

**RISING STAR #47**  
NEWMARKET, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
84 Main Street



**Free and Accepted Masons  
Newmarket, N. H.**

**January 2012**

**Chartered 1826  
Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday April - June,  
September - December**

## Message from the East

Brethren,

Here we are, entering a new year. Regardless of what else happened in our lives during 2011, we can all claim to be another year older. In fact, the same claim can be made for Masonry. The oldest fraternity in the world is yet one more year older. And we are still asked, 'What are you guys all about? What do you do up there in that tall building? I've seen the Dan Brown movies; what secrets do you have that you won't share with us?'

Of course, we like to answer that we really aren't a secret organization, we just have a few secret signs of recognition. Every thing else is an open book. We invite the community to open houses, bring our families to events, try to get our name in the paper and appear in tuxedo and apron, marching down the street. No secrets for us! Or are there?

I submit to you that there ARE 'secrets inside'. You can't explain to someone how we feel about the men we call brothers. You have to experience it. It's hard to convey the meaning of the brotherhood of men. You really have to be a part of it to know. You can't expect someone to understand the awe of standing in the same spot as the Masonic giants of our past, and contemplating the great works accomplished over hundreds of year by men who have shaped history in many small ways. You have to open yourself to the experience.

So there are secrets inside. What we can explain to others, is that we WILL share. We can gladly show them how ordinary men like us have been made better through the open secret of fraternal

brotherhood. Don't ever be afraid to invite others to learn our most important secrets, before another year passes by. Every good man should have the chance to know about the 'secrets inside'.

WM elect, J Peter Masterson  
[Jpmasterson@comcast.net](mailto:Jpmasterson@comcast.net)

Secretary N Alan Rollins  
[Spaulding257@yahoo.com](mailto:Spaulding257@yahoo.com)

# Calendar of Events

## December 2011 Calendar

**1/4 Rehearsal for the FC degree. 7:00**

**1/11/12 FC degree, 4 candidates**

**1/14 EA degree team 4:00 3 candidates (tentative)**

**1/14 Installation of officers 5:30 catered dinner, 6:30 program**

**1/18 Building Association Annual meeting, 7:00 at the lodge**

Note the installation of officers on 1/14. This is a public event and will be open to all. It will be preceded by a dinner at 5:30. Prior to the installation, the 1<sup>st</sup> district will be putting on the EA degree for us, for three new members. Officers from lodges all across the district will be present to participate in this historic event. Truly a first, that you don't want to miss! We will have done the FC degree on 3-4 others just a few days before on Wednesday night.

We are still looking for someone who can help use set up our new website, with an area for us to post pictures and video of public events. If you, or someone you know, can help, please contact a lodge officer.

**Please visit the District Webpage at <http://firstmasonicdistrictofnh.com> for upcoming events**

**Rising Star #47, Newmarket, NH  
Officers & Appointments for 2012**

Worshipful Master:	RW	J Peter Masterson
Senior Warden:	W	Peter Vatistas
Junior Warden:	W	Mark Thompson
Treasurer:	W	Mark Patschke
Asst Treasurer:		Les Blanchard
Secretary:	W	N Alan Rollins.
Asst Secretary:	RW	Robert Sutherland
Representative to Grand Lodge:	W	John Shaver
Chaplain:	RW	Richard A Gilbert Sr
Senior Deacon:	RW	Michael V Pettengill
Junior Deacon:	W	John Shaver
Marshall:		Kenny Flynn
Senior Steward:	RW	Haven Hayes
Junior Steward:	W	Richard Dewing
Tyler:		Jud Porter
Historian:	W	Richard Dewing

**Kingman Masonic Building Corp. Officers**

J. Peter Masterson.....	President
John Ramsay.....	Clerk
Richard A. Gilbert, Sr, PM, PGC.....	Treasurer
Twelve Brethren.....	Directors

**Lodges in the First Masonic District.**

**St. John's Lodge No. 1**

351 Middle St. Portsmouth  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.

**Major General John Sullivan Lodge No. 2**

6 Pleasant St. Epping  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 7:30 P.M.

**Stafford Lodge No. 29**

610 Sixth St. Dover  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 7:00 P.M.

**Rising Star Lodge No. 47**

84 Main Street, Newmarket  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7:30 P.M.

**St. Andrew's Lodge No. 56**

351 Middle St., Portsmouth  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7:00 P.M.

**Star in the East Lodge No. 59**

63 Water St., Exeter  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 P.M.

**Gideon Lodge No. 84**

Church St., Kingston  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday 7 P.M.

(Tuesday after 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in September)

**Moses Paul Lodge No. 96**

32 Pearl St., Dover  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 P.M.

**Tucker Lodge No. 99**

Off Main St., Raymond  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 7:30 P.M.

**Saint James No. 102**

77 Tide Mill Road, Hampton  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 P.M.

**Triple 8 Travelers Lodge No. 32 (Prince Hall)**

Maplewood Ave, Portsmouth  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 7:30 P.M.

## MASONIC TRIVIA

**"The Character of a Freemason"  
From the Farmer's Almanac, 1823  
Andover, Massachusetts**

**The real Freemason is distinguished from the rest of Mankind by the uniform unrestrained rectitude of his conduct. Other men are honest in fear of punishment which the law might inflict; they are religious in expectation of being rewarded, or in dread of the devil, in the next world. A Freemason would be just if there were no laws, human or divine except those written in his heart by the finger of his Creator. In every climate, under every system of religion, he is the same. He kneels before the Universal Throne of God in gratitude for the blessings he has received and humble solicitation for his future protection. He venerates the good men of all religions. He disturbs not the religion of others. He restrains his passions, because they cannot be indulged without injuring his neighbor or himself. He gives no offense, because he does not choose to be offended. He contracts no debts which he is certain he cannot discharge, because he is honest upon principle."**

**Thanks to "*THE TRESTLE BOARD*" Cochran Masonic Lodge #217  
F&AM Cochran, Georgia, USA**

**January 11, 1932** First elected female senator

**January 11, 1984** Pyramid mystery unearthed

**January 11 1639** The first Colonial Constitution

**January 14, 2009** Sully Sullenberger performs Miracle on the Hudson

# The Baltimore Convention



A Masonic Congress which met in Baltimore, Maryland, on the 8th of May, 1843, in consequence of a recommendation made by a preceding convention which had met in Washington, District of Columbia, in March, 1842.

The Convention consisted of delegates from the States of New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, Ohio, Missouri, and Louisiana. Its professed objects were to produce uniformity of Masonic work and to recommend such measures as should tend to the elevation of the Order.

The Congress continued in session for nine days, during which time it was principally occupied in an attempt to perfect the ritual, and in drawing up articles for the permanent organization of a Triennial Masonic Convention of the United States, to consist of delegates from all the Grand Lodges. In both of these efforts it failed, although several distinguished Freemasons took part in its proceedings.

The body was too small, consisting, as it did, of only twenty-three members, to exercise any decided popular influence on the Fraternity. Its plan of a Triennial Convention met with very general opposition, and its proposed ritual, familiarly known as the Baltimore work, has almost become a myth. Its only practical result was the preparation and publication of Moore's Trestle Board, a Monitor which has, however, been adopted only by a limited number of American Lodges. The Baltimore work did not materially differ from that originally established by Webb. Moore's Trestle Board professes to be an exposition of its monitorial part; a statement which, however, was denied by Doctor Dove, who was the President of the Convention, and the controversy on this point at the time between these two eminent Freemasons was conducted with too much bitterness.

The above Convention adopted a report endorsing "the establishment of a Grand National Convention possessing limited powers, to meet triennially to decide upon discrepancies in the work, provide for uniform Certificates or Diplomas, and to act as referee between Grand Lodges at variance. Whenever thirteen or more Grand Lodges should agree to the proposition, the Convention should be permanently formed. "

Following the recommendation of the Convention, representatives from the Grand Lodges of North Carolina, Virginia, Iowa, Michigan, District of Columbia and Missouri met at Winchester, Virginia, on May 11, 1846. Only

eight delegates appearing, the Convention adjourned without doing any business.

Another Masonic Convention was held at Baltimore on September 23, 1847, to consider the propriety of forming a General Grand Lodge. The following Grand Lodges had accredited delegates: North Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas, Maryland and the District of Columbia. Brother William P. Mellen, of Mississippi, presided, and Brother Joseph Robinson, of Maryland, was the Secretary. A Constitution was adopted and this was forwarded to the several Grand Lodges with the understanding that if sixteen of them approved the measure before January 1, 1849, it would go into effect and the first meeting there under would be held at Baltimore on the second Tuesday in July, 1849. But the Constitution failed to receive the approval of the required number of Grand Lodges and the project for a Supreme Grand Lodge came to a halt.

- Source: Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry