



180 Jaycee Lions Dr.

TRESTLE BOARD FEBRUARY 2024

LaBelleLodge379.org



Greetings from the East



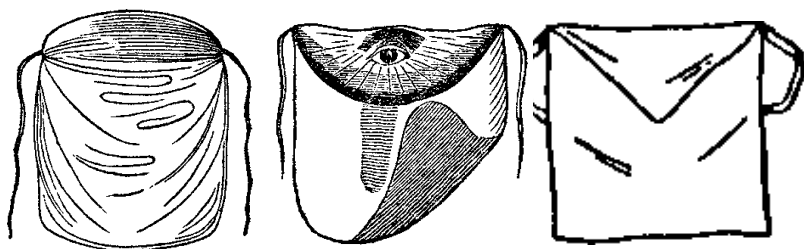
Brethren, I am looking forward to a great year here at LaBelle Lodge No. 379. We had a good turn out for the Smoke Under the Oaks.

There are a couple of dates to remember. We will have a Lodge workday on February 17th and then our first fundraiser for the year will be March 22nd. I am hoping to have plenty of volunteers for these two events.

As always, I really appreciate all the help and support that the Brothers give to LaBelle Lodge.

Fraternally yours,

W.: Isidro "Izzy" Lopez, PM
Worshipful Master
Phone: (239) 462-2101
Email: offcrplaca@icloud.com



**2024 Lodge Officers
LaBelle No. 379 F&AM**

STATED COMMUNICATIONS SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAYS

February 13

6:30pm Dinner

7:30pm Meeting

February 27

6:30pm Dinner

7:30pm Meeting



JOINT CALLED COMMUNICATION

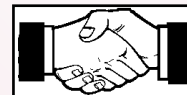
Sugarland No. 281 & Fort Myers Beach No. 362
at LaBelle No. 379



February 29

6:30pm Dinner

7:30pm Meeting



From the Desk of the Secretary



Greetings, Brothers. First, let me take this opportunity to express my thanks to all of you for having the confidence in me to elect me as your new Secretary. Our Lodge is slowly getting over the tragic and

untimely loss of our much-loved former Secretary, Worshipful Nick Fidanza, and I will do the best I can to replace him. He was a great Secretary and it will take some time for me to get up to speed. As a consequence, the dues notices are late getting out but they have been mailed now and I hope you have received yours. If not, call me at the number below and I will see what I can do about it. I regret the inconvenience and thank you for your patience. See you at the Lodge.

Fraternally,

R.:W.: Ed Lanham, PDDGM

Secretary

Phone: (239) 872-9211

Email: edgar.lanham@gmail.com



Greetings from the South



Freddie Louis Wright, the preparer of delicious meals for the craft and guests, asks that you please come out, break bread, have some fellowship, and enjoy while Worshipful Master Izzy Lopez & the other officers display their skills.

We have a couple of people in need of our prayers. Brother John Troia had a week stay at Health Park and is now home recuperating and getting better with the care of his little wife, Mamie (a retired New York City Detective); Mamie is a great care giver. Also, Bobbie Navor has been sick with flu.

James McVey (Senior Steward) and George Benjamin (Junior Deacon) have stepped up and into their new positions in line at lodge. Special thanks to Cecil Raulerson as Tiler and also to Dennis Bennett for filling in as Chaplin. Right Worshipful Edgar Lanham, our new Secretary, is doing a stellar job — and yes, he is having a birthday on the 10th so please call him and sing "Happy Birthday" to make his day.

Smoke Under the Oakes proved to be fun and lot of work. Our lodge sold soft drinks and iced tea to raise monies for our charities.

The Third Annual Called communication will be held on Feb 29th here at LaBelle Lodge with the Fort Myers Beach Lodge officers opening the meeting and Sugarland Lodge officers doing the closing. These past called communications have proven to be a large success with nearly 100 Masons. There is good food and the entertainment consists of a friendly competition of Mason Trivia, with great prizes—no money, just prizes. Come eat with us at 6:30 pm; the meeting will be called to order at 7:30pm.

God Bless all! Support your local blue lodge and get involved!

Bro. Fred Wright
Phone: (239) 675-6503
FredWright807@gmail.com



We are very saddened to notify you of the passing of our revered Past Grand Master, Most Worshipful L. Evans Crary, Jr., on January 18, 2024. The Grand Master has requested that all Particular Lodges drape their Altars for one month in memory of our beloved Past Grand Master.

The Cable Tow

What is a cable tow? The word "tow" signifies, a line where with to draw. One dictionary defines it as "that which tugged, or with which we tug to draw." A cable tow, therefore, is a rope or line for drawing or leading. In one of the earliest so-called exposures it is called "cable rope." In its first inception the cable tow seems to have been used only as a physical means of controlling the candidate, and such interpretation is given in the Entered Apprentice degree. Therefore, it could be seen emblematical of the dangers which surround us in this life, especially if we should stray from the paths of our duties. It will also remind the initiated to submit, while he is in darkness, to being guided by those whom he knows to be enlightened.

In the United States the symbol of the Cable Tow is used in each of the three Craft degrees. Many monitors says that the variation in the first, second and third degrees are to symbolize the covenant with which all Freemasons are tied, which should remind us of the passage in the writings of the prophet Hosea, "I drew them with cords of a man, with bonds of love."

How long is it? Many of us have troubled to find out, and yet if we carry our minds back to the solemn and binding obligation we took as Master Masons we should overlook the point contained within the obligation, "if within the reach of my cable tow." The subject of the length of a cable tow was one of the questions for discussion at a National Masonic Convention held in Baltimore, in the year 1842 after considerable discussion on the matter of definition of "within the scope of man's reasonable ability" was arrived at.

Our obligation therefore is simply that, as the length of the Freemason's cable tow, is the measure of his means and ability to aid and rescue, it is his aid and rescue of his fellow brother if within the reach of his means and ability.

Let us remember that while candidates are asked to submit a blind obedience during the time of initiation, no unreasonable demands or unintelligible requirements are made.

Quote of the Month

"Freemasonry is 'veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols' because these are the surest way by which moral and ethical truths may be taught. It is not only with the brain and with the mind that the initiate must take Freemasonry, but also with the heart." - C.H. Claudy

BEST WISHES

By Cyril E. Brubaker



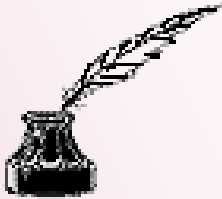
*May the cause of Brotherhood
'Round the World be understood;*

*And peace espoused in every land,
By one and all on every hand.*

*May the joys of friendships be
renewed,
Greed, and lust, and avarice
subdued.*

*May the good which can be done,
Touch the lives of everyone.*

*May the gifts which we possess,
Be deployed for happiness.*



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Where do the things that create a sense of wonder come from? I've wondered about this and probably so have you. Wonder occurs when something unexpected occurs. Like a rainbow, or an especially impressive sunset, or a bright planet in the nighttime sky. In addition to causing wonder, things that make an impression on us also fuel a sense of joy.

There have been innumerable times through the years when I've had an experience that caused me to stop and think, even say, "WOW! That's wonderful." Joy is different. Joy is the result of a wonderful event, but most often joy comes from inside us and ideally radiates toward another person. A particularly compelling book, a painting or a song brings joy. Our grandkids are often a reason for joy.

Love is another wonder reserved for another person. We may really like apple pie and ice cream but we love our wife and kids, parents and others. Love is a human emotion for humans and "like" is for materialistic objects and events. Except, sometimes we like the movie but love the book.

Bro. Phil Keyes

Chaplain

Phone: (863) 675-3813 / Email: philkeys@embarqmail.com



Last Month

SMOKE.....

UNDER THE OAKS



2024



PAST MASTERS

JAMES PENDRY*	1977-1978
CHARLES MACDOWELL*	1979
EDWIN RENOLDS*	1980
THOMAS K. WOOSLEY*	1981
KENNETH PICKLES	1982
ROBERT P. MIDDLETON*	1983
JOSEPH H. FUTCH*	1984
WILLARD BRYANT*	1985
ROBERT P. MIDDLETON*	1986
GLENN R. MICKEY*	1987
EASTON BURCHARD*	1988-1989
LEWIS WHIDDEN*	1990
MICHAEL BOYLE	1991
L.E. RICHARDSON, SR.*	1992
DOUG SCRATCHLEY, SR.*	1993
J.S. HARRIS	1994
MIKE GUTHRIE	1995
J. THOMAS PAXON*	1996
JAMES JENNINGS*	1997
JIM MARSHALL*	1998
CARL W. SWANSON*	1999
JIM CIANFRANI	2000

JERRY HUBBART*	2001
STEVE POLHEMUS	2002
GLENN R. MICKEY*	2003
RUSS BUCCINI*	2004
JACK ROSE*	2005
KEVIN NELSON	2006-2007
HERBERT HOLLENBECK*	2008
CURTIS DODD	2009
BRUCE ARMSTRONG	2010
JOHN W. NELSON	2011
M. MATT HECKERT	2012
RAY NAVOR*	2013
NICHOLAS FIDANZA*	2014
GREG GUNTER	2015
L.E. RICHARDSON, JR.	2016
THOMAS BOARDMAN	2017
TONY WEEMS	2018
ADRIAN SANCHEZ	2019
ED LANHAM	2020
BILL MADDOX	2021-2022
ISIDRO LOPEZ	2023

* Indicates Deceased



Trestle Board Editor & Publisher: W.: Kevin Gourley, PM (2018-Present)

2024 Officers

Worshipful Master
Isidro "Izzy" Lopez, PM

Senior Warden
John "Cowboy" Cote", PM

Junior Warden
Fred Wright

Treasurer
Bob Coleman

Secretary
Ed Lanham, PDDGM

Chaplain
Phillip Keyes

Marshall
William Maddox, PM

Senior Deacon
Earnie Hollingsworth

Junior Deacon
George Benjamin

Senior Steward
James McVay

Junior Steward
John Smith

Tyler
Cecil Raulerson



District 24 Grand Lodge Officers

District Deputy Grand Master
R.:W.: Michael O. Gardener, PM
(239) 707-8302

District Instructor
R.:H.: Bruce Rivera, PM
(239) 297-9400