



THE EDWARD J WILDBLOOD JR VERMONT LODGE OF RESEARCH #110

NEXT
COMMUNICATION

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 13TH
RUTLAND
MASONIC
CENTER
7PM
SUPPER 6PM

www.vermontlodgeofresearch.com

March 2011

Winter Meet in Barre

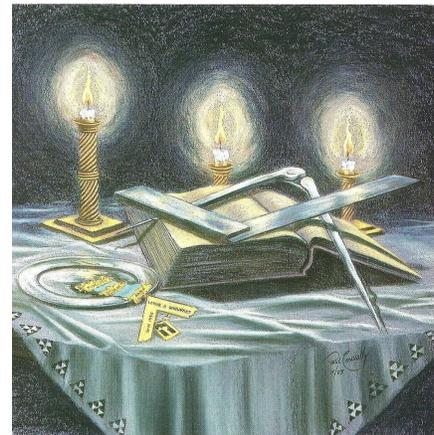
On February 15th members of the VT Lodge of Research together with other interested Freemasons met in fellowship in the meeting room of the large old Masonic Temple in Barre. It is said this is the largest lodge room in Vermont, and it is easy to believe. Much work has and is being done to the building, and visiting members commented on the beauty and interest of this venue.

Sixteen brethren attended, with Wor. Master "Butch" Donnelly in the East; Palmer Martin filled in for Robert Senn in the West, with J.W. Steven Engel, Treasurer Warren Williams, Secretary Eric Ginette, S. Deacon John Tester and S. Steward Christopher Murphy at their respective stations. Pro-Temps were "Jack" Campbell as J. Deacon, Andrew Sherman as J. Steward, Donald Duquette as Chaplin, Cedric Smith as Marshal and Mathew Reed as Tyler without the door.

Our Treasurer reported \$568.19 in the checkbook; and \$4,131.78 in investments. The Secretary reported on a fraternal communication from Lorne Urquhart up in Waverley, Nova Scotia who expressed



Rutland Masonic Temple
51 Washington St.
[http://vermontlodgeofresearch.com/
Fellowship.htm](http://vermontlodgeofresearch.com/Fellowship.htm)



Lorne Urquhart's Masonic Card

Three Fine Presentations Given at Winter Meeting

Of course the real purpose of our Lodge is not reports or motions, so most of the enjoyable evening was spent listening to three excellent presentations by members of our Lodge.

The first was brother John Tester giving another in his "president's series" entitled "The Story of Captain Will." This was a beautifully written biographical piece on president William McKinley, tracing his journey from being a young man in the Civil War, his Masonic career, and his public political life as he rose to the Presidency.



Winter Meet in Barre continued:



**John Tester
presents the
“Story of
Captain Will”**



regret for not attending in person, but felt the drive was a bit long for that. The front picture of his Masonic card is reproduced here. The secretary also reported receiving a petition from Joseph Durham in Ohio, together with a short paper for our Lodge.

The Secretary reported that Proceedings 5 has been distributed; some 87 CD's containing the papers and other publications of this Lodge for the past five years, or the terms of the past three Worshipful Masters. This is the first time an electronic version of our Proceedings has been done, and the reports so far have been favorable. Those lacking a computer can insert the disk into any CD player with a connection to a display screen and read the contents. This format resulted in a huge savings for our Lodge, plus photographs and other graphics could be produced in full color inexpensively.

On the dues billing side of things, the secretary reported a larger than usual number of brothers- 11 in all- had failed to respond to our notices and were in arrears by one year. It is hoped they will catch up when the new dues billing is sent out in March.

