

Excelsior Masonic Lodge No. 261

Chartered 1867

**3900 Litchfield Road
Charlotte, NC 28211**

www.excelsiorlodge261.org

"The Friendly Lodge"



February 2017 Trestle Board

Dear Brother,

Unfortunately we were met with bad weather in January and as a result I had to cancel the stated meeting. I put your safety first and foremost over meeting to handle lodge business. If you happened to travel to the lodge as a result of not receiving the cancellation notices that were sent I do sincerely apologize. A quick recap of January events:

Masonic System of Education

Another first was the re-installation of the Masonic System of Education, the brother that was initiated received the first of five sessions the week prior to his initiation.

First Degree

We had our first initiation of the year and it was the first degree we've had in well over a year. Rustiness was expected and overall it was a very successful degree. We had two visitors, one who is a member of a New York lodge and the other was a PM from Phalanx Lodge.

I would like to especially recognize brother Dan Andrews who did an exceptional job on the Secret Lecture. He actually took extra steps to illustrate throughout the lodge the actions as he recited, it was something that the newly initiated brother will surely remember.

Secondly, I would like to recognize Worshipful brother Bob Foy, there was a need for the monitorial lecture and he stepped in and did an amazing job. This came after not performing that lecture in over 30 years!

I want to thank these two brothers for an amazing performance, if you weren't in attendance you will have another chance in March as we have two more petitions that will be received at February's stated.

Davie Academy

We hosted a Davie Academy session with the title of "The Art of Chairing a Lodge Meeting." About 10 people were in attendance from lodges across the state. It mostly consisted of Wardens and Deacons, although two current Masters attended (including myself), we learned a great deal, much of which I'll be implementing throughout the year.

One of the biggest topics and I'll share it with you, was being aware of motions and/or announcements before the stated meeting. If you have a motion that you would like to make, simply bring it to my attention beforehand so I may allot time for it to be properly addressed.

Signs and Symbolism

It was fitting to have an in depth discussion about the signs and symbolism of the first degree as we had just conferred that degree the week prior. It was the first of a three-part session in analyzing the deeper meanings behind the first degree.

If you were unable to attend, I will be doing smaller sessions throughout the year during our monthly stated. It's very thought provoking and eye opening, which is what I believe the founders of Masonry intended it to be.

I encourage you to get back active in the lodge and come out to fellowship with other brothers when we host Masonic outings. Don't forget to do something special for your wife or significant other on Valentines Day, a simple card with a hand written note goes a long way.

Fraternally,
Phillip Brent



Did you receive a text message reminding you about the EA Degree on January 23rd? We are experimenting with text reminders and if you didn't receive one, we may have the wrong number for you or your home number is listed. If you want to receive them (probably only a couple each month), contact the secretary, Scott Wilson.

Excelsior Masonic Lodge

No. 261

Chartered 1867



February Trestle Board

2017 Officers

Master	Phillip Brent	704-995-4550
SW	Jeff Peck*	704-900-9625
JW	Dan Andrews	704-535-1511
Treasurer	Tim Berly*	704-940-1825
Secretary	Scott Wilson	704-200-7430
SD	Clay Pettit	828-223-6429
JD	Josh Barnette	704-884-6913
SS	John Robinson	980-263-8114
JS	Lawrence Campbell	917-902-8126
Chaplain	Terry Revel	828-322-8472
Tyler	Bob Foy*	704-664-6422
	* Past Master	

February Calendar

Monday, February 6th

Stated Communication

Dinner at 6:00pm

Meeting at 7:00pm

Monday, February 13th

Signs and Symbolism: 1st Degree Part II

Education at 7pm

Monday, February 20th

FC Degree Practice

Practice at 7pm

Saturday, February 25th

Masonic Outing: Activity TBD

Time TBD

Monday February 27th

FC Degree Conferral

Meet at 7pm



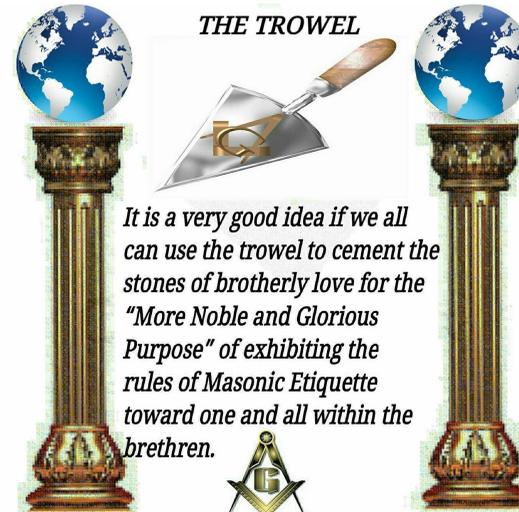
"THE FRIENDLY LODGE"

3900 Litchfield Road
Charlotte, NC 28211-2012

Excelsior Masonic Lodge No. 261



Congratulations to our newest Entered Apprentice, Michael Wilson!



THE TROWEL

It is a very good idea if we all can use the trowel to cement the stones of brotherly love for the "More Noble and Glorious Purpose" of exhibiting the rules of Masonic Etiquette toward one and all within the brethren.

LIVING THE TENETS OF FREEMASONRY



By Ancient custom, the King was always covered while his subjects were never covered in his presence. The American custom of the Master of the Lodge wearing a hat as a symbol of his authority is apparently a result of that ancient custom.

<http://saintjohns51.com/masonic-trivia/>



Have you seen our new floor in the lodge room? Come check out the new tile mosaic!



Lodge Jewels

Past Master- blazing sun within the compasses extended on a quadrant

Master- square

Senior Warden- level

Junior Warden- plumb

Treasurer- crossed keys

Secretary- crossed pens

Senior Deacon- square and compasses united with a sun

Junior Deacon- square and compasses united with a moon

Stewards- cornucopia in a circle

Tyler- crossed swords

Chaplain- Bible within a circle

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OXFORD, NC 27565
PERMIT NO. 56