



Publisher Joe Wages
Publisher emeritus Ed Schuller

New Officers Elect

November STATED 14 25-year members 3 50-year member, 3 charter member, 13 past masters, and 1 visitor. One petition for degrees was received. All of this followed a fine supper.

In addition to Brother Williard the following were elected to serve OTL as officers next year

Danny Wingo – Senior Warden
Norman Noah – Junior Warden
Herb Blankenship – Treasurer
Scott Horn - Secretary
Terry Wooten - Trustee

SICK AND DISTRESSED

Ken Johnson	Ken and Wife Ill
Frank Elliot	Home Bound
Tom Douglas	Loss of his wife Pat
Ray Pope	Wife ill
Richard Horn	Ill
Jimmy Hyatt	Ill
Bill Dowe	Recovering
John Wilkinson	Ill Home Bound
Kevin Tyman	Surgery
Manley Winfrey Jr	Eye Surgery



Pancake Supper Held

The pancake supper produced approximately \$600 for our charities. This was a little off from recent years. WM Wooten ascribed this to the economy and schedule conflicts with other community events.

First Degree Conferred

Mr. James Thomas Mathews II received the First Degree in Masonry October 27th.

Elected to Receive the Degrees?

At the November stated meeting the following were elected to receive the degrees.

Thomas Kenneth Noetzel
Jeremy William Engels
Bruce Donald Engels
Mark Maurice Nichol
Roger Gray Reavis
James Minton

Anniversary

Brother Tom Hauser, Senior points out that OTL was organized in November 1973. Grand Master Nathaniel C. Dean came to Old Town and granted dispensation to 50 Master Masons to start Old Town Masonic Lodge.

Past Master Williard Called to Serve Again.

Past Master Alan Williard was elected to serve as master for the 2010 year. Junior Warden Levy resigned, for personal reasons, before completing his term. Senior Warden Ashworth asked not to be considered because of the uncertainty of his job situation. (He is just finishing up his course at the police academy and expected to be assigned somewhere.)

Lodge Finances

The subject of lodge finances was raised at the November stated. In fact a motion was made to start procedures to increase to the annual dues to \$100 exclusive of the Grand Lodge Per Capita. If this were in effect right now, dues would be \$117. This of course requires a change to the by-laws of the lodge and there is a procedure for that, so the motion has no real effect. But the question is on the table.

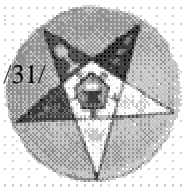
The unavailability of the two logical candidates required the lodge to turn to the past master list for the coming year's master. (One must have served a full term as warden to be eligible.) Brother Williard had a very successful year as master in his first term and we expect a repeat performance this time



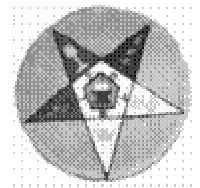
That begs for an answer to this question. What does it cost, per member, to run Old Town Lodge. The answer is not completely obvious. The bare bones expenses last calendar year amounted to approximately \$77 per member. Our dues delivered approximately \$60 per dues paying member. This includes no allowance for charities and ad hoc expenses, just what it takes to keep the doors open more or less. However, there is additional offsetting income, contributions for meals offset kitchen expenses and. projects are often subscribed right from the floor when proposed, for instance.

Also, OTL has a very reasonable nest egg set aside for emergencies, so we are no where near bankruptcy. So, look for this to come up at the next meeting. That's a good reason for you to be there.

Reminders: First degree Nov. 24th First Degree Dec. 1st Stated Dec. 15th , Regular practice on Tuesdays, if no meeting is scheduled; special practice on Sunday before degrees. (Contact WM Terry Wooten @ 924-6501 for information) If you are not getting your own copy of this newsletter or the phone-tree messages then your information is likely incorrect in the directory, contact Herb Blankenship @ 924-9002.



