



### *Tidings from the East*

This missive is directed at those Masonic Brothers of Walden Lodge I have never met. Walden currently has in excess of three hundred dues paying or life members. Although I have been in the lodge for several years, I probably have not met eighty to ninety percent of my brothers.

That is my fault.

I should have been contacting those who do not actively attend. I should have encouraged you to come to the meetings so that we could become acquainted or perhaps reacquainted. By this invitation, I hope to begin to partially make amends.

I would encourage all brothers, especially those who have not been in attendance in the last several years, to attend our March communication on Thursday, March 4, 2010. The meal will be served at 6:30 PM and the meeting itself will begin at 7:30. If you need transportation, please feel free to contact one of the officers, committee members, or me, and we will make arrangements to accommodate you.

Fraternally yours,

Hal W. Roach, WM

### **From The Secretary's Desk:**

Brethren, Walden Lodge Finished the year 2009 with a total of 332 members. The breakdown is as follows:

<b>Members December 31, 2008</b>	<b>363</b>
Raised	3
Affiliated	1
Reinstated	3
Erased NPD	11
Died	25
Demitted	2

### **Membership December 31, 2009 332**

We now have 165 life members and 5 Ministers who are not required to pay dues. This leaves only 162 dues paying members. Our portion of the maintenance fees paid to the Masonic Temple Company is \$4,000.00 per year and our Grand Lodge dues are approximately \$3,200.00. This leaves very little to operate the lodge on. When members do not pay their dues on time it puts the Lodge in a financial bind.

At the last Masonic Temple Board meeting, we were informed that the power bill for December/January was almost \$1,900.00 and the power bill for January/February was almost \$1,200.00. For several months, the lodge roof has been leaking. After having

a roofing company look at the places where the roof was leaking, it was determined by the Masonic Temple Company Board of Directors that the best solution to the problem was to have the roof replaced instead of having it patched. The cost of a new roof will cost approximately \$20,000.00. The Temple Board has agreed to cover half the cost, with the member bodies paying the difference. This means that Walden's share of replacing the roof will be \$2,500.00. Brethren, we all know that times are hard and that a great number of our members are on fixed incomes. Last year when our funds got low, many came to the Lodge's rescue by donating to the General Fund as well as the Benevolent Fund, and for that, the Lodge thanks you. The officers of the Lodge are appealing to you, the membership, for any donation, no matter how small to help off-set this \$2,500.00 special assessment. We all need to come together and give as we can to help with this need. Please send what you feel that you can to help the lodge and mark it for the roof. Thanks in advance for your help in this matter.

At our last Regular Communication, Worshipful Brother Charles Pridmore conducted a Memorial Service for all the brothers who died in 2009. As usual, the service was an appropriate tribute to the memory of our departed brethren. Thanks, WB Pridmore!

If anyone knows of a brother or widow of a brother that is in need, please contact one of the lodge officers.

Congratulations to Brother Brad Carson, who received his Master Mason Degree on February 25, 2010.