

COBIA LODGE #631 A.F. & A.M.

Trestle Board

Volume 4, Issue 4

130 So. 6th St, Council Bluffs, IA

December 2012

Words from the Master.... Last Words from the Master

As 2012 is passing in the rear view mirror and we prepare for the New Year, we find we have set a good course for the upcoming year. We have a number of brothers preparing for their Master Builder awards, the lodge preparing for its' Lodge of the Year award, about a dozen brothers being raised this past year, and it looks like at least that many coming next year. We have continued the monthly 'breakfast club' which incidentally has served as an opportunity for people to come and ask about masonry, our charity work continues in the community, and through the tireless efforts of our lodge brothers, our financial situation has continued to improve. If last year was a B+, this year definitely was an A- with plenty of momentum for years to come.

This will be my last communication as Worshipful Master, and as such must say I am so very proud of the lodge, our brothers have worked so hard, you can't imagine how much work has gone into the lodge this past year, and truly am honored to have served such a great lodge. It has been a very humbling experience, and I thank each of you for the chance to have lead. My hope is that our members will stay involved, or even step it up a notch in the upcoming months, and continue to build that house, not made with hands.....**Ron Payne, WM**

Election Results

The following officers were elected to serve the lodge for 2013:

Worshipful Master: Chuck Coulter

Senior Warden: Wade Ridout

Junior Warden: Ron Payne

Treasurer: Mike Petry

Secretary: John Hauser

Installation of Officers

The Installation of the 2013 Cobia Lodge Officers will take place on **January 5, 2013 at 1:00 PM**. It will be an open installation so everyone is welcome to attend.

Call for Nominations

At the December Business meeting a motion was passed that creates a method to recognize a Brother of the Lodge who has gone above and beyond the call. This annual award will be given to one who promotes Masonry and serves as an example to others. Any lodge member can nominate a Cobia Lodge member to receive this award.

We will also recognize a "Friend of the Lodge." Nominees for this award would be those who have assisted the lodge in our activities and projects and helps to promote our efforts and those of Masonry. The awards committee is chaired by Rob Brownback, and includes John Thomsen, Frank Barrett, Chuck Coulter and Aldo Escobedo.

Send nominations for both awards to the lodge secretary via email: secretary@cobia631.org or via US Mail to Cobia Lodge Secretary, 130 South 6th St. Council Bluffs, IA 51501.

The nominations must be received by **December 20** so the committee can determine who will receive this award. The nominations must contain the nominee's name, why you think they should receive the award, your name and phone number so the committee can contact you if they need additional information. The awards will be presented at the Cobia Lodge Installation of Officer on January 5 @ 1:00 PM.

Christmas Pot Luck

Cobia Lodge will be hosting a Christmas pot luck dinner on December 23, 2012 starting with fellowship at 4:00 PM. Dinner will be served around 5:00 - 5:30 PM. All members and their families are invited. We have extended an invitation to fireman to attend. We also would like any widows of Cobia Lodge members to join us. As our list of widows is not very current please take the opportunity to pass the invitation on to those you know or let the secretary know their contact information she a personal invitation can be extended. Bring your favorite dish and plan on joining us.

New Master Masons

Welcome to our new Brothers Walter Nurton, Brian Lund and Douglas Ahart who have been raised as Master Masons since our last report.

2 to Grow

Brothers Rob Brownback and John Hauser were presented 2 to Grow certificates and pins by Ron Payne on behalf of Grand Master of Masons in Iowa Bryce B. Hildreth. This program is to recognize those members who recruit one member to replace them and one additional member to grow the Craft.

Cobia Lodge Helping in the Community

Cobia Lodge has again this year has partnered with Longfellow Elementary School to assist with the preschool program. The preschool has three large classes of students. Chris Stowell PM delivered a \$500 check to the school from the lodge and found they were in need to three CD players since the ones they had were worn out. They are important as they use the CD players to play relaxing music during nap time. They also noted the kids need winter coats, gloves and hats. It was suggested that if there winter coats that folks have to donate that we donate them to one of three consignment shops that work with the school to provide clothing at no or low cost. Cobia Lodge will continue to work

Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast

Join us for Breakfast on December 16 from 8 AM till 1 PM. The price: Adults \$5, Kids \$2 and Kids 5 and under are free. Help us serve others and enjoy a good meal at the same time. Remember each breakfast is served the third Sunday of every month.

Promote Masonry and the Lodge

Cobia Lodge baseball caps are now on sale for \$10 each. There are two styles. One style is vented on the back half of the cap with a plastic headband adjuster (Good for summer) and the other is non-vented with a Velcro headband adjuster (Just right for winter). Both styles are embroidered with the Masonic Emblem and our lodge info. They are available during lodge meetings and at our breakfasts. We will also ship one to you for \$1.00 extra. Contact the Secretary to order or for more information.

Jobs Daughters

Bethel #1 is looking for new members – the organization is for girls ages 10 and older. Girls must be related to a Mason and can be a daughter, granddaughter or niece. For more information contact Claudia Hauser, Bethel Guardian – 712-325-0812 or John Hauser Associate Bethel Guardian.

Help the Secretary help you!

We want to make sure we have the most current information on our members. Let us know of any address changes. If you would like to get your newsletter fast – give us your email address. Let us know if your email or mailing address has changed. John Hauser, Secretary 712-325-0812 or email Secretary@cobia631.org

COBIA Lodge Calendar

(Subject to change - check the website for up to date schedule)

Sunday, December 16 - 8:00AM – 1:00 PM BISCUITS, GRAVY & MORE BREAKFAST

Tuesday, December 18 – Two First Degrees starting at 7 PM

Sunday, December 23, 2013 – Christmas Potluck

Friday, December 28 - 4:30PM 6:30PM - OES #441 SPAGHETTI DINNER

Saturday, January 5, 2013, 1:00PM - Installation of Officers

Tuesday, January 8, 2013 - 7:30PM - Business Meeting

Tuesday, January 15, 2013 - 7:00pm - Two First Degrees

Sunday, January 20, 2013 - 8:00am - BISCUITS, GRAVY & MORE BREAKFAST

Tuesday, January 22, 2013 - TBD DEGREE WORK

Friday, January 25, 2013 - 4:30pm - SPAGHETTI DINNER

Tuesday, February 5, 2013 - All day - TBA - Degree Work

Tuesday, February 12, 2013 - 7:30pm - Business Meeting

Sunday, February 17, 2013 - 8:00am - BISCUITS, GRAVY & MORE BREAKFAST

Tuesday, February 19, 2013 - All day - TBA - Degree Work

Friday, February 22, 2013 - 4:30pm - SPAGHETTI DINNER

Tuesday, February 26, 2013 - All day - TBD DEGREE WORK

Tuesday, March 5, 2013 - All day - TBA - Degree Work

Tuesday, March 12, 2013 - 7:30pm - Business Meeting