

# Operative Lodge No. 308, A.F. & A.M.

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## **TRESTLE BOARD**

STATED MEETING – 2<sup>nd</sup> MONDAY AT 7:30 PM

**Darrell Fremont, PM, Senior Warden**  
**Steve Layton, Junior Warden**  
**Michael B. Aves, Sr., PM, Treasurer**

**Rodney E. Halverson, PM, Chaplain**  
**Scott Nemmers, Senior Deacon**  
**Christian Millhollin, Junior Deacon**

**Keith Gordon, Senior Steward**  
**Mark Holm, Junior Steward**  
**Terry Burk, Tyler**

**Gene Jennings, Trustee**  
**Tyler Moeckly, Trustee**  
**Lee Prunninger, PM, Trustee**

## **SPRING 2010**

Greetings Brethren:

### **2009 IN REVIEW:**

2009 was a banner year for Operative Lodge #308. Many wonderful things have been accomplished not the least of which is having a member of the Craft represent not only Operative Lodge #308, but Star Lodge #115 as well by being appointed Grand Musician for the Grand Lodge of Iowa. Brother Lane Shaver, PM, who holds dual membership with both of these Lodge's, has been selected by Most Worshipful Grand Master Craig Hummel to fill the position of Grand Musician for the coming year.

The number of new members in Operative Lodge #308 was down in 2009 by comparison to previous years. However, we were very fortunate to have recruited and raised several new Masons who have displayed an eager attitude to learn Masonic ritual and to take an active part in the Lodge. Their participation will in time help keep Operative Lodge vibrant and full of the Masonic spirit. Our new Brethren in 2009 are Kenneth O. Bryant, Keith W. Gordon, Mark E. Holm, Joseph J. McCloud and Christian J. Millhollin.

The Lodge scholarship program was alive and well in 2009 and that allowed Operative Lodge to provide two scholarships. The annual North Polk High School scholarship and a new scholarship have been established to help North Polk Music program purchase a musical instrument. All of that was made possible by the continued success of the Lodge Spring and Fall Pizza sale.

### **SPRING 2010:**

Operative Lodge #308 has faced a number of challenges as 2010 began, the least of which has been the constant rain that on occasion has dampened the lower level of the Lodge Building. Plugged gutters and a gutter that had pulled away from the building were the two main culprits. Unfortunately, water entered into the building in sufficient amount to cause some damage to a wall and possibly requiring extensive cleaning of the carpet in the lower level.

Successes, however, overshadow our minor water problems. The 2010 Spring Pizza sale was an overwhelming success. Operative Lodge was very fortunate to have partnered with North Polk Elementary Music Program students for the 2010 Spring sale. A total of 337 pizzas were sold and that total was helped in tremendous fashion by the students who sold 120 pizzas. The money from this event will continue to support Operative Lodge #308's scholarship programs.

The Lodge has also partnered with Polk City government to create a more useful area at the rear of Operative Lodge. For many years this area was pretty much un-useable and required constant maintenance to keep the weeds at bay. An agreement with the City and the Lodge produced a cement patio along with a set of concrete steps leading up to the outside on the south of the Lodge building. Operative Lodge's part of this agreement was to provide a picnic table and a

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bench where members of Operative Lodge along with City employees might take breaks and relax. This area is now complete and has certainly made this area more useful.

Operative Lodge #308 hasn't been on the cutting edge of technology for many years; however, 2010 has brought about some changes in that area. The Lodge now has a computer and printer along with a video projector. Both pieces of equipment have greatly enhanced the way Stated Communications are handled. In particular, the video projector has added a new dimension for the Lodge in terms of providing educational programs to the membership.

2010 has also brought about conversation about long range use of the current Lodge building. The maintenance of this structure being the primary concern and focus in the short term. There have been many discussions about this subject and no formal plan to address future needs has materialized, however, the discussions have been very positive and have given new direction to the membership and a realization that it will require considerable financial commitment to either stay in the current building or move to another location.

The membership of Operative Lodge #308 continues to grow steadily. So far in 2010 the Lodge has added several new members who have already been raised or are in the process of receiving their Degrees. Our new Brethren, thus far in 2010, are Michael A. Miller, Ronald D. Ringgenberg, Lon B. Laffey, Brian J. Leopold and David A. Seery. As each new raising of a Brother takes place the future of Operative Lodge #308 becomes more secure.



Community involvement takes many forms for Operative Lodge and the scholarship program is a very important aspect of the Lodges effort to remain visible in Polk City. The 2010 North Polk High School scholarship was awarded to Kylie Vetter. Worshipful Master Tim Davis had the honor of presenting the \$500.00 check.

Many years ago, Operative Lodge #308 was faced with the possibility of having to close due to lack of attending members. Thanks to several dedicated Brethren, Operative survived and is alive and well in 2010. A special evening was held to honor those who stood up and took charge to keep this Lodge active. Those honored were Brother John Moeckly PM (posthumously), MW D. Dean Johnson PGM, Brother Steve Moeckly PM, Brother Jim Blaney PM and Brother Tom Zike PM.



John Moeckly family receiving Certificate



Steve Moeckly receiving Certificate from WM Tim Davis



Dean Johnson PGM receiving Certificate from WM Davis



Jim Blaney receiving Certificate from WM Davis

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Several upcoming events are noteworthy. In addition to some Degree work scheduled in July, Operative Lodge will again participate in the annual Polk City 4 Seasons Festival scheduled for the week-end of July 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>. Lodge members will take part in the 4 Seasons Festival parade and will also host a food opportunity festival attendees and an open house of the Lodge Building.

In August Operative Lodge will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual BBQ. In 2009 MW Jack Butler PGM and MW Don Mosier PGM hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> annual BBQ at the Lodge as the result of Operatives exceptional support of Hope Lodge in Iowa City. The first was a very special event and was well attended. Worshipful Master Tim Davis thought it only fitting that Operative Lodge hold a similar event in 2010. All of the 2010 Grand Lodge of Iowa Officers have been invited along with MW Butler PGM and MW Mosier PGM. Also, potential members of the 2010-2011 Grand Lodge Officers have also been invited.

**REMINDERS:**

If you haven't paid your 2010 dues, they are considerable overdue and may cause your suspension from Lodge if not paid. In most cases it is simply a case of forgetting, however, Operative Lodge #308 has a special provision in place if a member cannot afford to their dues. Simply contact Worshipful Master Tim Davis or the Lodge Secretary for assistance.

Fraternally,

James L. Trotter, Secretary  
Operative Lodge #308

