

Leesburg Masonic Lodge No. 58

Free & Accepted Masons of Florida

Chartered January 15, 1868

Vol. IV Issue VI

<http://www.mastermason.com/Lodge58/>

JUNE 2010

# Trestle Board



*Our Kitchen Crew, May Sunday Dinner, Celebrating Mothers Day*

Leesburg Masonic Lodge

200 Richey Road, Leesburg, Florida 34748

352-787-5696

Stated Communications 1st & 3rd Tuesday of Each Month at 7:30pm

## Officers for 2010

<b>Worshipful Master</b>	W.·. Donald McIntyre, Sr. (Nina).. 728-6954
Senior Warden	Randall Jesmok (Joye) ..... 669-2830
Junior Warden	Larry Duff (Brenda) ..... 728-5270
Treasurer	R.·. W.·. Ken Graves (Jean) ..... 787-9538
Secretary	Dean Sever (Linda) ..... 787-6667
	<b>Lodge</b> ..... 787-5696
Senior Deacon	Richard Cartier (Frances) ..... 315-1886
Junior Deacon	Jim Angelos ..... 728-6188
Senior Steward	Saul Goodkin (Joanne) ..... 483-7406
Junior Steward	G. Dallas Douma ..... 638-3221
Tyler	Andy Sheffield ..... 365-6698
Chaplain	David Rosenthal (Debbie)..... 702-3878
Marshal	W.·. Frank Peregrin (Pat) ..... 728-0774
Organist	W.·. Ronald J. Cottman (Cele) .... 365-1944
Lodge Instructor	R.·. H.·. Dennis Ricker (Ginny) . 314-0828
Lodge Historian	R.·. W.·. Joseph T. Price ..... 787-0652
Trestle Board	Larry Duff (Brenda) ..... 874-2164
Trestle Board Printing	Leesburg Printing (Mike Mason) ... 787-3348



### Living Past Masters

Charles Porter	1959
Theodore E. Weihe	1963
G. Kiser Hardaway	1964
J. C. Holloway	1968
R.·. W.·. Ray Richardson	1969*
R.·. W.·. Joseph H. Sellers	1970*
William "Ed" Davison	1974
Robert H. Smith	1977
R.·. W.·. Colin Crews	1980^*
H. C. Connell	1985
R.·. W.·. Theodore Jansen	1986*
R.·. W.·. Joseph T. Price	1987*
Michael Dozier	1988
John H. Meier V	1989
Jay A. Frizzell, Jr.	1992
Raleigh Sorenson	1993/1994
Don Barfield	1996
Tom Russell	1997/1998/2002
Mervyn Harris	1999
R.·. W.·. Kenneth Graves	2000*
Robert H. Browning	2003/2004
R.·. H.·. Dennis Ricker	2005/2007^
Roland P. Gibson	2006
Bill Green	2008
Richard Ecott	2009

### Affiliated Past Masters

Carl Anzelmo
Henry DeBerry
Ronald J. Cottman
Jack Delauter
Robert C. Gleckler
Robert Kennedy
Garry Lee
Clifford Moore
Norman L. Payne
Frank Peregrin
Glenn A. Reynolds*
Edwin Robbins
Robert L. Welch
Forest Case*
John Ray Dean
Barry Rosenthal
Wayne Parks
Fred Lint
Raymond D Trudeau
Paul Shires
M.·. W.·. Joseph Brearley

^ Past District Instructor

\* Past DDGM

### 18th Masonic District

<b>DDGM</b>	R.·. W.·. Gary Smith ..... 483-1556
District Instructor	R.·. H.·. Bill Siegenthaler ..... 394-6941

## Committees for 2010 and Members

### Board of Relief

Chairman W.·. Don McIntyre, Sr., Randy Jesmok, Larry Duff

### Property

Chairman SW Randy Jesmok, W.·. Tom Russell, Larry Duff,  
W.·. Ed Davison

### Finance

Chairman SW Randy Jesmok, Sr, JW Larry Duff,  
R.·. W.·. Ken Graves, W.·. Tom Russell, W.·. Ed Davison,  
W.·. Richard Ecott

### Vigilance

Chairman JW Larry Duff, Randy Jesmok, Sr., W.·. Don McIntyre, Sr.

### Funeral

Chairman R.·. W.·. Ken Graves, W.·. Bill Green, Officers & Members

### Petitions

Chairman SW Randy Jesmok, W.·. Richard Ecott,  
W.·. Bob Browning Dallas Douma, Dick Cartier, Jim Angelos

### Charity

Chairman Dallas Douma, R.·. W.·. Joe Price, Dean Sever,  
Saul Goodkin, Fred Neilson, David Rosenthal

### Catechism

Chairman Dallas Douma, Jr., Randy Jesmok, W.·. Bob Browning  
W.·. Roland Gibson, Larry Duff

### Greeters

All Officers

### Scholarship

Chairman Larry Duff, R.·. W.·. Joe Price, Fred Neilson,  
Spencer Glover

### Investments

Chairman R.·. W.·. Ken Graves, W.·. Tom Russell,  
R.·. W.·. Theodore Jansen, Joe Dykes

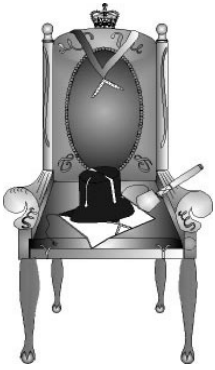
### Education

Chairman Larry Duff, W.·. Bob Browning, Spencer Glover,  
Dallas Douma

### Activities & Awards

Chairman W.·. Richard Ecott, Dick Frazier, Cliff Frazier

Officers and Committee Chairmen will meet at 6:30 pm before the first stated meeting of each month for business and planning.



## From the Worshipful Master

W.: Donald McIntyre, Sr.

Welcome to W.: Dennis Managan and Br. Robert Humiston who have recently affiliated with our Lodge. W.: Managan comes to us from John A. Brashear Lodge 743 in Pittsburg, PA. and Brother Huniston from Crossroads Lodge 520 in Solvay, NY. Welcome Brothers.

Congratulations to Brothers Brian McLaughlin and Cyril Stearns who at our May 18th Stated Meeting return their Entered Apprentice Catechisms in an outstanding fashion.

You may have noticed that the front of the Lodge building replanting has been completed. This effort to replace the old landscaping with new landscaping was lead by Senior Warden Randy Jesmok. A Special Thank You to R.: W.: Ray Richardson who donated most of the new plants.

Our Ladies program of May 18th "The Pamperd Chef" was an outstanding event, but we need a little help from the ladies. We are asking our Ladies to contact W.: Richard Ecott with your suggestions as to program ideas for our future Ladies Nights.

Visiting our fellow Lodges is privilege extended to all Master Masons, please take note that "The Villages Lodge" has moved their Stated Meeting location to Wildwood Lodge and their meeting days to the 2nd Monday of the month.

If your in need of some Onions, Wildwood Lodge is currently having their annual Vidalia Onion fundraising sale. Five pounds of sweet onions for \$5.00. Contact Wildwood Lodge or our Chaplin Brother David Rosenthal and order a bag.

Our next Monthly Second Sunday Dinner will be on June 13th with a New York Strip Steak as the featured menu item. You may have noticed the front cover photograph from our May Dinner, I can only wonder what the Junior Warden and crew have in mind for me to dress as in June. Hope to see you there.

Let's not forget to recycle your newspapers to and help OUR lodge raise funds in support of the lodge, charities, services and programs. Simply place your newspapers into the bin labeled "Newspaper Recycling" located by the east entrance to our parking lot. This includes the advertisements. NO CARDBOARD OR PLASTIC BAGS.

See you at Breakfast, Dinner or a meeting soon.



## From the Chaplain

Brother David Rosenthal

**Sickness & Distress:** Cele Cottman, wife of W.: Ron Cottman has been ill and in LRMC, and R.: W.: Joe Price was in LRMC and is home recovering.

