



Sutherland eNews



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July 16, 2007

Sutherland eNews is best read in html.

RECENT EVENTS

On July 7, 2007, in a joint Degree with Tampa Bay Lodge No. 252 at Safety Harbor, Jason Richard Schultz (son-in-law of W.: Don Scofield) was initiated an Entered Apprentice.

CALENDAR – MASONIC EVENTS

JULY EVENTS:

July 17, 2007 (7:30 PM) - Sutherland Lodge is dark, however a Masonic Education workshop will be held. The Master Mason exam III will be given. A fun evening as well as an educational one. All Master Masons from all lodges recognized by the Grand Lodge of Florida are invited.

July 18, 2007 (8:00 PM) – Suncoast Masters & Wardens Association meeting at Star Lodge No. 78 in Largo. Dinner is at 7:00 PM, meeting at 8:00 PM.

AUGUST EVENTS:

August 7, 2007 (7:30 PM) - East Gate Lodge No. 355. **Special note:**
East Gate is dark in August.

August 14, (11:30 AM) – North Pinellas Scottish Rite Club meeting. All Scottish Rite masons and their guests welcome. Paul N. Bardua, 32° KCCH, General Secretary of the Valley of Tampa Scottish Rite will be the guest speaker. Call Kenneth R. James, Sr., 33° for reservations.

August 14, 2007 (7:30 PM) - Sutherland Lodge officer meeting. All members are invited.

August 18, 2007 (Saturday 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM) – Zone 6 Masonic Education Workshop at the Masonic Home. All officers are especially encouraged to attend and all Master Masons are invited. There is no cost for the workshop although there are materials for sale if one want to purchase them. Lunch is “on your own” at the Home (\$5.00) or at any of the surrounding restaurants. The Junior Grand Warden, the Junior Grand Deacon and the Chairman of Penal Affairs are among the guest speakers.

August 21, 2007 (7:30 PM) - Sutherland Lodge Stated Communication. This meeting will be the official visit of the District Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.: Kenneth R. James, II.

Other Future Events:

September 15, 2007 – M.: W.: Robert P. Harry, Grand Master, makes his official visit to the 20th and 21st Masonic Districts. The visit will take place at the Masonic Home of Florida in St. Petersburg. Registration begins at 5:00 PM. More information to follow in future eNews.

October 13, 2007 (1:00 – 5:00 PM) - BBQ Fundraiser at Sutherland Masonic Center. Ken James, Sr. famous BBQ. We'll post more about the BBQ in future eNews & in the Trestleboard.

PETITIONS & DEGREES

Anyone having any information about any petitioner they believe should be known by the lodge should contact the Worshipful Master or Secretary.

No petitions have been accepted by the Lodge (we are dark) since our last eNews.

DID YOU KNOW?

The following is published in Sutherland eNews with the permission of Masonic Quarterly Magazine, the official magazine of the United Grand Lodge of England, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5AZ. No part of the following may be published or reprinted without the permission of Masonic Quarterly Magazine (editor@mqmagazine.co.uk).

'And God said, let there be Light; and there was light.' Genesis 1, Chapter 3

Despite the ritual, only a very ill-informed man can imagine that the hoodwink is for the purpose of concealing the Lodge room and the Brethren from the Initiate until he is obligated.

Yet these thoughts do pass before the minds of the Brethren as they wait with keen anticipation to watch the effect that the ceremony has upon the candidate.

There is nothing secret about the inside of a Masonic temple. The architect who designed the building, the contractors who completed the contract, and all his workmen, down to the charwoman who regularly sweeps and dusts and maintains the place, have all seen the inside of the Lodge room.

The United Grand Lodge of England has held conducted tours on a daily basis around the temple at Great Queen Street for many years. In many Lodges, it has always been the custom to invite the Ladies and non-Masons who attended ladies evening festivals to "have a look around the Lodge room".

This is to say nothing about the recent policy of "openness" and the resulting implications of "Freemasonry in the Community" So what is the meaning, and the purpose behind the hoodwink?

What is its symbolism?

Many different rituals required that the eye should not see until the heart has conceived the mysteries of the Order.

It was, therefore, commonplace for the aspirant to membership to be always shrouded in darkness as a preparatory step to the reception of the full light of knowledge (whatever that may be!) The time for the confinement of a candidate into darkness and solitude varied dramatically across the different mysteries.

Among the Druids of Britain the period was nine days and nine nights! Some of the Grecian mysteries required three times nine days! In the select Persian Orders the period of time was extended to the incredible period of 50 days of darkness, solitude and fasting.

So, upon reflection, we have all had a relatively comfortable ride during our admission into the Craft! Taking our minds back to the creation of the world, darkness is thought of existing before light was created. In the Old Testament, as well as many other ancient religions and philosophies, darkness is symbolic not only of ignorance, but of sin, evil and wrong.

This is not so with regards to Masonic darkness of the hoodwink. The reason for this is because evil, sin and wrong are matters of a voluntary nature. They are the result of going against knowledge. There is no thought in any Masonic degree that the candidate is or does evil.

The hoodwink is not voluntary.

The candidate submits to the hoodwink because the degree requires him to do so.

It is a requirement to emphasize ignorance now and knowledge to come. Not sin now and redemption to come.

G. I. CARE PACKAGES

We are still collecting items for the G.I. Care Packages we are sending to Iraq & Afghanistan. Batteries, hand wipes, small sealed food items (beef Jerky, etc.) are most appreciated. Also donations to the postage fund for the G.I. Care Packages is appreciated. This is an ongoing Sutherland Lodge

project we have been doing for several years. One of our lodge members is stationed in Iraq (Army).

JOIN SUTHERLAND eNEWS

Please note a change in the signup procedure for Sutherland eNews. We will not continue using the ymlp mailing service, but rather use an "in-house" email request which will insure that a third-party cannot arbitrarily sign someone up without their knowledge and approval.

Sutherland eNews is an "opt-in" mailing list for those interested in receiving news about Sutherland Lodge. You do not have to be a member of Sutherland Lodge to sign up for Sutherland eNews. If you have not already done so, we encourage you to subscribe.

To subscribe to the Sutherland eNews, simply send an email to eNews@sutherlandlodge.org with the word "subscribe" (without the quotes) in the subject line. Please also include your lodge name and number (if one) in the body of the message. You must send this email using the email address to which you want the Sutherland eNews sent. This will confirm that you are subscribing and that someone is just not submitting your email address, perhaps without your knowledge or approval.

You will then receive notices of upcoming events (like reminders of Stated Communications as well as announcements of Called Communications including Degrees, ritual practice, Masonic education programs, Masonic social events, etc.). You will also receive notice when the Sutherland Lodge electronic trestleboard is posted on the website and ready for viewing or downloading.

To unsubscribe from Sutherland eNews, just send an email to eNews@sutherlandlodge.org with the word "unsubscribe" (without the quotes) in the subject line. As when you subscribed, you must send your unsubscribe email from the same email address you are unsubscribing. This will confirm that you are unsubscribing and not that someone else is unsubscribing you without your knowledge or approval.

Both the current and recent Trestleboards can be found on the website. You may log on to the website and click on the Trestleboard link or go directly to the Trestleboard page at <http://www.sutherlandlodge.org/pages/trestle.htm>.

If you are a recipient of Sutherland Lodge's printed trestleboard and have signed up for eNews, you may also request to NOT receive a printed Trestleboard. Receiving only the electronic version of the trestleboard will help the lodge with printing and postage costs.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Anyone having comments or suggestions about Sutherland eNews, or the Sutherland Lodge website, may email the eNews Editor at eNews@sutherlandlodge.org, or the webmaster at webmaster@sutherlandlodge.org.

Fraternally,

Sutherland Lodge WebCom (Website & Communications Committee)