

COBIA LODGE #631

Trestle Board

Volume 2, Issue 3

NOVEMBER 2010

THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER'S WORDS

Brothers!

It is November and time for our annual Hog Roast and Dance! I have always said "It takes two kinds of Masons to make things work; the Masons that show up at Lodge every week and get things done, and the Masons who support them!" With that said; we need HELP from ALL Brothers, families, and friends to promote and support this fundraiser. In order to keep up our good works, like making breakfast once a month for over eighty people in need at the MICAH House, and supporting less fortunate preschool children with supplies they desperately need. Every Mason should be very proud of our Great and Good Works and the hands on support COBIA Lodge gives our community. Help us continue these noble efforts - Buy a ticket ... make a donation ... come and help us out! We are enclosing two tickets to this years Hog Roast & Dance ... hoping you will purchase or sell these tickets or make a donation to the Lodge. Help our Lodge continue to help the community! Thanks for your support. Tickets will be coming in the mail - Help our Lodge continue to help the community! Thanks for your support!

Mike Petry, W.M.

IT'S HOG ROAST TIME

For additional Hog Roast tickets contact Mike Petry, W.M. or one of the lodge officers. Please send a donation if you cannot attend.

COBIA RECEIVES AWARD

Cobia lodge was honored to receive the Albert Pike Award from the Omaha Valley of the Scottish Rite. The award was given for membership growth.

COUNCIL BLUFFS LODGES TO HOST GRAND MASTER IN ONE DAY CLASS

On December 4th the Council Bluffs lodges will be assisting the Grand Lodge offices with a one day class – all three degrees. It will be at the Masonic Temple in Council Bluffs beginning at approx 8:00 AM. Join us for the event.

WEBSITE UPDATE

Remember to check the website calendar for updates on events. www.cobia631.org

Cobia Lodge Presents
The 5th Annual
Hog Roast & Dance

When -- Saturday Nov.13

Where -- Eagles Club Hall
16th St & Ave F
Council Bluffs

Dinner: 6pm - 9pm **Dance:** 9pm - 1am



\$8.00 donation adults / \$4.00 under 12yrs of age

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, November 9 7:30pm Business Meeting
Saturday, November 13 6:00 pm HOG ROAST AND DANCE
Tuesday, November 16 TBD - Degree Work
Sunday, November 21 8:00am BISCUITS, GRAVY & MORE BREAKFAST
Tuesday, November 23 TBD DEGREE WORK
Friday, November 26 4:30pm SPAGHETTI DINNER
Tuesday, November 30 TBD - Degree Work
Saturday, December 4 GRAND MASTERS ONE DAY CLASS
Tuesday, December 7 TBD - Degree Work
Tuesday, December 14 7:30pm Business Meeting
Friday, December 17 4:30pm SPAGHETTI DINNER
Sunday, December 19 8:00am BISCUITS, GRAVY & MORE BREAKFAST
Tuesday, December 21 TBD - Degree Work
Tuesday, December 28 TBD - Degree Work

GRAND LODGE DUES CHANGES

The Grand Lodge increase the amount of monies that is assesses lodge for members for next year. The assessment was increased from \$30 to \$35 per member. Cobia lodge is not raising dues to cover the increase at this time. Grand Lodge also changed the date which dues in arrears must be paid before a member is officially dropped from the roster. In past dues could be received until October and with this change brothers will be dropped for the roster if the dues are not paid by July. Contact W.M. Mike Petry if you are unable to pay your dues because of financial hardship. We thank those who promptly send their dues each year. Each year monies are spent unnecessarily contacting those who have not paid. We invite you to send an additional contribution with your dues, as it has been difficult to keep up with expenditures which currently exceed dues by approximately \$20.00 per member. Remember any donation above the cost of dues may be tax deductible as a charitable donation (contact your tax advisor).

ELEVATOR PROBLEMS

The project to replace the hydraulic jack on the elevator to comply with the state elevator code was completed. The power unit has a leaky valve. The valve has dump hydraulic fluid on the floor and continues to leak. Efforts to fix the valve have failed. The only option is to replace the power unit. The temple board has approved a contract with O'Keefe to replace the unit at a cost of approx \$12,000. The cost will be divided among the bodies. Harmony Chapter OES has committed \$5000 and Council Bluffs Chapter #441 has committed \$2000 towards the project. This over and above their portion of the project cost. Our costs share was approx \$1000. At the October business meeting a challenge was given to the members and our share of these costs were pledged by those present. If you would like to be assist Cobia in meeting their share we are still accepting donations to cover the \$1374.62 we paid towards the jack replacement. Send donations to Secretary, Cobia Lodge # 631, 130 South 6th St. Council Bluffs, IA 51501. They are tax deductible.

COBIA LODGE HELPS THE MICA HOUSE

In an effort to assist in our community Cobia lodge has been providing 80 meals to the MICAH House in conjunction with our Biscuits, Gravy and More Breakfasts. The kitchen crew arrives at 6 AM and prepares the breakfasts which are then transported to the MICAH House. The MICAH House is an emergency homeless shelter in Council Bluffs. Their mission is to "provide a safe, secure and nurturing environment for families and single women who are experiencing the crisis of homelessness."

BISCUITS, GRAVY AND MORE

On the third Sunday of each month from 8 AM till 1 PM Cobia will be serving biscuits, gravy, eggs, breakfast treats and more. We encourage each of you to bring your family and friends and enjoy breakfast and fellowship while helping the lodge meet its financial obligations.

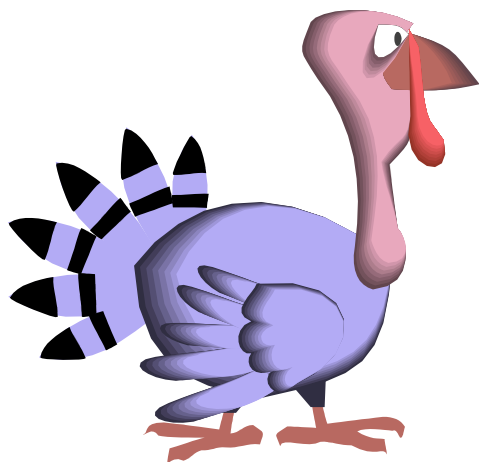
TEMPLE ASSOCIATION NEWS

John Hauser has continued to serve as Treasurer for the Temple Board, Ron Payne assisting as the other delegate for Cobia. The Board has concentrated mainly on the elevator this past quarter, but has also confirmed its duty as fiduciary for the Perpetual Fund, which is right now 40% invested. It is hoped that the fund will become 100% invested in the near future, and plans have begun to add to the fund, with a goal of \$1million being floated (we hope). This would provide relief to all the lodges for rent monies now collected through dues and fundraisers, since the interest would approach \$50,000 per year. Donations are welcome (through Cobia for the tax break). Just designate the donation to go to the Temple Board Perpetual Fund.

PUSH TO GET EMAIL ADDRESSES

We will be pushing to get email addresses so we can send the newsletter or a link to it to members and others. The newsletter will be sent in PDF format so it can be opened and read using Adobe Reader. Not only will this facilitate quicker delivery it will also allow the reader to see it in full color, something we cannot feasibly do via mail. With postage costs on the rise we must continue to do whatever it takes to keep expenses down and keep the dues affordable. In the future we will be able to create a group email that will allow us to send notices of Masonic Funeral services, meeting reminders and important information.

If you have yet to give us your email or you are still getting a hard copy delivered by the post office please send your email address to secretary@cobia631.org



**Have a Happy
Thanksgiving**

&

A Merry Christmas