O E S Chapter # 355



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As I write to you all on this Thanksgiving day, my heart is bursting with gratitude for the many blessings God has bestowed upon us. I want to let you all know that one of the biggest blessings for which I am thankful is a loving, supportive, and active Eastern Star Chapter. You all add so very much to our lives, and we truly are thankful for each of you.

You know, each month as I prepare to write to you all, I am amazed at just how much we are able to accomplish, and this month has been no different. We began the month by honoring our veterans. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend our first meeting of the month due to medical reasons, but our Associate Matron Linda Wood stepped in and presided over the meeting without hesitation (another thing for which I am thankful). Since I didn't get a chance to say it at the meeting, I'd like to officially say *Thank You* to all the veterans who have kept us safe. We are ever mindful of the fact that "the price of freedom is never free". We are thankful for your courage, your dedication, and your service. We know that we can never thank you enough for all that you've sacrificed but may we never quit trying.

Our second meeting of the month was our official Thanksgiving celebration. It was the perfect blend of food, fellowship, and a celebration of God's Bounty. The meeting was preceded by a delicious Thanksgiving feast, which was attended by our Past Grand Patron, Dean Cheek, and his lovely wife, Elva. Then, at the meeting, it was my honor to present Brother Dean with a check from the Chapter of the money we'd raised at the BBQ fundraiser in October to help fund the Camp Rainbow kitchen renovation. Brother Dean graciously accepted our contribution and gave us a brief history of and update on Camp Rainbow. He also pointed out that Camp Rainbow now has a new website if anyone would like to check it out. The web site is <http://www.camprainbow.biz>.

In addition to our two meetings this month, we also had a couple of successful fundraisers. The very first was the Holiday Market at the Greensboro Coliseum. This is a three day event, and although we always have a wonderful time working, the hours are very long. I'd like to be sure to send a big thank you to all who worked this event. It is one of our main fundraisers, so thank you from the entire Chapter.

Another successful event that was held at Old Town was our 16th District Project. This project was a *huge success!* Brother Doug Bristow was in charge of this project and did a superb job of putting together a Cruz-In. As a classic car enthusiast, it was wonderful to see the 31 cars that turned out; some of them were absolute works of beauty.

The Cruz-In was a family fun day as well. In addition to the classic cars, we also had a bounce house courtesy of Brother Scott Horn (Thank You, Scott), face painting, and a DJ playing excellent oldies. The weather cooperated nicely, and we were blessed with a really good turn-out. All of the Chapters from the 16th District participated – we sold baked goods, hot dogs, and Brunswick Stew, and when it was all said and done, we were able to raise over \$1,400 at this event. As I said, it really was a huge success. Way to go, Brother Doug!

So that is what we've done so far this month. Before our next meeting, we will also have worked the three-day Craftsmen's Christmas Classic, our other annual fundraiser. Again, thank you to all who will volunteer their time and energy. Your sacrifice for our Chapter is greatly appreciated.

There are a couple of events in December of which I would like to make you all aware. The first is our visit to Whitestone, formerly known as MESH. We will be visiting the MESH community on Sunday, **December 6th at 3:00 pm**. We will have a Christmas service followed by food and fellowship. We invite everyone to meet us there to celebrate the Christmas season and to catch up with friends we haven't seen in a while. Whitestone is located at 700 S. Holden Road in Greensboro. We hope to see you there.

The next event is our stated meeting and covered dish dinner on Monday, December 7th at 6:00 p.m. I'd like to remind everyone that we only have one meeting in December so this will be our only opportunity to celebrate the Christmas season together as a Chapter. As such, everyone is encouraged to bring filled covered dishes to this meeting so that we can enjoy some time together before and also following the meeting

Our final event is **December 15th**. We will be serving Christmas dinner to our Masonic Brothers prior to their stated meeting. We are so thankful for our Masons and want to take time to show them our appreciation. If you would like to serve at this event or to contribute a covered dish, please let me know.

I would like to conclude this month's newsletter by wishing you all a blessed Thanksgiving, and since I won't write to you again until the end of December, I'd like to also wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

In Star love,
Dannielle & Alan Williard

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