

Masonic Temple Corporation of Norfolk

Newsletter to the Members

3/7/2018

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Planning Strategically to Improve and Preserve our Masonic Temple

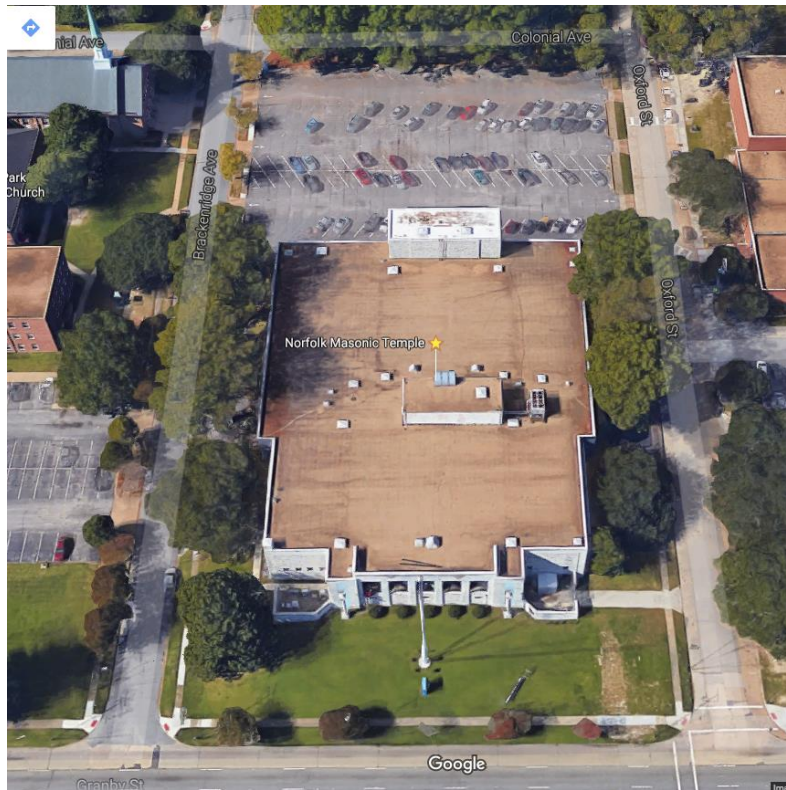
The Board of Directors is developing a Strategic Plan for the maintenance and operation of the Temple for both the short- and long-term continued use of this grand facility. This Strategic Plan will include a prioritized list of repair, replacement and maintenance projects for the building systems and equipment. This list will support a systematic procedure for the use of Temple funds earmarked for improvements and upkeep, and will inform the decision-making process for the selection of projects to balance planned system maintenance with urgent immediate needs.

This list of projects (such as HVAC replacement, elevator upgrades, improving kitchen equipment, etc.) is expected to be dynamic and regularly reassessed to make sure that current plans do not ignore long term planning needs for the Temple. If you have an idea for projects that should be added to the list, please pass it to your Board representative (see the last page) so that he can bring it to the attention of the Board of Directors and the House Committee.

In cooperation with the strategic plan, the Norfolk Cornerstone Foundation is being developed to help support the Temple as well as encourage the work of charitable and civic activities in the area. The Norfolk Cornerstone Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization. More information will be made available soon about the ways to support this Foundation and the Norfolk Masonic Temple.

Project: Roof Replacement / Repairs

Work is almost complete on installing a new roof by Block Roofing Corporation. The contractor estimates that work will be complete by the end of March. The photo below shows the size of the roof, to give a sense of the scope of the effort to replace the roof and to provide an image of the old roof material.



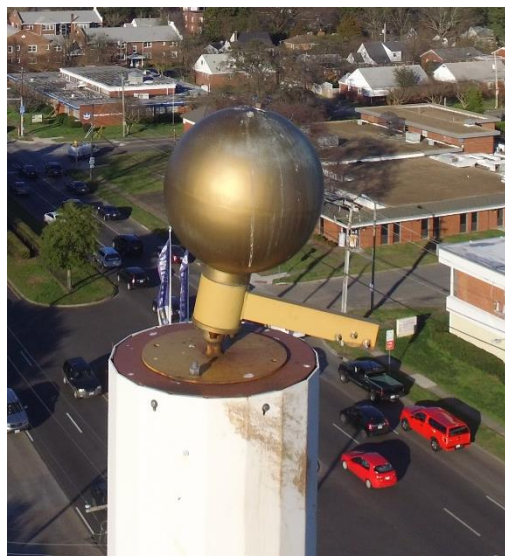
The photograph below shows the work progress as of March 7, and a view of the new material..



More Temple Projects Underway or being implemented:

Exterior Building Lighting: The exterior lights illuminating the building were removed during the roof replacement process. New lights with LED fixtures will be installed once the roof work is complete, to improve the image of the Temple at night and to add to the area security lighting.

Flagpole Restringing: A number of months ago, the rope for the flagpole in front of the Temple broke and came out of the pulley at the top of the flagpole. The House Committee has been looking for solutions to replacing the rope as the flagpole is over 100 feet high. The two photos below were taken using a drone and show the fitting at the top of the flagpole in front of the Temple. The current proposal is to obtain the services of a crane company with a personnel lift to reach the top of the pole, make any necessary repairs to the fitting/pulley, and put a new rope in place. This will allow Old Glory to once more proudly fly in front of our Masonic Temple for Masons and the general public to see far and wide.



Replacement Lighting: New LED lights have been installed in the Scottish Rite dressing room to provide better illumination for the degree teams and for those using the space during rental events. Thank you to Brother Norman Cohen for his efforts to support the Temple with his time and expertise.

Dining Room Coat Room reflooring: The photo at right shows the new tile floor in the coat room outside of the dining room. It dramatically improves the look of this area, and makes it more appealing for rental groups using the Temple as they look for areas to hang up their coats and jackets.



Parking Lot Lighting and Trees: The House Committee is working with the City of Norfolk to thin and remove some of the pine trees at the back of the parking lot. This will improve the lighting of the parking lot which is currently obscured by tree branches and provide better security in the lot.

Street ramp access to the Main Entrance: The City of Norfolk has been requested to provide a ramp access from the street for the main entrance on Brackenridge Avenue. This will help make the Temple fully accessible and more appealing for visitors.



“Never Give Up the Ship”

“She’s well built”

To the Brethren and Member Bodies of the Norfolk Masonic Temple:

Your Board of Directors is constantly seeking ways to keep member assessment fees as low as possible. This is not an easy task considering the constantly increasing cost of utilities, supplies, and maintenance. One way that we can help reduce expenses is by making use of our own Masonic labor as much as possible. This not only avoids the expense of hiring a contractor to do the work, but it also builds a sense of commitment and pride in our Masonic Temple for the members involved.

With the onset of Spring, there will soon be an urgent need to mow the grass, do the edging and sweep/rake the area clean. This will need to be done on a weekly basis, in order to keep the property looking well-kept and appealing. The Temple has a riding mower, leaf blower and other tools for use for this purpose, so personal equipment is not required. We are simply searching for brethren willing to operate the equipment and help get the work done.

If your Lodge or Appendant Body would like to volunteer as a group, please let us know. If individuals would like to volunteer on an occasional basis, we can work with that schedule too. The desire to maintain the Temple is the important thing and to help keep it looking great.

To volunteer, please contact Paul Miller, at 757-636-7312,
or by email to masonictemplecorporation@gmail.com
including your contact information and days available.

Results from the efforts of volunteers:

Sporting events and facility rentals continue to bring in revenue for the operation of the Temple. This serves as another way that the Temple member assessments are kept as low as possible. Consider helping with volunteer requests to make these events even more successful and lucrative for the Temple budget.

Temple Notes:

Another hidden facet of the jewel that is our Norfolk Masonic Temple was revealed recently. A floor mat in the front entryway was moved, and this beautiful symbol of our Fraternity was revealed in the floor under the mat. The artistry of the Craftsmen that built our Temple has shown through in many ways, but this is certainly an immediate reminder of the irreplaceable gem that we have inherited from the foresighted men that bequeathed us this magnificent edifice.



