



Orange Blossom Lodge No. 80 Free & Accepted Masons

321 E. Dakin Avenue

Kissimmee, Florida 34741

Regular Stated Communications - 1st and 3rd Mondays, 7:30 P.M.

Richard A. "Big Rick" Overbee, Jr. PM

Worshipful Master

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*****TAKE TIME TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW *****

DEC	3 rd	at 7:30 P.M. Stated Communication for OBL80 @ 6:30PM Dinner for all. (ELECTIONS OF 2008 Officers).....
DEC	5 th	at 6:00 P.M.	..... Called Communication for OBL80 Lodge conferring Master Mason Degree (W: Johnny Brock in East).....
DEC	7 th	at 6:30 P.M.	..... Scottish Rite Temple Christmas Dinner (And Stated Communication for 2008 Officer's Elections).....
DEC	9 th	at 1:00 P.M.	..... ORMAZ GROTTO INSTALLATION in College Park.....
DEC	12 th	at 7:00 P.M.	..... THERE IS ONLY ONE! District School of Instruction @ St Cloud Lodge 221 @ 7:30PM.....
DEC	15 th	at 8:00 A.M.	..... Master's & Warden's Association / Breakfast meeting @ St. Cloud Lodge 364 (ELECTIONS).....
DEC	15 th	at 6:30 P.M.	.....OBL80 LODGE CHRISTMAS PARTY for Friends and Families (VISIT from SANTA!! Gifts for the Kids!).....
DEC	17 th	at 7:30 P.M.	.....Stated Communication for OBL80 @ 6:30PM Dinner for all. (Officers MOVE UP NIGHT).....
DEC	25 th	ALL DAY LONG	.....CHRISTMAS DAY! Remember the Reason for the Season! GOD BLESS YOU ALL!!.....
DEC	27 th	at 6:30 P.M.	..... St John's Day! Orange Lodge No. 36 INSTALLATION, Apopka.....
DEC	28 th	at 11:00 A.M.	..... 17 th District-Wide Master Mason Degree performed at PineCastle No. 368.....
DEC	29 th	at 2:00 P.M.	.....St. Cloud Lodge No. 221 INSTALLATION @2:00 P.M.....
DEC	29 th	at 7:00 P.M.	.....Winter Park Lodge No. 239 INSTALLATION @7:00 P.M.....
JAN	1 st	ALL DAY LONG	..... HAPPY NEW YEAR 2008! MAY YOU BE HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS!!.....
JAN			BLUE LODGE INSTALLATIONS ARE LISTED BELOW - PLEASE ATTEND AND SUPPORT YOUR MASONIC BROTHERS.....
JAN	7 th	at 7:30 P.M.	..... Stated Communication for OBL80 Lodge with Dinner Program @ 6:30PM for all.....
JAN	21 st	at 7:30 P.M.	..... Stated Communication for OBL80 Lodge with Dinner Program @ 6:30PM for all.....

Seasons Greetings!! from the East:

Brethren, It is indeed a pleasure to have served in the East here at OBL80 for two terms as Worshipful Master. I have learned much here as a recycled and re-educated Master in this Lodge. I look back at the year with a sense of pride and accomplishment at our achievements, and a note of wistful melancholy at seeing this pass on to others who I know will serve our Lodge with pride and distinction, for that is THE legacy we all must leave, pride in our craft, and in a sense of purpose for those coming after us, for they are our future! I hope you will continue to support those who make this journey and give them all the encouragement and assistance with which you have provided to me.

Looking back, we must note our hard working brothers who have made this year such a pleasure. Bro. Bernie Stevens continues his service to the Give Kids the World Foundation and keeps OBL80 in the forefront each month over at that venue. In addition, he has served admirably as Chaplain of the Lodge and at various Lodge functions. Other Brothers have assisted him and deserve our thanks for allowing us to continue our GKTW charity in this manner by helping disabled children the world over.

I owe Bro. Howard and Susanne Evans a debt of thanks for providing me with excellent assistance and help during my installation, and know that it would have been a flop without them!

Several Brothers have been here each meeting night to not only attend a meeting, but start their work long before others even get here. I speak of the Kitchen crew, led by Honorary member and "Chief Cook and Bottle Washer," Bro. Joe Milo; assisted by Honorary member Bro. Tommy Brock; Worshipful Johnny Brock PM; Bro. Bernie Stevens; Bro. Mitch Lokken; and Bro. Charles Thurston; among others. These Brothers, attend to making our meals incomparable and worthy of a 5 star restaurant. The great thing is while that we all well fed, we also have an opportunity to visit with the families of other brethren throughout the district, plus eating a well balanced meal. A true SALUTE to all who work and help make this year's kitchen crew such a success!

We have an additional and remarkable accomplishment here at OBL80, and that is one of huge significance. This lodge has raised over 20 NEW Master Masons in the past year. Plus, we have 8 more worthy men on the books to be passed and raised this month. All have been instructed in the proper manner and according to the Laws and Edicts of our current Grand Lodge. Several Brothers need to be thanked for their efforts, not the least of which are: Wor. Johnny Brock and Wor. Jim Davis, for providing the proper mentoring and instruction to these Brothers, as each new Brother made their separate journeys on into the "Light." Every Sunday, a small nucleus of Brothers, in need of instruction, has developed into a full blown Lodge School of Instruction whereby any brother can come and learn from another their catechism, or practice a part in a degree, to the point where we are now able to do a completed Entered Apprentice degree, all with newly raised Brothers, except for the Lecture, and our Lodge can now perform all three degrees completely with Brothers from within our own Lodge!!

Your Lodge was honored by the Grand Master, MW Robert P. Harry, Jr. on July 22nd when we visited the Masonic Home, as a Lodge and all our elected officers were in attendance, along with many members of the 17th District, when he awarded OBL80, a Certificate of Recognition. Wor. Brock, Bro. Lokken, and Bro. Julius Henry, among others, were organizers/leaders of the first annual Motorcycle Run to the Masonic Home. Our Lodge was the primary sponsor with over 37 Brothers and families making the trek to see our Masonic Home from the 17th District. Additionally, we were privileged to have the Masonic Home administrator, Lisa Tostos visit with us here, and do a wonderful presentation on the Masonic Home. We hope to do this for many years to come!

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the Brothers who served with me this year as officers, and to those who worked so hard in committees and to provide a clean Lodge. I would also like to express my appreciation to each member who attended Lodge and supported my administration. I look forward to working with the new officers elected this month, and to aid in a smooth transition to the new 2008 administration.

In particular, the unsung hero's of this Lodge, Wor. Roy Chalefont, for his untiring effort to keep our greenery green, and the Lodge landscaping alive, along with Bro. Pat Fisher. Also to Bro. Fisher, for starting the "Quartermasters Deck", and bringing Masonic paraphernalia back to our lodge, as a fundraiser, and FYI, Bro. Pat has accepted the duties of Treasurer Pro Tem, for the interim, during RW Tony Stipich's bout with brain cancer. Bro. Raymond Overbee, who has attended every School of Instruction, and represented Orange Blossom Lodge at all District activities with distinction and honor, not missing anything, while my job has kept me away from most of the District functions during the latter part of the year. I want to thank also our Musician, Bro. Franz DuMee, for his wonderful rendition of Masonic music at each of our meetings. There are so few musicians left to aid us in our ritual work, and it is such a pleasure to have Bro Franz play and entertain us. Wor. Jim Fisher, as always, does the simple maintenance jobs at the lodge, and our Flagpole is painted and newly lighted with new rope and pulley up top!! My Heartfelt Thanks to all of you!!

Lastly, Wor. Bob Cunningham, PM has been my friend and confidant about Masonic direction and general all around good humor man. He has been an exceptional Secretary to this Lodge, keeping our records with detailed accuracy and precision, in addition to maintaining a demanding full time job as Operation Manager of a multi million dollar company. I value his Masonic knowledge and good natured wit when confronted with adversity, making it much more bearable to do my job. There are others I wish to thank and recognize, but the number far exceeds the space of this Trestleboard. Suffice it to say, "THANK YOU ALL FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART!"

The most important resolution you can make to yourself in 2008 is to ATTEND LODGE!! Changes are made from within, and with YOUR participation. If you don't participate from within at your meetings, how can you disagree with any positive action taken by the craft in your absence?? I say to you, your voice needs to be heard, NOW! but NOT heard after the fact! ...ATTEND LODGE! And MERRY CHRISTMAS to ALL!!

Fraternally in Freemasonry,

Richard A. "Big Rick" Overbee, Jr., P.M.

2008 17TH DISTRICT F&AM INSTALLATIONS

Orange No.36	Thursday DEC 27	7:00 PM
Orlando No.69	Saturday JAN 12	10:00 AM
Orange Blossom No.80	Saturday JAN 26	2:00 PM
Winter Garden No.165	Saturday JAN 5	2:00 PM
Eola No.207	Thursday JAN 3	7:30 PM
St. Cloud No.221	Saturday DEC 29	2:00 PM
Winter Park No.239	Saturday DEC 29	7:30 PM
Oviedo No.243	Saturday JAN 5	10:00 AM
Composite No.293	Monday JAN 7	7:00 PM
Mokanna No.329	Saturday JAN 19	2:00 PM
Pinecastle No.368	Saturday JAN 5	7:00 PM
Mt. Moriah No.400	Saturday JAN 19	7:00 PM
Memorial No.17	Saturday Feb 2	TBA @ M&W

Installations for 2008

Orange #36	27 Dec	Thurs	7pm
Orlando #69	12 Jan	Sat	10am
Orange Blossom #80	26 Jan	Sat	2pm
Winter Garden #165	5 Jan	Sat	2pm
Eola #207	3 Jan	Thurs	7:30pm
Saint Cloud #221	29 Dec	Sat	2pm
Winter Park #239	29 Dec	Sat	7:30pm
Oviedo #243	5 Jan	Sat	10am
Composite #293	7 Jan	Mon	7pm
Mokanna #329	19 Jan	Sat	2pm
S Seminole #364	12 Jan	Sat	2pm
Pine Castle #368	5 Jan	Sat	7pm
Mount Moriah	19 Jan	Sat	7pm
Memorial #17	2 Feb	Sat	after M&W