

# GRAND LIGHT

ISSUE 33

DECEMBER 2016



## PAST MASTERS SUPPER

2016

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

GREENEVILLE LODGE NO. 3  
F. & A. M.  
[www.greenvillelodgeno3.org](http://www.greenvillelodgeno3.org)



JOSH COX - WORSHIPFUL MASTER 2016

# Guiding Light

December  
2016

IN THIS ISSUE: TRAVELING GAVEL

## Greeneville Lodge News

December is an exciting time of year. The holiday season is in full swing, and a new year swiftly approaches. This month also brings forth change in the new year with the election of officers.

The Blue Lodge and York Rite Bodies will be electing a new slate of Officers to serve in 2017. If you are a member, please make every effort to attend the December stated meeting to help make these important decisions.

The Installation of Greeneville Lodge No. 3 officers will take place on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. This is an open installation and your family and friends are encouraged to attend. This is a great time for your family and friends to see what Freemasonry is truly about.

Greeneville Chapter No. 223 Order of the Eastern Star will be providing a Christmas dinner to honor the Masons following the installation of officers on December 11<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this

dinner is a way for the Eastern Star to show support for the members of Greeneville Lodge No. 3.

On Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, all three bodies of Greeneville York Rite will meet for the December stated meeting. Greeneville Commandery No. 43 received dispensation from the Grand Commandery to meet on the night of Greeneville Chapter and Council due to the Christmas Holiday.

Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, the Greene County Scottish Rite Club will host its annual Christmas Party starting at 6:00 p.m. The new President and Vice President of the club will be introduced and installed. This event is open to family and friends.



# Traveling Gavel

Story by Joe Byrd

Greeneville Lodge No. 3 is the current home of the Tennessee State Traveling Gavel.

It has been a long tradition among Masonic bodies to have a traveling gavel, trowel, etc. that promotes visitation among lodges in counties and districts. "Old Hickory," as the gavel is known, was designed to promote visitation across the entire state.

"The goal is to move the Tennessee Traveling Gavel across the state of Tennessee as quickly as possible and to encourage Masons to travel and fellowship with our Masonic brothers across the state."

The 10-inch gavel was hand crafted by Brother Robert Hyde, using hickory from the grounds of The Hermitage, home of Brother Andrew Jackson, two-time Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee and seventh President of the United States. It is fitting that Greeneville host the gavel for a while because it is a documented fact that Jackson was a regular visitor of Greeneville Lodge No. 3 when he was in the area.

There is a book that goes along with the gavel. When a lodge comes into its possession, the dates are recorded, entries are made, and the lodge seal is affixed to certify where Old Hickory has been. Greeneville Lodge No. 3 is the 59<sup>th</sup> lodge – including the Grand Lodge – to hold possession of the Tennessee State Traveling Gavel. It was first used by Most Worshipful Grand Master Laddie Wilson in 2013 to close the Grand Lodge session and then used to install Roy Etherton as Most Worshipful Grand Master.



---

## *Tennessee State Traveling Gavel*

---

The gavel may be used at any Masonic function where a gavel is required. In order for a lodge to claim the gavel, three members of a lodge must attend a meeting where the gavel is located and request it be transferred, or a lodge that is in possession of the gavel may present it to another lodge.

Greeneville came into possession of the gavel when it was presented to lodge member and Most Worshipful Grand Master Billy Ray Cutlip. The gavel was officially turned over to Greeneville Lodge No. 3 by Joe Byrd of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee Education Committee at the November stated meeting.

Greeneville Commandery No. 43



HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

\$3,248.38

Funds Raised

\$4,200.00

Funds Needed

LODGE OF SORROW  
2016

- Donald Ray Crum
- Carl Bird Jr.
- Lawrence Pack
- Howard Pruitt
- Johnny Holt
- Elbert Yates

## Greeneville York Rite



*Greeneville Lodge Past Masters  
Pictured are (front row, from left) Bob Bailey - 1962,  
John Cox - 1972, Dewey Cox - 1980, Jim Gosnell - 1986  
(back row) John DeWit - 1996, Eldridge King - 2009,  
A.J. Bible - 2013, Joe Byrd - 2014, Josh Cox - 2016*

## Past Masters Supper

Nine Past Masters of Greeneville Lodge No. 3 gathered for their annual supper on Tuesday, Nov. 15. Greeneville has 23 living Past Masters who are still members of the lodge. The annual supper honors those who have served a year in the East and allows the up-and-coming stationed officers a chance to draw on the wisdom of those who have been in the hot seat. It is also a chance for good fellowship and for the Past Masters to share stories about their year presiding over the lodge.

## Announcements

~ *Greeneville Lodge Stated Meeting –  
December 6<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 p.m.*

~ *Eastern Star Stated Meeting –  
December 8<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 p.m.*

~ *Installation of Officers -  
December 11<sup>th</sup> @ 2:30 p.m.*

~ *Chapter / Council Stated Meeting –  
December 12<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.*

~ *Greene County Scottish Rite Club –  
December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.*

~ *Commandery Stated Meeting –  
December 12<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.*



---

*Installation of 2017 Lodge Officers will be held on December 11<sup>th</sup>  
at 2:30 p.m.*

---

## Guiding Light

December, 2016  
Issue 33

Please feel free to submit articles, pictures, news, favorite quotes, ect. This applies to all Bodies that meet at Greeneville Lodge No. 3 F. & A. M. Submissions can be sent to the Editor.

All submissions will be reviewed and approved by the Editor before publishing. Having a steady flow of content is crucial for the success of this newsletter. Thank you for your contribution and support.

John Sayne (Editor)

[greenevillelodgeno3@gmail.com](mailto:greenevillelodgeno3@gmail.com)  
[www.greenevillelodgeno3.org](http://www.greenevillelodgeno3.org)