

Excelsior Masonic Lodge No. 261

Chartered 1867

3900 Litchfield Road
Charlotte, NC 28211

www.excelsiorlodge261.org

"The Friendly Lodge"



March 2017 Trestle Board

Dear Brother,

Our February Stated Communication was met with a sick bug, as many of the officers were unable to attend due to being under the weather. Keep the brethren in your prayers as we go through this flu season.

I want to extend a special thanks to the brothers who filled in for the absent officers because I greatly appreciate you doing that. We have a few important things to discuss at the March stated, most importantly in regards to lodge security. I understand we have visited this issue before but with vandalism happening more frequently we need to put a definite plan in to place.

February Recap

Lodge Fellowship

I had a great time participating in the first lodge event of the year, we went bowling and those who were in attendance had a blast! It was an opportunity for petitioners to come out and allow us to get to know them better as well.

I originally thought once a quarter was a good idea for lodge events, but taking into consideration petitioners only have our stated meals to fellowship with us we may need to do something monthly. This will allow us to make a more educated decision when interested men petition the lodge. What are your thoughts?

Second Degree

We are close to holding a Fellowcraft Degree soon and hopefully we will also be conferring more Entered Apprentice Degrees as we vote on new candidates. We need you there at the lodge showing support for our new brothers.

Ask 1 Bring 1

This is a program designed to increase the attendance and fellowship within the lodge, it's a very simple program that I hope you participate in. The basic premise is we have broken down the membership by zip code, and a brother who regularly attends can call up someone in their zip code and simply ask if they would like to ride with them to the lodge or our other events.

If we have 15 regular attendees the attendance will double by simply bringing someone with us. I'll be exploring this idea more during the March Stated.

Thank you for taking a moment to read this message and I look forward to seeing you in the lodge!

Fraternally,
Phillip Brent



The Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina is challenging all lodges to increase their philanthropy in 2017. The GM would like for each lodge to give at least \$3 per member for each of our three charities. These are the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, WhiteStone, and the NC Masonic Foundation. Will you help us reach this goal by helping out for just \$9? Talk to Excelsior Secretary Scott Wilson for more info (704-200-7430 or scott_wilson1@hotmail.com).



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March 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	

March Calendar

Monday, March 6th

Stated Communication

Dinner at 6:00pm

Meeting at 7:00pm

Monday, March 13th

Degree Practice (1st or 2nd TBD)

Meet at 7:00pm

Monday, March 20th

Lodge is Dark (review your FC Degree for SOI)

Tuesday, March 21st

District 32 Spring School of Instruction Night #1

Charles M. Setzer Hosting (4217 Stacy Blvd)

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Wednesday, March 22nd

District 32 Spring School of Instruction Night #2

Excelsior hosting

Dinner both nights at 6:15pm

Meeting both nights at 7pm

Monday, March 27th

FC Degree Conferral

Meet at 7:00pm



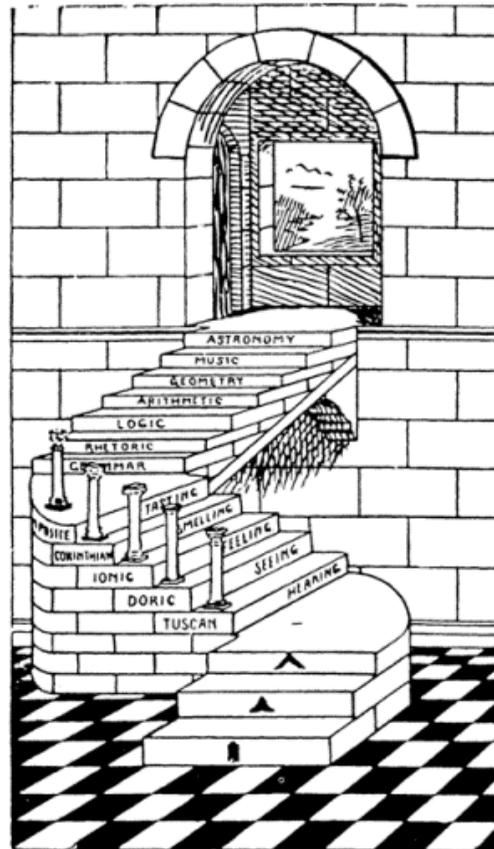
“THE FRIENDLY LODGE”

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Charlotte, NC 28211-2012

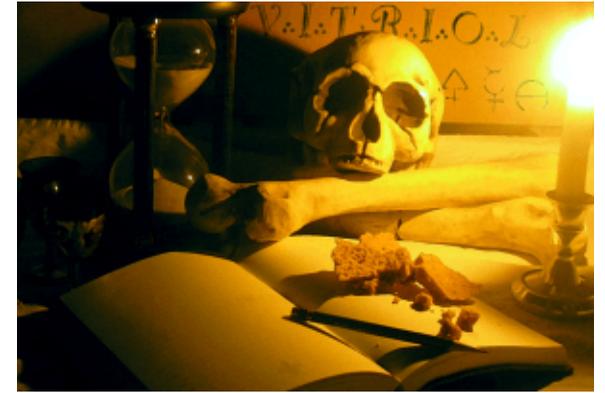
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We had a great Davie Academy Session on January 21st at Excelsior. Freemasons from around the region came out to learn how to run effective and efficient lodge meetings. Topics included creating an agenda, modifying the order of business for efficiency, principles of organization, chairing the meeting, Masonic parliamentary usage, and proper handling of motions and voting.



Chamber of Reflection



One of the greatest enigmas of contemporary Freemasonry, the Chamber of Reflection is a little-used aspect in the rituals of a newly made Mason. Yet, the symbolism of the Chamber has roots in Hermeticism, Rosicrucianism and other occult traditions. In modern Free-Masonry, the chamber of reflections is equivalent to the alchemical siphon, where the Recipient shall experience transmutation by means of the conjugation and regulating of his/her recondite energies. The Profane “descends to the Infernos”, he must die first, in order to “resuscitate” and attain the light of Initiation. There he shall leave the dealings of the exterior world, there will be an interior abstraction, like the original matrix, so that he can emerge from the depths of the earth (the chaotic dense matter) to the subtleness of the spirit.

<http://freemasoninformation.com/masonic-symbols/>

