

# Tidings from the East



Greetings Brethren, I hope this message finds everyone well. This is Juan Garcia, your Worshipful Master for 2005.

With the new year comes new and exciting things for the lodge. As always, we are trying to incorporate new ideas on bringing members into the lodge in addition to doing things to become more noticed to the public while always preserving our most valued and honored traditions of being Masons. Some of the goals for 2005 are bringing a lighted sign to the property of the lodge, increase membership through community involvement, inviting other social organizations to our winter season breakfasts, participating in Grand Lodge's Ritualist program, and above all else, practice the art of Freemasonry.

We have an exiting year ahead of us, and with the guidance from the members of Quincy Lodge, I hope to focus and maintain the direction of the lodge from now and into the future. Times are changing brethren, and to survive, we must adapt to these changes. Grand Lodge has given us extended freedom for bringing in candidates to the lodge. Now it's time for us to capitalize on these freedoms. We want to succeed, not just survive. See you at Lodge!

Fraternally,  
Juan Garcia, WM

## Notes from outgoing WM, PM Josh Deckard:

Greetings Brethren, The time has come for me to hand over the gavel to our newest WM Juan Garcia. I'm sure he has an eventful year planned for the lodge. I would just like to say that it has been a pleasure serving as Worshipful Master for the year 2004; however, I feel an issue needs to be addressed. As another year passes we are faced with a fresh start to bring life back into our lodge. I hope that we will see the attendance increase at the lodge either for meetings, degree work, or even events such as the Memorial Day breakfast. It has become increasingly difficult to coordinate events and such with the small handful of brothers that currently attend. We welcome and encourage all of you of you who are able, to attend and share in our fellowship. The time is now with a new year upon us to change what could be a grim future for the lodge if we don't come together and revive what was once so meaningful to so many people.

Thanks for a good year, see you at Lodge!  
Josh Deckard, PM  
Secretary - 2005



## Road Construction

We are pleased to announce that the road construction outside the lodge is complete and looking great. Light are up, curbs are looking good and the road is super-smooth. Come to the lodge and check it out. You car will thank you for it! (and the brethren too!)



## The Quincy Calendar of Events

Here are few items posted to our calendar

**Jan 25th:** Quincy Lodge will be holding a Master Mason degree on January 25th. Degree work will begin at 6:00 PM with dinner between sections. We hope to see everyone there.

**Feb 26th:** Pancake Breakfast. Quincy Lodge will be holding it monthly pancake breakfast from 7 to 10AM on February 26th. The breakfast is free and open to the public. So, bring your family and friends for some good eats and fellowship. See ya there!

**April 15th:** Dan's Fish Fry. Yes brethren, it's that time again. With the access road to the lodge finally open, we hope to draw in a large crowd for the fish fry fundraiser. Plans are being organized and we will again need your assistance for this event! We plan to be in touch soon.

**May 28:** Memorial day Breakfast. Don't forget to put on your calendar, the Memorial Day breakfast for the member of Quincy Lodge to be held on May 28th at 7:00 AM. We also hope to have a great program after breakfast for the members that is something new and never seen before. Intrigued? Stop by for the breakfast and find out!

## Lodge Dues now due

It's the new year brethren. And as a friendly reminder, Lodge dues for 2005 are now due. Dues for this year are \$65.00. Checks can me made Payable to:  
Quincy Lodge #230  
P.O. Box 405  
Elwood, IN 46203

## Scholarship Information

Brethren, do you have a son or daughter or even a grandchild in college or heading that at the end of the school year? If so, why not get them there with a Masonic Scholarship? Scholarship information packets are now ready to be pick up by the members of Quincy Lodge. Scholarship information packets must be returned to the lodge no later than March 1st. Contact PM Guy Blanchard for questions regarding the scholarship application.

## Signs, signs, everywhere there's signs...

Brethren, at the first stated meeting held on January 3rd, 2005, the members present voted on a proposal to bring a sign identifying our lodge that will reside in the yard next to the road. We are currently in the process of gathering some design ideas and price quotes for the sign. Also, we are looking to have a mural of a Square and Compass painted on the west side of the building that faces the road. This painted mural will be lit with ground spot lights to show everyone where we are. This sign will help identify our lodge from the other buildings around and to show this is where we call home. Did you know there are current members who do not even know we are located after the move from downtown Elwood? Time to shed some light on the lodge. We hope to have the lighted road sign running by April 15, for the Fish Fry. We'll keep you updated as things move forward.

## Grand Lodge Ritualist program

Brethren, a new program now in effect and supported by Grand Lodge is known as the Ritualist Program. This program allows the members of a lodge to score points by giving (or have given) parts of degree work. These points are tabulated and after certain point benchmarks are reached, the member is awarded a pin to signify one of 3 stages: A Ritualist, a Senior Ritualist, and a Master Ritualist. These are lapel pins that are worn with honor to let fellow brethren that you truly know your stuff. Interested in participating? Stop by the lodge and pick up a form to fill out. Brethren who are "More Experienced" and have given degree work in the past can also fill out the form as they are "grand fathered" into the program. So, some join the fun, you won't be disappointed.

## Monthly Breakfast in full swing.

Brethren, have a hanker'n for some pancakes, biscuits and gravy, sausage links, and other breakfast goodies? Stop by the lodge on January 22nd and February 26th for our pancake breakfast. It's free (of course, donations accepted) and open to the public. So, bring your family and friends out for some good eats and fellowship We will use the donations to help pay for the sign mentioned above. Like Bartles and James, we thank you for your support!

*Quincy Lodge #230 F&AM  
Elwood, Indiana*

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Email: quincy@tiptontel.com  
Internet: <http://www.quincylodge.org>

**Light thoughts...**

*A poetry thought from one mason to another*

**One Lodge**

*By Brother Tommie Closson*

Grandfather's lodge is gone now,  
 the charter pulled down from the wall.  
 The mortar has found some new purpose,  
 the Master's within a new hall.  
 To most it's a joyful occasion,  
 a merger of Brothers and friends.  
 But the number that made him a Mason  
 has scattered to history's winds.  
 What if my lodge should pass from existence?  
 I'll see with the passing of time,  
 If my son joins the order as I did,  
 Will he kiss the same bible as I?  
 With so much left to do for our neighbors,  
 and a trestle board full of to do's,  
 I must say that it's terribly petty  
 to argue the price of my dues.  
 Beside my lodge altar a flag flies,  
 of a place where a person can go,  
 to freely help Brothers and neighbors  
 in the length of his cable tow.  
 So Brothers, let's work for tomorrow,  
 and read from a braver man's tome,  
 May fraternity e'er be our focus,  
 No matter what lodge we call home.



**Have a joke, poem, or thought to share?**  
 Share your Masonic writings with everyone!  
 Submit your writings to:  
 Quincy Lodge  
 P.O. Box 405  
 Elwood, IN 46036  
 Email: [quincy@tiptontel.com](mailto:quincy@tiptontel.com)

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*Quincy Lodge #230 F&AM*

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*New Year 2005*



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Freemasons...Always taking things to the 3rd Degree

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