

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

August, 2009

W.. Randall A. McFarland
Worshipful Master, 2009

5903 Maple Street
Omaha, NE 68104

Upcoming Calendar for Florence Lodge #281

- Monday, August 24—degree practice at 7:00
@ Florence Lodge #281
- Monday, August 31— degree practice at 7:00
@ Florence Lodge #281
- Monday, September 7—no meeting/Labor Day
- Monday, September 14—informal gathering
Tangier Shrine Crescent Room
- Monday, September 21—Business meeting at 7:30
@ Florence Lodge #281
- Saturday, September 26—Charlie Amidon's dinner
celebrating his 60 years service to Masonry
@ Scottish Rite Masonic Center
- Monday, September 28—degree practice at 7:00
@ Florence Lodge #281

Celebrating 60 Years of Service to Freemasonry



When Charlie took his first steps into the light of Masonry in June, 1949, Harry Truman was President. When Charlie was Worshipful Master of Florence Lodge in 1967, Lyndon Johnson was President. In 1986, Charlie served as the 120th Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska.

As everyone who knows Charlie can relate, his list of Masonic and career accomplishments is almost too long to list:

- Class Director, Scottish Rite
- Cathedral Board, Scottish Rite
- Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection
- 33° Inspector General Honorary, Scottish Rite
- Florence Chapter #61, Royal Arch Masons
- Council No. 1, Cryptic Masons
- Mount Calvary Commandery No. 1, KT
- Owaissa Chapter #296, Eastern Star
- Royal Order of Jesters, Court 19
- Proficiency Card since 1960
- DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor recipient
- Member of 'Heroes of '76,' National Sojourner's

Charlie has served as Executive Director of the Omaha Home for Boys, he has been active in the First United Methodist Church, and served as President of the Board of Trustees and co-chair of past pledge drives. Charlie has been a Trustee of Bishop Clarkson Hospital, and he even earned his private pilot's license in 1980!

Charlie Amidon is a man of many talents, and he has served as a friend and mentor to many generations of Freemasons.

Please plan to join Florence Lodge #281 and Shiloh Lodge #267 on **September 26, 2009** at the **Scottish Rite Masonic Center at 6:00 p.m.** to recognize his extraordinary legacy of service.

The cost of a prime rib dinner is only a \$5 donation to the Omaha Home for Boys Maintenance Campaign, reserve your seats by September 16 by calling Brother David Rose at (402) 319-5841 or by e-mail at drose@cox.net



Happy Birthday!

August

Walter E Cabe
Leroy L Jensen
Daniel L Mize
Richard D Nelson
Martin L Ward



In Memoriam

It is with great regret that we announce the passing of
Brother Theodore Perry II

Born: April 12, 1937
EA: May 12, 1975
FC: June 9, 1975
MM: September 22, 1975



Florence Lodge #281 A.F. & A.M.
5903 Maple Street
Omaha, NE 68104
(402) 455-0106
<http://www.florelodge.com>

Looking Backward and Forward

Every time I hear someone speak about Masonry as a secret organization operating behind closed doors, I cringe. People who say such things need to be educated about how we put our values to work every month. In August, numerous Brothers of Florence Lodge and Mercer Lodge stepped forward to donate blood for the **Florence Lodge #281 Blood Drive** on August 17. Thanks to the Brethren who made the commitment to donate. *They gave so others may live.*

Coming up: It's time for the **Florence Lodge Annual Maintenance Campaign** in support of the Omaha Home for Boys. 100% of your donation supports the boys, helping them with backpacks, school supplies, and other items to help them through the school year. Make your generous donation for Florence Lodge "Team J." Donate this year in honor of our Brother Charlie Amidon's 60 years of Masonic service.

Back to Lodge Night

Grand Lodge has declared September to be **Back to Lodge night**. Join your Lodge on **September 21, 2009** for the Regular Business meeting, beginning at 7:30 p.m. It's time you came back to see what we've been up to!

Haven't been to Lodge since you were raised?

Forgotten the due guard and signs?

That's okay! Just bring your sense of humor and join us for an evening of fellowship and fraternity. Tell us about your involvement in other Masonic activities or community organizations. Let us know what you've been up to!

You will always be welcomed at Florence Lodge, and we hope to see you in September.

From the East

August is always an interesting month, isn't it? It's still summer, but the kids are heading back to school and vacations are drawing to an end. Before you know it, we're observing Labor Day!

As we head into September, remember that Grand Lodge has declared September to be Back to Blue Lodge month. This is an opportunity for Brethren who have not been to Florence Lodge #281 in a while to visit their Blue Lodge, enjoy the fraternity and camaraderie of their Brethren, and reflect on why we joined Masonry to begin with. Come join us on Monday, September 21 for our Regular Business meeting. Don't worry if you've forgotten the pass and the sign of Masonry. A friendly Brother is always on hand to remind you and welcome you back to YOUR Lodge.

Please plan to join us again as we celebrate Back to Blue Lodge month.

2009 Officers

W.. Randall A. McFarland.....Worshipful Master/rmcfar@cox.net
David L. Rose.....Senior Warden /dlrose@cox.net
W.. James E. Westcott.....Junior Warden/jewestcott@cox.net
W.. Paul L. Welsch.....Treasurer/plwelsch@up.com
W.. Dale E. WagnerSecretary/dewagner@cox.net
W.. Micah I. Evans.....Chaplain /mevans0424@cox.net
Carl H. Moum.....Senior Deacon/carlmoum2@hotmail.com
Brian W. Saathoff.....Junior Deacon
Sean T. Kesterson.....Senior Steward
W.. Jeffrey A. Merriman.....Jr Steward /frostymerriman@cox.net
W.. Doyle E. Berg.....Marshal
W.. F. Edward LaBreck.....Tyler