We which all who are ill a speedy recovery and hope to see you soon. *If you know of anyone that is ill or in distress, please, call a lodge officer. Keep all our brothers in your prayers, extend a comforting hand, call or visit someone in need of friendship today.*

**HAPPY DAYS** — We extend to all who have birthdays and anniversary's this month our best wishes

for a happy, safe and healthy celebration of your day. If you can't party it up this year makes plans for next year.

**Words to live by:** I have read many books, but the Bible reads me.

**From the Great Light in Masonry;** "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for he is faithful that promised: Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works; Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" (Hebrews 10:23-24-25).

"Those people who develop the ability to continuously acquire new and better forms of knowledge that they can apply to their work and to their lives will be the movers and shakers in our society for the indefinite future." Brian Tracy

## FATHER

*Author Unknown, Sent in By; W. ∴ Roland Gibson*

4 Years: My Daddy Can do anything.  
7 Years: My Dad knows a lot, a whole lot.  
8 Years: My Father doesn't quite know everything.  
12 Years: Oh Well, Father doesn't know everything.  
14 Years: Father? Hopelessly old-fashioned.  
21 Years: Man is he out of date. What did you expect?  
25 Years: He knows a little bit about it, but not much.  
30 Years: Must find out what Dad thinks about it.  
35 Years: A little patience, let's get Dad's meaning first.  
50 Years: What would Dad have thought about it?  
60 Years: My Dad knew literally everything.  
65 Years: I wish I could talk it over with dad once more.



## THE TEST

*Author Unknown*

*Sent in By; M. ∴ W. ∴ Joseph Brearley*

*Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island*

Several years ago, the story is told of a Mason who always wore his Masonic ring and lapel pin when in public. On some occasions, he rode the bus from his home to the downtown area. On one such trip and when he sat down, he discovered the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change. As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, "You'd better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it". Then he thought, "Oh, forget it, it's only a quarter; who would worry about this little amount." Anyway the transit company gets too much fare They will never miss it. Accept it as a 'gift from God' and keep quiet.

When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, and then he handed the quarter to the driver and said, "Here, you gave me too much change."

The driver with a smile replied, "I noticed your Masonic ring and lapel pin, I have been thinking lately about asking a Mason how to join. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. You passed the test. Can you tell me how to become a Mason?"

When the Mason stepped off the bus, he said a silent prayer, "Oh God, Grand Architect of the Universe, I almost sold you and my beloved Masons out for a mere quarter."

Our actions are the only Masonic creed some will ever see. This is a really almost scary example of how people watch us as Masons and may put us to the test even without us realizing it! Always be diligent, whether it is at the theater, restaurant, grocery, service station or just driving in traffic.

Remember, whether it is a lapel pin, a ring, or an emblem on the car, you carry the name of our great fraternity on your shoulders whenever you call yourself a Mason. You never can tell who might be watching.



## INTENDER

The term "Intender" comes to us direct from the old operative Lodge of Scotland. More than 119 years before the first Grand Lodge was formed the Intender was an important official in the Lodges in Scotland, entrusted with the instruction of new candidates. At that time the word "intend" meant: to stretch out, extend, expand, increase, intensify. Therefore, the intender was a faithful companion and teacher whose duty it was to stretch out, extend, increase, and intensify the knowledge and understanding of the younger craftsman in the Science of Freemasonry.

The Schaw Statutes, an elaborate code of organization first drawn up in 1598 by William Schaw, Master of Work and General Warden of the Masons of Scotland, are found in the minutes of the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel) No. 1. These Statutes provided that an Intender be chosen by each new Fellowcraft, while the Lodge of Aitchison's Haven provided Intenders for both new Entered Apprentices and new Fellowcrafts. In time the office of Intender became so important that the youngest Master was chosen for this exacting service.

In recent decades the emphasis has been changing from merely producing Masons proficient in the rituals to that of producing educated Masons—Masons who not only love their ritual and know how to present it effectively, but who also have an ample knowledge of the background, the aims, and the purposes of the Fraternity. It is here that the Intender becomes an important factor in developing an intelligent membership and a capable leadership to sustain and advance Freemasonry throughout the coming ages.



