



Florida Keys Lodge 336, F. & A. M.

Corner of Tavernier & Florida Streets (284 Tavernier St.)

P. O. Box 735

Tavernier, FL 33070

Worshipful Master: David Cupp Whitney
December 2007

Salutations from the East Brothers:

The time has arrived for my swan song.

We will elect officers for 2008 at our Stated Communications of Dec. 11. The Officers to be elected are the Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Secretary and Treasurer.

It has been an honor to serve as your Worshipful Master this past year. My administration leaves the Lodge in good financial shape but I personally have failed in accomplishing a major goal that seemed most important to me – that of bridging a gap between Past Masters and younger members of the Lodge.

I can't think of a time when your vote for new officers will be more important than this year.

New blood is desperately needed in Lodge activities. Attendance at Lodge has been low throughout most of my year in the East. Maybe I am the cause. If so I offer my most humble apologies.

But I believe the cause runs deeper. Some of our absent members have told me they do not feel they have been received as equals in Lodge, that they find offensive the condescending attitudes displayed by some Past Masters.

I have experienced this personally. Certain Past Masters have refused to show the same respect for a sitting Master as they expected to receive when they occupied the East.

This perception of inequality has kept some of our younger Brothers from accepting positions in the Lodge and stifled any desires they may have had of entering the line of officers leading to the East.

We lost members this year because of several deaths, people moving from the Keys, whom I plan to join in the near future, and because we cleaned up the Lodge rolls and removed from them those who were in arrears on their dues.

Dwindling membership has long plagued Florida Masonry. Our Lodge is no exception. It is not yet dead. However, without the infusion of new workers or renewed interest from inactive members, it may soon find itself on life support.

The condition of our Lodge is most critical at this point. The only cure for it is more participation in Lodge duties and activities by all eligible members.

That's why the most important duty any of us may perform this entire year is to participate in the election of new officers for the coming year on Dec. 11. and then return to Lodge after the vote and contribute in whatever fashion we are capable.

No Dec. 25 Communications/Saint John's Day Dinner cancelled ...

Since our regular second Communications in December falls on Christmas Day, we will have but one meeting in December – Dec. 11. A St. John's Day Dinner for Dec. 27 had been tentatively scheduled but due to the rush of the holiday season little support for it has been evident. Therefore it also has been cancelled.

Adopt-A-Highway Program ...

W.:Tim Dressing will conduct an Adopt-A-Highway cleanup Saturday, Dec. 8. Brothers who can help should be at the Lodge at 7 a.m.

Florida Keys High Twelve International Club December Luncheon ...

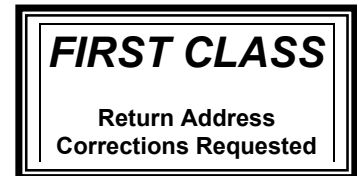
Florida Keys Masonic High Twelve Chapter No. 758 will hold its monthly luncheon Sunday, Dec. 9, beginning at 12:30 p.m. at the Key Colony Inn in Key Colony Beach. Since it is the holiday season there will be only a special holiday buffet available at \$11.95 per person. The Florida Keys High Twelve Club rotates monthly luncheon meetings between the Upper, Middle and Lower Keys to provide all Master Masons in the Keys the opportunity to meet in fellowship with other Masons, their families and friends from throughout the islands.

W.:Dave Whitney

- STATED COMMUNICATIONS -

Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2007, 8 p.m., and Jan. 8, 2008, 8 p.m.

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Officers for 2007

Master Wor.:David Cupp Whitney
Senior Warden Paul Christian
Junior Warden Jose Felix Peixoto
Treasurer Wor.:John Thomas
Secretary Wor.:Bill Langstaff
Senior Deacon Ed Maldonado
Junior Deacon Wor.:Harry Teaford
Senior Steward David Cruciger
Junior Steward Norman Higgins
Chaplain Wor.:Mario Pires
Marshall Wor.:John Luppold
Tyler Clyde Walker
Organist Wor.:Tim Dressing
Past Master Wor.:Rocky Hubert

