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Dennis J. Anness, P.M., Sec'y.
 ST. JOHNS LODGE NO. 20, F&AM
 P.O. Box 672
 Columbus, IN 47202-0672

ST. JOHNS LODGE NO. 20, F&AM
 COLUMBUS, INDIANA
 TRESTLE BOARD FOR JULY 2009
SCHEDULED MEETINGS

01	York Rite Activity Night	7:30
02	High Point Lodge #755 Stated	9:30 AM
02	Rainbow Stated	7:00
04	St. Johns MM Degree	7:00
06	Order of Eastern Star	7:30
07	DeMolay Stated	7:30
08	York Rite Chapter Stated.....	7:30
08	York Rite Council Stated.....	8:15
21	DeMolay Stated	7:30
22	Commandery Stated	7:30
22	Beauceant Stated	7:30
28	St. Johns Lodge #20 Stated	7:30

**A LOOK AHEAD TO THE
 AUGUST SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

03	Order of Eastern Star	7:30
04	DeMolay Stated	7:30
05	York Rite Activity Night	7:30
06	High Point Lodge #755 Stated	9:30 AM
06	Rainbow Stated	7:00
12	York Rite Chapter Stated.....	7:30
12	York Rite Council Stated.....	8:15
18	DeMolay Stated	7:30
25	St. Johns Lodge #20 Stated	7:30
26	Commandery Stated	7:30
26	Beauceant Stated	7:30

OFFICERS FOR 2009

Worshipful Master - J. R. "Bobby" Tekulve	375-0249
Senior Warden - Brian J. Simmons	526-2232
Junior Warden - Jason Tekulve	552-3496
Treasurer - Russell R. Henney, P.M.	372-2913
Secretary - Dennis J. Anness, P.M.	378-0673
Senior Deacon - J. Scott Barnes	447-0921
Junior Deacon - Jeffrey D. Erdman.....	350-4021
Chaplain - Lee S. Arthur.....	379-2857
Senior Steward - Greg Erdman	526-2540
Junior Steward - Mike Marciano.....	765-532-1586
Tyler - Edward C. Thifault	378-9164
Trustee (3) - Matthew B. Simmons, PM	350-3620
Trustee (2) - Wendel W. Hauck, PM	342-1887
Trustee (1) - Jay G. Heath, PM	342-4478

*Note: All times are P.M. unless stated otherwise.
 Please watch the newspaper and our Website for any meetings
 not scheduled above.*

MASONIC TEMPLE..... 376-3266
 4131 Rockyford Rd., Columbus, IN 47203
www.stjohnslodge20.org

AMARANTH: Amaranth will be dark during July and August.

ST. JOHNS MM DEGREE: St. Johns will be hosting its annual 4th of July morning MM degree. A flag raising ceremony will be held at 7:00 AM with breakfast to follow and the degree will start at 8:00 AM. All brothers are invited and encouraged to attend.

ST. JOHNS LODGE MEETINGS: Unless otherwise noted, there will be refreshments available before and after meetings as well as access to the recreation room before meetings for fellowship. Doors will open one and one half hour prior to the beginning of the meetings.

PLEASE REMEMBER: To notify the Secretary of any family illness or death, and of any change of address.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES: Are extended to all Members and Brothers celebrating either their physical or Masonic Birthday during the month of July.

GETTING INFO IN THE TRESTLE BOARD: Contact Matt Simmons at: mbsk.simmons@comcast.net or 350-3620. The Trestle Board is available electronically as well if you want to receive it that way send an e-mail with your request or download it from our website <http://www.stjohnslogde20.org>.

MASONIC EDUCATION

Signers of the Declaration of Independence

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army, another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War. They signed, and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. What kind of men were they?

Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants,

nine were farmers and large plantation owners, men of means, well-educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags. Thomas McKeam was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt. Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart. Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-raising ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

They gave you and me a free and independent America. The history books never told us a lot of what happened in the Revolutionary War. Our forefathers didn't just fight the British. They were British subjects at that time, and they fought their own government! Some of us take these liberties so much for granted...and we shouldn't.

So, let's take a few moments while enjoying our 4th of July holiday and silently appreciate these patriots and thank the God who moved them. It's not much to ask for the price they paid.