## REMEMBERING and FORGETTING

*By: Ed Halpaus*

I really enjoy studying a few things; history, religion, Freemasonry, and The Great Light of Masonry - the Holy Bible. I seem to be always surprised when I have an article on a touchy subject in the works and then in the study of religion and the Bible something in that study will turn on the light for me regarding that article. The theme of this article has been in the works for quite some time, and I had no intention to finish it anytime soon, but I got a question regarding the subject of this article recently which got me to looking at it again. Then today I came across two things in and regarding the Holy Bible that gave me an idea to continue.

The subject of this article is not pleasant; maybe that's why I was quick to set it aside before. It has to do with balloting on petitions, and what seems to be casting a ballot out of spite. There are times in a Masonic Lodge when a petitioner is rejected that there may have been a ballot cast because of spite for some reason; at least it is

perceived that way by some Masons. One of the good things about a secret ballot is that only the person casting the ballot knows how he voted and why, also one of the good things is that those of us who are in Lodge to ballot on a petition rely on each other to cast our ballots in agreement with our best judgment, and for the good of the Lodge and the Craft.

One thing that came to mind today, when studying the Bible and a bit in the Talmud, was the re-vamping of a question: Is something that is a right, (such as voting,) always done for the right reasons? Every Master Mason has a right to vote in his Lodge, and every Master Mason has the right to form his own opinions about what transpires in his Lodge. But when we cast our vote in Lodge is the ballot we cast done so for the right reasons, and when the ballot is announced are we right to think, when the result is rejection, that a ballot may have been cast for a spiteful reason? Should our first thought be of a suspicious kind where our Masonic Brothers are concerned?

Proverbs 14:8 also came up today for me. It says

## UPCOMING SUNDAY DINNER MAIN MENU ITEMS



**JUNE 13, 8oz. NEW YORK STRIP STEAK or Chicken with BAKED POTATO**

**JULY 11, ST. LOUIS CUT BBQ RIBS, Hamburgers & Hot Dogs**

**AUGUST 8, We're going Hawaiian, PORK OR CHICKEN**

*(Photo Left - Our Greeters - Linda & Dean Sever at our May Sunday Dinner)*

**Please call the Lodge, or sign the guest list in the foyer, and provide the number of guests attending with you, this ensures enough food is prepared for all.**

***All Masons, their families, friends and guests are invited to our monthly Second Sunday Dinners and every Tuesday breakfasts. Menu items subject to change due to availability and cost.***

in part; "It is the wisdom of a clever man to understand his course." JPS Translation from the Tanakh After reading this I thought of what seems to be a natural human tendency; to hold on to old memories, hurts, prejudices, and bitterness's: These contribute to the discordant passions we Masons are endeavoring to subdue. These discordant passions, which could result in a ballot being cast out of spite, are the same discordant passions that could result in another Mason being distrustful of the motives of one or more Brothers who happen to be present when a petition is presented for a vote.

In the Jewish religion this human tendency of hanging on to old hurtful emotions that will cause us to do something today that we may regret tomorrow is called yetzer hara; the tendency to do something, (which is wrong even though we know, deep down,) is wrong. This yetzer hara can be viewed as a test for us to overcome, (a test of our character,) and by overcoming it we can grow into better men. Possibly the good thing about

having a name like yetzer hara, or discordant passions, for something we might tend to do that would cause us to 'self-destruct,' because of our attitudes and actions, will help us to pause and think about our motives before taking action.

One way to help us get in the proper state of mind when it comes to exercising the rights we have as Master Masons, and to act in the right manner when we attend Lodge, is to do our best to leave the outside world and all its values outside of the Lodge Room door. We can do this easier if - when we enter the Lodge room we meditate on the lessons that are all around us as we calmly sit there: The symbols of the Plumb, Level, and Square; the Rough and Perfect Ashlar; the Gavel; The Lights of Masonry - the greater, lesser, and the three lights; the Steps leading up to the stations of the three principle officer's chairs; the checkered pavement which is symbolically there in every Lodge Room. In our minds eye we can recall the Principle Tenets of Masonry;



High Twelve is an organization of Master Masons who support Masonic causes with special emphasis on youth support and patriotic events. High Twelve is an association dedicated to the unification of Master Masons, independent of the formal ritual of Lodge, but dedicated to service to the fraternity.



