

Grand Lodge Annual Communication Update

By Lee Spach

This year's annual communication was held in Winston Salem on Friday September 19th and Saturday September 20th. I had the pleasure of attending on Friday but was unable to attend on Saturday. The Wardens, Master of the Lodge, and Brother Ed Zamerelli were in attendance.

The event kicked off with opening the Grand Lodge meeting by Most Worshipful David Cash and introductions of distinguished guests and visitors followed. There were several speeches made pertaining to various committees and reports that were filed into the Grand Lodge meeting minutes.

After lunch the Grand Master resumed labor and ballots pertaining to restoration of previously expelled Masons and ballots pertaining to expelling those that had come under charge of Masonic un-conduct were cast.

There was necrology service for all our deceased brethren and a beautiful ceremony called "The 7 Lights" performed by a member of the NC DeMolay. A

young lady of the Rainbow Girls delivered a speech in front of the nearly 1,000 members in attendance detailing all the reasons we as Men and Masons of our communities need to support Rainbow.

Following this the motion pertaining to the Prince Hall recognition resolution was made and ballots were cast. The resolution passed as written in the proposal that was presented to our Lodge back in August. There were 970 total votes cast with 642 being for adopting the resolution and 328 being against.

On Saturday the meeting resumed and the remainder of the ballots were cast regarding the other groups of amendments proposed. Worshipful Brother David Abernethy stated the following quote pertaining to the votes on Saturday, "Two items I am confident of: first, Hickory's amendment to the change to voting procedure was the one that passed. It was written by Brother David Brandon, PM, whose change to another amendment passed at Grand Lodge two years ago, I think. As I was discussing this year's amendment with the original proponents after the GL

adjourned, Past Grand Master Graham Purvier passed by and remarked that Hickory's amendment was "well crafted". This is a highly commendable record of contributions made by Hickory Lodge in the work of the Grand Lodge. The change to voting procedure is optional, so that each lodge must put it into its bylaws for it to be effective.

Second, on Friday, the Prince Hall resolution passed, as expected. On Saturday, Grand Master Cash reminded us that the proposal did not include the right of visitation. To visit between Prince Hall and A.F. and A.M. lodges, the GM said a brother must have the permission of the Grand Masters of both of the Grand Lodges. Although I expect that we will be seeing clarifications as to procedure from the Grand Lodge for some time to come, as of now I would deal with a North Carolina Prince Hall Lodge as I would deal with a lodge in a recognized Grand Lodge in another state, except that permission for visitation has to come from the Grand Master, rather than the Master of the Lodge."

Dates to mark on your calendar!!!!

Past Master's Night—Monday, October 27th—6:30pm dinner, degree at 7:30pm

Awards Night—Thursday, November 20th—6:30pm

Officer Elections—Monday, December 1st

Officer Installations—Monday, December 8th—(open to public)

OFFICERS 2008

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|-------------|
| Worshipful Master | J. David Abernethy | 323-8349 |
| Senior Warden | Richard L. Rozzelle | 294-3013 |
| Junior Warden | Daniel J. Rolon | 493-3543 |
| Treasurer | W.J. "Buz" Hunley | ul256-7633 |
| Secretary | Kevin D. Johnson | 465-5619 |
| Senior Deacon | G. Lee Spach | 446-1924 |
| Junior Deacon | James L. Johnson | 328-1679 |
| Senior Steward | Eddie Elliott | 244-3162 |
| Junior Steward | ** Anyone interested contact the WM ** | |
| Chaplain | James Hope | ul 465-0063 |
| Tyler | Robert B. Bickel | 294-6619 |
| Trustees | <i>Chairman</i> Lawton H. Hatley | 294-0910 |
| | David L. Brandon | 294-2124 |
| | W. Grimes Byerly | 324-8678 |

LIVING PAST MASTERS

| | | | |
|---------------|------|-----------------|------|
| J.N. Cagle | 1973 | J.P. Hilton | 1994 |
| J.L. Johnson | 1974 | D.L. Reep | 1995 |
| E.W. Beckom | 1978 | P.C. Ray | 1996 |
| J.F. Taylor | 1979 | L.D. Huffman | 1997 |
| J.H. Elmore | 1981 | W.G. Byerly | 1998 |
| T.L. Hartman | 1984 | | 2007 |
| E.C. Cline | 1986 | D.J. Wallace | 1999 |
| J.E. Vaught | 1987 | H.W. Walker | 2000 |
| J.H. Elmore | 1988 | J.W. Davidson | 2001 |
| C.E. Isenhour | 1989 | M.D. Hale | 2002 |
| E.W. Masche | 1991 | W.J. Hunley | 2003 |
| J.D. Crawley | 1993 | J.P. Kuykendall | 2004 |
| | | D.L. Brandon | 2006 |

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

| | | | | | |
|------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| Kenneth Hogue | 10/1/1949 | David London | 10/16/1964 | Thomas Jahn | 10/23/1944 |
| Horace Underwood | 10/3/1926 | Bradley Ingels | 10/17/1965 | Jerry Satterwhite | 10/23/1945 |
| Johnny Davidson | 10/5/1954 | Thomas Long | 10/18/1926 | Joe Elledge | 10/26/1949 |
| Timothy Smith | 10/5/1978 | John Harden | 10/20/1935 | Eric Wilfong | 10/26/1968 |
| Neil Davis | 10/8/1954 | Everette Beckom, Jr. | 10/21/1931 | Keith Mayberry | 10/28/1968 |
| James Barker | 10/12/1914 | Reginald Sweat | 10/21/1932 | Herbert Chilton, Jr. | 10/29/1926 |
| William Donkel | 10/13/1926 | Harold Hefner | 10/21/1940 | John Baird | 10/29/1935 |
| William Simmons | 10/14/1939 | James Helton, Jr. | 10/21/1950 | Jimmy Dickinson | 10/29/1943 |
| John Hilton | 10/16/1937 | Robert Mitchell, Jr. | 10/23/1921 | Gregory Annas | 10/29/1947 |

Caring Report: The Bean Family, Jim Johnson, David Brandon, David Chastain, John Wilson, Carroll Bumgarner, Denise Wallace, Don Hudson, Carl & Sandra Isenhour, John Harden's wife, Jack Lingerfelt, Bill Deitz, David Duncan, Darrell Chapman, Gregg Conley, Herbert Chilton Jr., Bob Gregg, Click Truitt, Charles Meadows, Richard Rozzelle's son, A.W. Morris, Kimberly Austin, Rufus Smith, Charles Lookadoo, Todd Cline, August Masche, David Early, Joe Vaught, Clyde Price, and Bruce Pope all need our prayers and attention.

Our sincere sympathies to the family of our dearly departed Brother Thomas Elmore Bean who was born on June 27, 1934 and died on August 23, 2008. Brother Bean was Initiated on April 13, 1970, Passed on May 11, 1970, and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on June 13, 1970.

Letter G God and Geometry



The letter G reminds us that our every act is done in the sight of the Great Architect of the Universe.

"By letters four and science five, this "G" aright doth stand, in due Art and Proportion; you have your answer friend."

What are the "letters four"? It is believed that they are the **name of the Great Architect of the Universe** in the ancient Hebrew language, from which the Bible was translated: **YHWH** (pronounced "Yahway". (sometimes pronounced Jehovah)

Which is the 5th science? **Geometry.**

When did the letter G become part of the Square and Compass? No one knows exactly, but it is believed to be somewhere between 1730 and 1768, here in the United States.

In Hebrew, the language our Bible was originally written in, it is called Gheemel (or Gimel) and has a numerical value of 3. Throughout history, we see reference to the number 3 when we speak of the Supreme Architect of the Universe...no matter which language we speak! **Gimel** (in slightly different forms) is the 3rd letter of many Semitic languages including Phoenician, Greek, Aramaic, Hebrew, and Syriac.

