



# Light from the East

7/1/2010

Morton Masonic Lodge #352 A.F. & A. M.

Volume 1, Issue 1

## 2010-2011 Officers

- Worshipful Master  
Brad Whitaker
- Senior Warden  
Richard Ruscin
- Junior Warden  
Dave Galovitzs
- Secretary  
WB Russ Bensele
- Treasurer  
Bob Mutters
- Senior Deacon  
Harold Brazee
- Junior Deacon  
Mark Greer
- Senior Steward  
Larry Brandt
- Junior Steward  
Konrad Kloeppele
- Chaplin  
WB Gerald Kaufman
- Marshall  
Austin Simpson
- Tyler  
WB Bill Shaner

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## New Officers and New Year

I have to begin by congratulating last years officers corps, I truly do appreciate the pace and accomplishments they achieved as a team. I also have to again thank the lodge for having the faith and trust in me to serve as the elected master for the ensuing year.

Moving on to business, personally this is an extremely important year for our lodge, its our 150th and we should all be proud of that accomplishment. In this day and age you see organizations and clubs disappearing left and right so I thank you for your commitment to ensuring that we continue our lodge heritage.

If I haven't spoken with you in the evening yet, don't fret I will. I am personally committed to calling each member and at the least just saying hello and discussing weather. I hope

that we can have a deeper conversation but I also understand that time is a precious commodity and we must "divide" it well.

I would like to have a very active year, we have some great new members and I know that there are also some great members out there that I have yet to meet. While I would love for every member to make every meeting that isn't really feasible as we all have many commitments. Please take some time and consider if you cant be active in stated and special meetings, could you help on other tasks, such as IL-CHIP events, The Pumpkin Fest, lodge maintenance and making sure that we stay in contact with our widows and members. There is a ton of opportunity out there and every contribution no matter how large or small makes a differ-

ence.

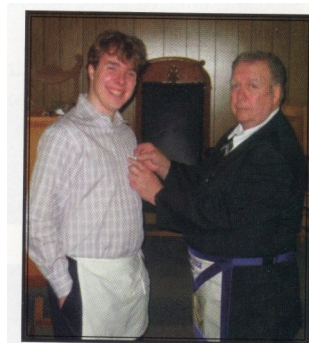
I hope that with the Officers in line behind me we can establish a consistent schedule of events and activities both in the lodge and in the community. Increasing both the solidarity of the lodge and our presence in the Morton community.

All that being said, I am looking forward to the coming year and will you all the best in your endeavors.

Brad Whitaker

## March 17th 2020 Morton Lodge raises 4th youngest Master Mason in state.

Bro Austin J Simpson received his 3rd Degree the evening of March 17th 2010. Upon confirming with Grand Lodge, at that time Austin was the 4th youngest Master Mason in the state. Congratulations Austin, may the many mysteries of Freemasonry unfold for you in the coming years.



Pictured Left:

Second Eastern DDGM Larry Harper presents Brother Austin Simpson the lapel pin of Most Worshipful Grand Master Richard Swaney.



### Morton Lodge Holds Annual Blood Drive

June 16th

WB Bill Shaner again chaired the event for the lodge and worked the entire event helping the Red Cross team with their needs. Thanks to WB Shaner, Brother Harold Brazee, Brother Mark Greer and Brother Brad Whitaker for helping with the set-up and tear down.

This year the event had 10 donors which is significantly less than our typical average.

We look forward to next year and hope that our normal donation amounts will resume.

This is a great cause and can

truly make a difference in someone's life.

Did You Know

Only 38% of Americans are even eligible to give blood. This seriously limits the available supply for those in need.

Of that 38% only 8% actually donates blood. This is equivalent to 3 out of 100 people who are providing the Red Cross with blood donations.

Take the time, give blood. Your contribution will make a difference.



**COOK-OUT !!**  
**July 17th 4:00**  
**PM at Kennel**  
**Lake**

### Summer Cook-out Planned for July 14th

By the consent of the Lodge, we will have a Lodge members and families cook-out, July 17th 4:00 PM at Kennel Lake.

The lodge will provide our famous pumpkin festival hot-dogs, chips, soda and condiments. Please bring a covered dish to share, and you may bring your own coolers and beverages if desired.



Until recently I haven't thought much about entertainment for this event. I have some ideas. Please bring yours to the next stated meeting or email to:

[master@mortonlodge.org](mailto:master@mortonlodge.org)



### Morton Masonic Lodge honors 3 High School Seniors with Scholarship

May 3rd 2010

WB Bill Shaner attended an awards banquet at Morton High School in order to present 3 scholarships this year. Let me say that again 3 scholarships this year!

Due to the fact that we added in the Big Wheel races, and had great weather during pumpkin festival, the lodge was able to

make a larger contribution than typical. We certainly thank the villagers of Morton for their strong support this year and hope that it continues into the coming years.

We have already received 2 thank-you notes from the recipients.

I had the opportunity to read this years essays packaged

with non-identifying information about each applicant.

Across the board, I am very impressed with the students at MHS, both for their academic successes and involvement in activities that contribute back to the communities.

### Lodge Practice Schedule

A year or two ago the lodge members voted to commit to practices on Thursday evenings from 7 PM to 9 PM.

To be honest this has been hit and miss. I want to commend WB Russ Bensele for many nights of sitting by himself in the lodge and learning Ritual.

This year I have made it a point to discuss the importance of the officers attending practice as often as we can.

I am happy so far with how this has turned out and feel that I have a solid commitment from the officer corps to really invest the time in learning multiple

parts of our standard work.

I would like to ensure that all lodge members are aware that they are welcome to attend any of these practices.

Typically I choose to practice items that I may have to be called upon in the near future to perform however, if there is a need these practices can also cover Masonic corners, Tokens and Passes.

My objective is not to create a CLI or GL school, there are better places and times for that, it is simply to create an environment where one may either knock some rust off or gain

some confidence via repetition and positive reinforcement.



### Morton Kids Day

Susan Pyles, Director of Tourism for the Village of Morton has asked if the Lodge would be interested in performing and IL-CHIP event for Morton Kids Day on July 31st from 10 AM to 2 PM.

This will be on the Agenda for the July stated meeting. I hope that we approve and commit and can ensure that we have 10-12 Mason's on hand to

show how important this wonderful service is to our community.

Never heard of an IL-CHIP event?

Here is how it works:

The Freemasons of Illinois hold and fund the entire cost of identification workshops for families all around the State of Illinois. These are called ILCHIP events.

They're sponsored by local Masonic Lodges and held at neighborhood functions or community schools. We put together everything parents need to help the authorities find their lost child. It's the most comprehensive program of its kind ...and it is **FREE OF CHARGE TO PARENTS.**

### Morton Lodge Hosts Type 2 GL School

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, Morton hosted an "all day" Grand Lecturers "#2 School", where the work is instructed by the Board of Grand Examiners and performed by Grand Lecturers and Certified Lodge Instructors. There were 52 attendees from 27 different lodges in attendance. The lodge Opened in Form with an Assistant Junior Deacon, and the Stewards were

employed to assist in collecting the passes. Situations for brothers not vouched for and incorrect passes were demonstrated. Then both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> degrees were conferred, including all lectures, charges, and catechisms. Everyone enjoyed homemade soup for lunch, and we finished the afternoon around 3:00pm.



**Morton Masonic Lodge  
#352 A.F. & A. M.**

700 South 4th Street  
Morton, IL 61550  
Phone: (309) 263-1469

**Stated Meeting**

**Second Thursday of Each Month  
7:00 PM**

It seems that another Mason, Master of his Lodge, went to Heaven and met with St. Peter.

He identified himself as a member of the Craft and St. Peter asked, "What Lodge?"

Proudly the Master replied, "Old Adage Lodge #1."

St. Peter immediately took him to the Masonic Clock Room. The Master, in puzzlement, looked around the room which was filled with clocks. Each clock had a Lodge's name on a brass plate and, strangely enough, each clock was at a different time.

He asked why and St. Peter informed him that the hands only moved when someone in that Lodge made a mistake in the Ritual.

The Master then asked where his Lodge's clock was as he couldn't see it.

St. Peter replied, "Why, it's in the kitchen, of course."

"The kitchen," said the Master?

"Yes, you see, we needed a new fan."

From <http://www.calodges.org>

<http://www.mortonlodge.org>

**Pumpkin Festival**

The Pumpkin Festival will be upon us sooner than we think.

We were very successful last year and I am hoping this year we are as fortunate. As always we will be needing help. There are food items to be purchased, the location to secure and setup, and workers to man the stand for the duration.

As this event in recent history has been our sole fundraiser we would love to have as many volunteers as possible help us fund the scholarship program.

Interested in helping? Contact one of your Lodge Officers for more information.

**2010 50+ Year Members**

Name	Years	Name	Years
Aberle, Lester	64	Lampe, Donald	53
Backlund, Robert	62	Ludwig, Homer	62
Beeler, Wallace	51	Mason, Ramon	60
Bennett, Dewitt	54	Oller, Lyndell	50
Bott, Walter	52	Poppins, William	56
Callander, Hugh	55	Reinders, Kenneth	64
Carroll, Lloyd	59	Robertson, Frank	59
Dagley, Harry	53	Shaw, Paul	57
Eldridge, Art	54	Shively, John	50
Fort, Charles	55	Smith, Charles	58
Fowler, Robert	60	Ward, Gerald	50
Goodyear, Robert	60	Witbracht, August "Gus"	51
Holdford, Herbert	50	Worms, Roland	61