### HIGH TWELVE CLUBS Meeting Times & Locations

**Hawthorne High Twelve No. 547** - Meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at Taste Tempters Pancake Inn on West Main Street in Leesburg.

**Leesburg High Twelve No. 424** - Meets at 9:00 a.m. on the 4th Thursday of each month at the Taste Tempters Restaurant on West Main Street in Leesburg.

**Mid-Florida Lakes High Twelve No. 522** - Meets at 11:30 a.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month at Mid-Florida Lakes Clubhouse, east of Leesburg on CR-44.

**Tavares Masonic High Twelve No. 557** - Meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Golden Coral Restaurant on 441 in Eustis.

**Tri County High Twelve** meets 10:30 a.m. the 1st Wednesday of each month at La Hacienda Recreation Center in the Villages. Reservations for lunch must be made on the Thursday before the meeting , call Rita at 750-5561.

### MASONIC CLUBS

**Plantation Masonic Club** - Meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Plantation Oaks Restaurant.



Theological and Cardinal virtues, the points we learn about in the first and third degrees. How the inclination to do the wrong thing; the failure to be wise enough to understand the planned course of action, Proverbs 14:8 Tanakh had such a devastating effect on not only one celebrated individual, but also on 15 others; how their tendency to do wrong caused them so much regret, and how much sadness it caused countless others: plus a host of other things in the Lodge Room we can draw from to meditate on, and learn from.

The lessons of Freemasonry, the lessons we learn in our houses of worship, the lessons we learned from our parents and others who love us, and who want only the best for us, are the memories we want to have occupying our minds.

Reverend and Author Eric Butterworth suggests that we need to have a good "forgettery". Celebrate Yourself! by Eric Butterworth We also need a good "memory" for the good and wholesome things in life. Developing a forgettery is our best effort to let go of our old hurtful memories because, they are no longer real, they are in the past, and our recalling them perpetuates them in our minds only. Here is a scripture you may recognize: *"Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free."* John 8:32 NIV New Testament Rev. Butterworth's commentary on that scripture says; "to know the truth is to let go of untruths." He also says that constantly remembering old negatives about ourselves and our past experiences is 'rattling skeletons' that have no reality, He continues; "Life is much more positive, more productive, and far happier on a past is forgotten basis."

Rabbi Boruch Clinton wrote for [www.torah.org](http://www.torah.org) Volume XVII, number 19 ; "Since, however, there is no single set of clear guidelines that is appropriate for everyone in every situation, the real trick is to somehow accurately assess what level of restraint is right for you at any given time."



Here are some pictures of the recent Shrine's Circus, another year and another outstanding event in support of the Shrine Charities.

If you didn't get to attend this year, make plans for next year, it's a great event for a family day with the proceeds going in support of an outstanding charity.

Sorry we don't have the space for more pictures.





## YARD SALE

**Boy Scout Troop 1** will be holding a yard sale at the Lodge on **Saturday, June 5th** from **8:00am to Noon**. The troop is raising funds for their summer trip to the National Scout Jamboree in Virginia. If you have items you can donate for the sale, or would like to contribute to our Boy Scout Troop, see Brother Dean Sever, our secretary.





## *Scottish Rite*

www.OcalaSR.com or www.SROrlando.com

**Ocala Scottish Rite** meets at the Ocala Scottish Rite Center, 3632 NE 7th Street, Ocala, Fl. On the first Monday of each month, at 7:30pm. Next meeting June 7th, No Dinner planned. On June 14th, Flag Day Ceremony at 6:00pm.

**Orlando Scottish Rite** meets at Orlando Scottish Rite Center, 1485 Grand Road, Winter Park, Fla. on the 4th Friday of each month, except, November, which is on the third Friday and dark in December, meetings at 7:30pm.