Three Fine Presentations Given at Winter Meeting con't:

Brother Tester's paper, along with the other presentations of this meeting, can be read on our website at this link: <http://vermontlodgeofresearch.com/Submissions.htm>

Our next presentation was by Past Grand Historian Warren Williams entitled "Mentoring." This is a distillation of many years of careful thought on this subject by brother Warren, and was followed by a

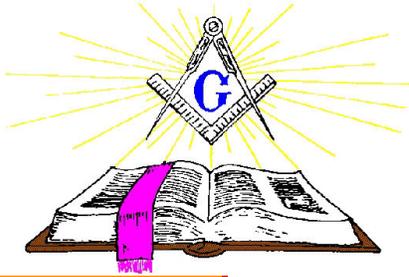
Switching hats from secretary to webmaster, brother Eric reported that with our immediate past W.M. and webmaster Mason Pratt having moved back to Florida Eric had assumed the duties associated with our website. He said that the number of papers published on the site, www.vermontlodgeofresearch.com, had been increased significantly, and while much was left to be done work was going ahead. A discussion ensued concerning the "secret portal" on this site, which needed a key to open only members who have attended a meeting could have. This is simply because the key is not published, but conveyed in the old Masonic way, mouth to ear. Some argued that these riches should not be so hidden, but made public. Other voices cautioned that due to the Masonically sensitive nature of some of the material, it should be kept from Profane eyes, which view prevailed. It was interesting to see how the impact of this treasure house- brother Mason's last behest to our Lodge- was spreading. The irony of Masons not wanted to keep secrets amused some.

Questions were also raised about whether our meals were free only for members or not. The motion was made "That all who attend our regular meetings eat supper without being charged." This motion passed with only one dissenting vote.

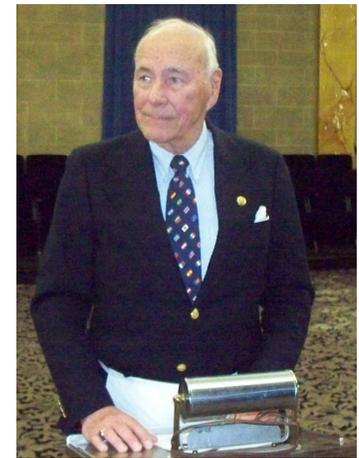
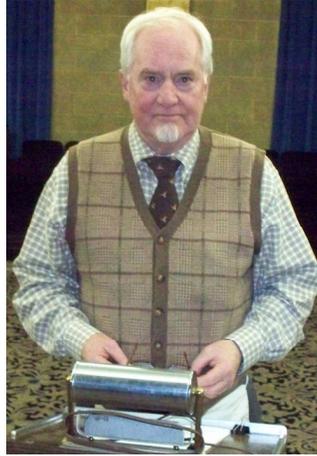
lodge discussion on this important part of Masonic life.

Our final presentation was by Steven Cosgrove, reading from his large work "Lazarus Come Forth" the chapter "Spiritual Authority and Temporal Power." Steve's work is brilliant, unique and thought provoking. This piece deals with the Castes of human society and how they influence spiritual development. He ended his talk looking at the effect of Masonic ritual on the individual brother.

To learn, to subdue my passions, and improve myself in Masonry.



S. Cosgrove presents



Annual Meeting in April

The upcoming meeting in Rutland on April 13th will be our only business meeting of the year, our Annual meeting. Please try to attend and let your voice be heard in the affairs of our Lodge. We are the only Vermont Masonic lodge wholly devoted to study and research and lively discussion, mostly upon the subject of Freemasonry. In addition, we are groping towards the Masonry of the future which is, in some ways, a return to more ancient lodges where learning and open discussion were encouraged and promoted.

In addition to the usual nomination (and installation) of Officers for the ensuing year, motions concerning our bylaws, and other business matters, we will also make every effort to condense the annual meeting so time is left for our main job of listening to discussions and presentations. One of our newest members, Travis Shores, will be presenting a fascinating paper "The Hidden Magic of Masonic Craft Workings," which is sure to set off some sparks! And there will be more as time allows.

Remember: every Freemason is welcome to our meetings, so bring a friend & spread the word.

W. Williams on Mentoring

Thanks to Cedric Smith for these photographs.

Brothers join at Meeting

One unusual aspect of our meetings is that brother Masons who attend often become so excited about what we are doing that they fill out a petition on the spot and join! The February meeting was no exception, with four new members joining in the midst of the meeting.

These were Joseph Durham of Ohio, who had petitioned and whose ballot was clear; Andrew Sherman of Bennington; Travis Shores of Rochester; and George Bathgate of Brandon. Congratulations to these men, and our hearty thanks for joining us to carry on the work of Masonic education.

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