother Brian Apfel

Greetings Brothers.

As part of my masonic education this year, I want to look beyond the digest and dive deeper into the teachings of masonry and, more importantly, how these teachings can make us, good men... better. So, we started the year by asking every brother in the lodge to write down one thing they want to improve about themselves Masonically, and one thing they want to improve about themselves personally, in 2023. If you were not present at that meeting, I encourage you to play along now from the comfort of your home. This is for you, and you alone. Write it down, save it somewhere. At the end of the year, I will remind you. Find what you wrote. Did you accomplish what you intended to do this year?

Let's have an outstanding 2023 together brothers. Until next time, fraternally yours...

Brian

Brian Apfel, JW

2023 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master

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Senior Warden

Bro. Aaron Averhart

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Junior Warden

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Treasurer

W.: Mike Lewis, P.M.

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Secretary

Bro. Randy Crone

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Senior Deacon

Bro. Robert Zimmerman

Junior Deacon

Bro. Shawn Hubbard

Senior Steward

Andrew Silvia

Junior Steward

Bro. Christopher Saxby

Tyler

W.: John Gavin, P.M.

Chaplain

W.: Joseph Setaro, P.M.

Marshal

R.:W.: Gene Sims

If You Missed It...

We will soon be holding

- An Entered Apprentice degree, on Tuesday, April 18, 2023
- A Lodge Clean Up day, date TBA

Watch your email for more information, and join us in welcoming a host of new men to our wonderful fraternity.

We will also need help with some Lodge and Kitchen maintenance and upkeep, so look for that date to follow soon as well.



Under Construction!

Pardon our dust, as they say, while we work to put together the Trestle board. I have recently taken over as editor, after years of hard work and dedication by Brother Chris Tillman, and look forward to getting things back on schedule.

Fraternally,

Aaron A. Averhart,

Editor

Sickness & Distress

Please keep the following Brothers in your thoughts and prayers:

Brother Brian Apfel

Brother Don Brown

Brother Aaron Averhart

Brother Dave Foote

Henry Cafferty

Dewey Tenant

Trestleboard Advertisements & Boosters

For information about how to advertise in the Trestleboard, please email Aaron at cmndraverhart@gmail.com.

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Contact Us
Gene Sims, KYCH, EDDGC – Secretary/Recorder
Email: fortmyersyorkrite@gmail.com