

Bluestone Lodge #338

My Brothers,

I hope that everyone is well and enjoying the summer despite the dampness. Much has been accomplished at the Lodge in the last month. Brother Bob Walker and his son in law John Aldrich have installed a spot light to shine on the stained glass window on the west side of the lodge. As you may already know, Brother Bob's daughter crafted the two windows which are located on opposite ends of the lodge. They look really nice at night and give the community a reminder that Freemasonry is present. Brother Bob has also volunteered to rebuild and paint the lighted Masonic sign which sits on the post by the entrance ramp. Brother Bob also has painted the steps and handrails at the southwest end of the lodge. Please thank Brother Bob and his family when you see them. Risers have been built on the North side of the lodge room for better viewing for those sitting in the second row. They have not been carpeted yet as we are waiting on some feedback to see if they are high enough... We would like to remove the old desk that sat by the stairway. It has been discussed it was decided that I inquire about it in my letter. If anyone knows where it came from or would like to have it, please call myself or the Junior Warden... The plan is to move the glass case from the upstairs office and put it downstairs. There are some beautiful historic artifacts that could be displayed for the members and visitors to our lodge. We would like to go ahead with this within the next two weeks.

The chicken barbeque has been postponed to a later date because of a scheduling conflict. Bluestone Lodge has again been awarded the privilege of running a coffee and snack stop at the rest area near Great Bend for the Labor Day weekend 2009. The days are September 6th and 7th. Donations from this event have proven to be considerable. This year we will be getting several area businesses to donate food and drinks.

The annual blood drive was another success. There were 48 pints of blood donated. We probably could have had 56 but one of the machines was giving the Red Cross some problems. Once again Brother Jerry McConnell has done an exemplary job of chairing this event.

I would like to touch on a mistake that I made at the stated meeting in June. Several officers and members thought it would be nice to sell T-Shirts with a Masonic logo and our lodge name and number. I thought that this was an excellent idea and gave them the go ahead to purchase the shirts. I should have had it voted upon at the stated meeting before spending lodge funds without approval from the members. It is my fault and no one else's and it will not happen again. It will be voted on at the next stated meeting and paid either way.

July 14th will be Friends and Family night. We will run the business of the lodge and invite visitors in around 8:20 PM.

Hope to see you then.
Tom Koes WM