The Building Superintendent, Wor. Gary Gouge is home from the hospital and recuperating from his surgery. Welcome back, Gary. During his recuperation, the Board of Directors continues to maintain services and operations of the Temple. Ms. Dorothy Ann Jones continues to assist with answering the Temple phone from Monday through Friday, 8am-12pm. Brother Tom Melling continues to maintain a watch on the door of the Temple in the evenings and closes up the temple after meetings are done. Member bodies are reminded to let Tom know when you plan to meet at the Temple to be sure that the temperature controls are set for the room that you will be using.

Upcoming Temple Events and Volunteer Requests:

Here are some of the upcoming events happening at the Temple:

- 4/14/2018, Professional Boxing with Ponytail Productions
- 4/20/2018, 5:30 PM Grand Master's Official Visit
- 4/20/2018 – 4/21/2018, Scottish Rite Spring Reunion (Subject to change due to GMOV)
- 5/5/2018, 2nd Annual Scottish Rite Gala
- 5/12/2018, Stewart Arthur Deem District Ritual School exemplification
- 6/2/2108, VCW Wrestling (Concession Duty Fundraiser)

Please refer to the Temple website for updated information regarding our schedule of events:

<http://www.norfolkmasonictemple.com/calendar-of-events.html>

Masonic Schedules at the Temple and around the Districts:

DISTRICT LODGE STATED COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE

Norfolk Lodge No. 1	-----	1 st Thursday	-----	7:30 pm
Atlantic Lodge No. 2	-----	2 nd Monday	-----	7:30 pm
Elizabeth Lodge No. 34	-----	1 st Tuesday	-----	7:30 pm
Naomi Lodge No. 87	-----	1 st Friday	-----	7:30 pm
Ruth Lodge No. 89	-----	2 nd Tuesday	-----	7:30 pm
Norview Lodge No. 113 *	-----	4 th Friday	-----	7:30 pm
Owens Lodge No. 164	-----	2 nd Thursday	-----	7:30 pm
Corinthian Lodge No. 266	-----	3 rd Tuesday	-----	7:00 pm
Ocean View Lodge No. 335 *	-----	2 nd Friday	-----	7:00 pm
Victory Daylight Lodge No. 1778	-----	1 st Saturday	-----	9:00 am

** this Lodge meets at a location other than the Norfolk Masonic Temple*

MASONIC APPENDANT BODY MEETING SCHEDULE at Norfolk Masonic Temple

Norfolk United Royal Arch Chapter No. 1	-----	1 st Monday
Grice Commandery No. 16	-----	4 th Monday
Norfolk Scottish Rite Bodies	-----	3 rd Thursday
Virginia Chapter OES	-----	1 st & 3 rd Friday
Norfolk DeMolay Chapter	-----	2 nd & 4 th Sunday

The Calcott School of Ritual Instruction meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, at 7:00 PM. The District Instructors of Work provide ritual instruction for the benefit of all Lodges in Districts 35A and 35B.

The Masters, Wardens, and Deacons meeting is held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM. This provides an opportunity for the Lodge officers from Masonic Districts 35A and 35B to collectively meet with the District Deputy Grand Masters to plan and discuss activities and events in the districts.

Your Board of Directors for the Norfolk Masonic Temple:

Tully E. Carr, DDGM 35-A..... representing Atlantic Lodge No. 2 (Board President)
Rolando A. Cedo..... representing Owens Lodge No. 164
Joseph G. Daigle, Jr. representing Corinthian Lodge No. 266 (Board Vice-President)
Edward R. Gearheart representing Norfolk Scottish Rite Bodies
Aristides G. Hazzis..... representing Naomi Lodge No. 87
Paul A. Miller..... representing Norfolk Lodge No. 1 (Board Secretary)
Jeffery A. Paras representing Grice Commandery No. 16
James H. Pate representing Norfolk United Royal Arch Chapter No. 1
Felix E. Stephens, Jr..... representing Elizabeth Lodge No. 34 (Board Treasurer)
Kenneth L. Taylor..... representing Ruth Lodge No. 89 (House Committee Chairman)
Wilfredo M. Vitug..... representing Victory Daylight Lodge No. 1778

The next Board of Directors meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 28th at 7:00 PM.