Phoenician: **Gimel** (11th century BCE)

Greek: **Gamma** (9th century BCE)

Aramaic: **Gamal** (800 BCE to 600 CE) (800 years Before Common Era to 600 years after Common Era)

Hebrew: **Gimel** (3rd century BCE)

Syriac: **Gomal / Gamal** (2nd century BCE)

B.C.E. means "Before Common Era". The Common Era (**C.E.**), also known as the Christian Era and sometimes as the Current Era, is the period beginning with the year 1 onwards. The term is used for a system of reckoning years that is chronologically equivalent to the Anno Domini (A.D.), which is Latin

for "In the year of our Lord". Therefore, the 3rd letter of the Phoenician alphabet, "gimel", was in use 11 centuries **B**efore the **C**ommon **E**ra, which is 8 centuries before the Hebrew language...give or take a few hundred years.

Why give or take a few hundred years? While scholars who study languages are very thorough; we have to remember that they have very little from which to study. Much of our knowledge of ancient languages comes from the study of hieroglyphics carved into stone and the subsequent attempt to determine which time frame they were carved; from mummies and their accompanying sarcophagi (carved wooden coffins), etc.

Note, however that while the letter G is the 7th letter in the English, Latin and Romanic alphabets, in Russian, and some others, it is 4th; in the Arabic the 5th, and in the Ethiopian language, the 20th. Be aware, however, that all these languages are much "younger" than the "ancient" languages and most, therefore, are propagations (changes that occurred) to the ancient languages throughout the centuries due to many factors.

The letter G in Freemasonry stands for **both the Great Architect of the Universe and Geometry**...or, to be more technically correct, it stands for Geometry under the Great Architect of the Universe.

Just as the Supreme Architect of the Universe watches the revolutions of the planets and stars in the sky, so does HE, who placed each of us here, watch each of our movements, hears not only our words, but our thoughts, as well ...and it is to HIM that we are ultimately responsible.

Compiled from: <http://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/>

Masonic Hats Do You Have To Wear A Master's Hat?



Masonic hats worn by the Master of the Lodge signify his authority of his rank and status...the origins of which go back over many centuries. Albert Mackey, Masonic researcher and historian had this to say about Masonic hats: To uncover the head in the presence of their superiors has been, among Christian nations, held as a dutiful obligation. Among Eastern nations, it is their custom to uncover their feet when they enter a place of worship.

Kings

Historically, Kings wore crowns to denote their rank, while the courtiers standing around him removed their hats in deference to his superior status.

Ancient Romans

We are told that the ancient Romans prayed with their head covered or veiled. The woolen cap, called a *pileus*, was allowed to be worn only by the free-born or manumission (papers with which one is formally released from slavery), but it was forbidden for Roman slaves to wear this cap.

House of Commons - London

Historically, it was customary that a member of the English Parliament, London's House of Commons, wear a hat when he addressed the membership of the House. If he were to have risen to speak without his hat, other members would greet him with cries of "Order, Order!"

France

In France, it was the custom of monks at the Sorbonne, (previously called the University of Paris which was founded in 1257 by Robert de Sorbon) to remove their cap when a member did not wish to speak or was in token of agreement with the others. (End of Mackey quote from Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, 1929) Modern Day:

United States:

Today, Masonic hats are worn, ceremonially, in the United States during the time when the lodge is in session. Some Grand Lodges require that the hat be constructed with a brim. Others simply decree that the Worshipful Master remains covered at all times.

Internationally:

In different jurisdictions around the world, it is also common to see many different styles of Masonic hats.

AD 1874

CONSTITUTED

AL5874

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
Hickory, NC 28601
PERMIT NO. 86



34th NC Masonic District

HICKORY LODGE NO. 343

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
P.O. Box 451
Hickory, NC 28601
828-322-8016

www.hickorymasoniccenter.org
secretary@hickorymasoniccenter.org

Lodge Events Calendar

OCTOBER 2008

| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|-----|---|------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|--|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 6:30pm—Meal 7:30pm—Stated | 7 7:30pm—OES | 8 6:30pm Meal 7:30pm York Rite | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 Fall School of Inst. 7:00AM Lovely Lodge |
| 19 | 20 6:30pm—Meal 7:30pm—Stated | 21 7:30pm—OES | 22 | 23 | 24 Scottish Rite Fall Reunion | 25 Scottish Rite Fall Reunion |
| 26 | 27 Past Masters Night 6:30pm—Meal 7:30pm— Degree | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |