



Florence Lodge #281, A.F. & A.M.
Volume 2 • March-April, 2009

In Memoriam!

Florence Lodge #281 is sad to report the passing of

Brother Robert L. Barrow

Born: August 26, 1929
EA: December 13, 1976
FC: February 21, 1977
MM: March 28, 1977
Passed: February 5, 2009

Brother Danny Sullivan

Born: December 14, 1923
EA: June 12, 1946
FC: September 18, 1946
MM: October 23, 1946
Passed: November 21, 2008

Brother Robert Wetherbee

Born: June 6, 1925
EA: May 8, 1950
FC: October 16, 1950
MM: November 24, 1950
Passed: March 28, 2008

Brother Wallace Wright

Born: February 9, 1930
EA: March 14, 1955
FC: April 18, 1955
MM: May 23, 1955
Passed: August 3, 2007



Please join the Brethren of Florence Lodge in welcoming:

Brother Wayne Minikus, who has recently affiliated with Florence Lodge #281

Brother Bruce Theye, who will pass to the degree of a Fellocraft Mason in March, 2009

From the East

Perhaps you've heard the old expression, attributed to a Chinese proverb, "May you live in interesting times." We certainly do live in interesting times.

The depressed economy reminds people that the simplest pleasures come right here at home. Someone coined the phrase "staycation," a vacation right in your own backyard. Evidence points to increased attendance at the Omaha Botanical Gardens, the museums, and the zoo as people find ways to enjoy family time without leaving home. I think that bodes well for Masonry, and I think many of our Brethren who pay their dues but have not been active for many years will rediscover the simple pleasures of attending Lodge. If you are one of our Brethren who has not been active in a while, **please join us on Monday nights and re-discover Masonry.** Masonry has grown, and I know you'll love what we're doing.

This economy has reminded Masons that we need to change our ways, as well. Every dollar saved is a dollar more we can use for our scholarships, our Chip programs, and our charities. **We are discussing merging our newsletter with Mercer Lodge #290s, saving Florence #281 the cost of designing, printing, and mailing 130 newsletters.** Remember, we're still an independent Lodge, but if we can save a few hundred dollars, we will explore those options.

Florence Lodge #281 is starting the year off with a roar. Mark your calendars now for exciting events that keep us relevant in the community and remind people what we stand for. Whether you've been involved in Masonry for a few months or many years, now is a great time to get involved with your Lodge. I hope to see you soon.

Fraternally,

Randy McFarland
Worshipful Master

COMING EVENTS

- May 17 Pancake breakfast at Benson
Masonic Center— 7am-1pm
- Jun 13 Chip event at Florence Lodge
- Jun 29 Ladies at the Table (TBD)
- Aug 8 Blood drive place (TBD)
- Sep 26 PM Dinner honoring PGM Charlie
Amidon at the Scottish Rite

Mark your calendars now to join Florence Lodge #281 at
Cooper Farm on the **2nd Monday in June, July, and
August** for fellowship and fun.

DUES ARE DUE

To avoid being suspended for non
payment of dues, please remit your dues
no later than

April 30, 2009

Your dues help Florence Lodge fund our
scholarship program, CHIP event, and
other Lodge functions throughout the
year. Please remit your dues as soon as
possible to remain current in the coming
year. Call Secretary Dale Wagner at
(402) 455-0106 if you have any
questions.

Thank you.

Florence Lodge #281 A.F. & A.M.

5903 Maple Street
Omaha, NE 68104
(402) 455-0106
webmaster@florelodge.com

We're on the web:
<http://www.florelodge.com>

**You know it's the right thing to do—but have you got
the guts to do it?** Moral courage is what makes legendary
leaders, but it's the follow-through that separates talking ethics
from doing it. But how do you get it?

A free community forum presented by **Dr. Rushworth Kidder**,
President & Founder of the Institute for Global Ethics, on a topic of
high relevance and importance in today's world—particularly as it
relates to the values of Masonry.

When: **Monday, April 27, 2009 7:00-9:00 PM**
Where: **Scottish Rite Masonic Center**
202 South 20th Street (20th & Douglas), Omaha, NE

This free community forum is being sponsored by the **Omaha Valley
Scottish Rite**, in partnership with the **Nebraska Humanities Council**.

The forum is **FREE**, but tickets are required. Please call the Scottish
Rite at (402) 342-1300 or e-mail cedic@scottishriteomaha.org for
tickets.

Happy Birthday

March

John Barr
Arthur Hansen
David Kipp
Jason Matts
Arthur Milow
Dean Monson
David Rose
James Sams
Dennis Shannon III

April

Homer Baldwin
Lanny Bisbee
John Dowding
Charles Englebretsen
Micah Evans



April cont'd

Edwin Kerr
Donald Keyser
Jeffrey Merriman
Clarence Nisley
James Ochsner
Theodore Perry
Brian Saathoff
James Westcott