

THE FREEMASON

NORMAL MASONIC LODGE #673 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March 2017 – Edition
Volume: V Issue: III

Saturday 4th – **NO SATURDAY SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION**
Saturday 4th – Valley of Bloomington Scottish Rite – Reunion Weekend
Saturday 4th – Academic Bowl State Finals – Bloomington High School

Monday 6th – DDGM Annual Visit to Gipson City #733

Tuesday 7th – Valley of Bloomington Scottish Rite - 7pm Stated Meeting

Thursday 9th – DDGM Annual Visit to Wade Barney #512

Saturday 11th – **NO SATURDAY SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION**

Monday 13th – Normal Lodge Stated Meeting 7pm Dinner & Fellowship 6pm

Saturday 18th – Lodge School of Instruction 7am – 9am Normal Lodge Room – Confer 1

Saturday 25th – Lodge School of Instruction 7am – 9am Normal Lodge Room – Members Choice

Monday 27th – Normal Lodge Stated Meeting 7pm - Officer Meeting 6:15pm – Conference Room

Wednesday 29th – Lodge Officers School @ Normal Lodge 7pm – 9pm

A LOOK AHEAD:

April 8th – Grand Lodge Officers Workshop @ Stephen Decatur Lodge 10am – 12pm

May 13th – Wade Barney Lodge #512 – 150th Anniversary Rededication Ceremony by Illinois Grand Lodge

May 30th – District School of Instruction @ Wade Barney #512

June 29th – District School of Instruction @ El Paso #246

July 4th – Normal Lodge #673 Annual Outdoor Third Degree

July 24th – Grand Lodge Golf Tournament

July 31st – District Education Session @ Bloomington Lodge #43

October 14th – Pork Chop Sales in El Paso

November 30th – District Planning Meeting for 2018 Masonic Year @ Normal Lodge #673

THE MASTERS TRESTLE BOARD



Brethren:

As our weather, has been unseasonably warm lately and the rejuvenating effects of spring have begun to appear, my thoughts have turned to revitalization. As we advance through our degrees we are presented with the working tools we need to improve and revitalize ourselves in Masonry. Using these tools, we can renew and rebuild ourselves on a daily basis. Have you used your working tools today? Heck, let's be honest, have you used your working tools this month?

Without consistent use and proper maintenance, these tools begin to rust and deteriorate due to neglect. Without effective tool's it becomes difficult to fulfil our obligations as men and Masons. If your working tools need maintenance, come to lodge for a refresher course.

Hope to see you in Lodge soon.

Fraternally,

Worshipful Master: Al Abbott



Brethren:

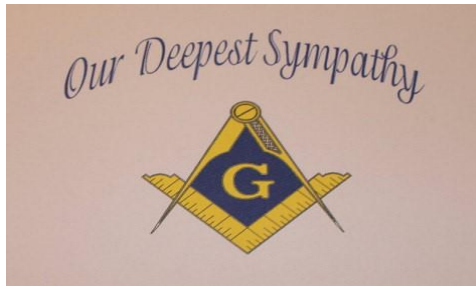
The 94th consecutive season of the American Passion Play runs from March 25th – April 22nd. This production dramatizes the ministry and passion of Jesus Christ and was originally conceived by brother Delmar D. Darrah. Initially the crew and actors were all members of the Scottish Rite. Many of the current crew and actors are your brothers in Masonry. I encourage to take advantage of this great local production and attend with your family. Better yet advertise at your local place of worship.

For additional information please visit the American Passion Play website at <http://www.americanpassionplay.org>

Worshipful Master: Al Abbott

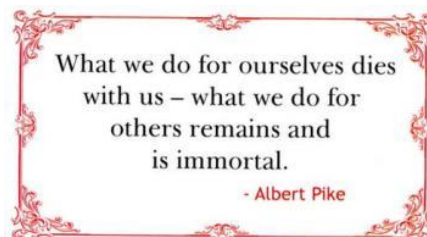
Let's get Digital

Normal Lodge now offers its members the option to receive its monthly newsletter via EMAIL. To receive your newsletter via email: Visit the lodge website, a link will appear on the right side of the page, fill out the form and submit the request. You may continue to receive the monthly newsletter each month via mail. Receiving your newsletter in digital form is currently optional.



***Take thine ease, rest and refresh thyself,
enter into the Holy House of the Lord,
thou good and faithful servant.***

- Brother Kenneth Robert Smithson was initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason in Alta Lodge #748 on October 29, 1974, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on December 12, 1974 and raised to the Sublime degree of Master Mason on January 11, 1975. He affiliated with Leroy Lodge #221 by demit on April 19, 1984. He merged into Normal Lodge #673 on March 7th, 2016. He passed to the Grand Lodge above on September 19th, 2016, while visiting family in Scottsdale, AZ. **He was a 41 year Member.**
- Brother Robert Eugene “Bob” Jones was raised a Master Mason on January 9, 1958 in St. John No. 618, Meridan Mississippi. He affiliated with Wade Barney Lodge #512 on May 22nd, 1958 and served as Worshipful Master in 1971. A member of the Spring Reunion Class, Valley of Bloomington in 1958, he served as Thrice Potent Master of Bloomington Lodge of Perfection. He was honored in 1982 by the Illinois Council of Deliberation with the Meritorious Service Award in Springfield, Illinois. Brother Jones was also a member of Bloomington Chapter #26, R.A.M., Bloomington Council #43, Cryptic Masons, Knights Templar and DeMolay Commandery.
- Brother S. David Hughes was initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason in Joppa Lodge #706 on January 1, 1947, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on January 15, 1947 and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on February 5, 1947. He affiliated with Peotone Lodge #636 by demit on March 16, 1949. He affiliated with Normal Lodge #673 by demit August 3, 1978. He passed to the Grand Lodge above on January 21, 2017. **He was a 69 year member.**
- W. Brother Edward H. Oehler was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on May 1, 1958 in Danvers Lodge #742, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on September 4, 1958 and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on September 18, 1958. He merged into Normal Lodge #673 on January 5, 2006. He passed to the Grand Lodge above on February 16, 2017. He was Worshipful Master of Danvers Lodge #742 in 1965. **He was a 58 year member.**





2018 Masonic Academic Bowl

Saturday February 18th, 2017

Normal Masonic Lodge Sponsored the following Schools:

- Normal Community High School
- Normal Community High School West
- Leroy High School

Bowl Results:

CLASS 1A – Leroy High School – 3rd Place

CLASS 3A – Normal Community High – 3rd Place

CLASS 3A – Normal Community West – 3rd Place

State Finals – Saturday March 4th, 2017 – Bloomington High School



Normal Masonic Lodge #673
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