## *York Rite Bodies*

*“A Continuation of the Blue Lodge”*

www.flgyr.org

**Ocala York Rite Bodies – Meetings at Belleview Lodge No. 95, Belleview.**

*Ocala Chapter No. 13* - Meets on the Second Wednesday of January, March, May, September and November beginning at 7:30 PM.

*Ocala Council No. 22 - Royal & Select Masters* - Meets on the Second Wednesday of February, April, June, October and December beginning at 7:30 PM.

*Ocala Commandery No. 19 - Knights Templar* - Meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM.

**Eustis York Rite Bodies - Meetings at Eustis Lodge No. 85, Eustis.**

*Eustis Chapter No. 33*, Meets on the third Friday of each month at 7:30 PM.

*Golden Triangle Council No. 28—Royal & Select Masters* - Meets on the third Friday of each month at 7:30 PM.

*Triangle Commandery No. 38 –Knights Templar—*Meets on the on the second Friday of each month at 7:30 PM



## *Order of the Eastern Star, Leesburg Chapter No. 84*

Lady Marylu Stewart – Worthy Matron

W.∴ Roland Gibson —Worthy Patron

**Meetings – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month at 7:30 p.m.**

If you are a member of the OES and wish to contribute a article or information for inclusion in the Trestle Board, just send it to the editor. Articles are requested to be no more than one or two pages.



## *Tall Cedars, Lake Forest, No. 200*

GT—Paul Davidson

**Meetings – 2nd Saturday of the Month at 10:30 a.m.**

If you wish to contribute a article or information for inclusion in the Trestle Board, just send it to the editor. Articles are requested to be no more than one or two pages.





# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JUNE 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8 am Leesburg Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	2 Tri-County Hi-12 La Hacienda Recreation Center, The Villages 10:30am	3 Order of the Eastern Star No. 84—Meeting at 7:30 pm	4	5
6	7 Ocala SR 7:30 pm DeMolay 7:30 pm Eustis Lodge Boy Scout troop 1 7:30pm	8 Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8 am Hawthorne Hi-12 Taste Tempters 11:00am	9 Ocala York Rite Council Meeting Plantation Masonic Club 11:00am At Plantation Oaks Restaurant	10	11 Triangle Commandery No. 28 7:30 pm @ Eustis Lodge	12 Tall Cedars, No. 200 at Leesburg 10:30 am
13 Sunday Dinner 11:30 — 1:15 pm Steak & Baked Potatoes, Salad, Dessert and Drinks	14 Mid-Florida Lakes Hi-12 meets at Mid-Fla. Lakes Clubhouse at 11:30 am Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm	15 Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8:00 am Leesburg Stated Meeting 7:30pm	16 District Association Umatilla 7:30 pm	17 Tavares Hi-Twelve Golden Coral Eustis 11:00 am	18 Golden Triangle Council & Chapter 7:30 pm @ Eustis	19
20	21 DeMolay Chapter Meeting 7:30 pm at Eustis Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm	22 Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8 am Hawthorne Hi-12 Taste Tempters 11:00am	23 Ocala York Rite Commandery - 7:30p District Instruction To be Announced 7:30 pm	24 Leesburg Hi-Twelve Club, Meeting at Taste Tempters 9:00am	25	26
27	28 Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm	29	30			



## CHIPS FROM THE CHISEL

For anything to become a way of life we don't study something just once and be set for life.

The more time we spend studying and absorb-

ing the underlying lessons available to the Mason from all the allegories and symbolism of the Craft, the deeper our awareness and understanding of them will become.

And the deeper our awareness becomes, the more consistent we will be in reflecting that awareness in our actions.

Rabbi Yitzchak Berkowitz – paraphrased



## TRESTLE BOARD SPONSORS

YOUR NAME HERE - INDIVIDUAL OR COUPLE FOR ONLY \$20.00

*Current year or any part thereof - HELP US KEEP YOU INFORMED!*



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 Garth & Molly Phillips  
 Dean & Linda Sever  
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 Richard Tanner  
 W.: Forest & Anne Case  
 John Parfumore  
 M.: W.: Joseph & Anna Brearley  
 Richard & Frances Cartier  
 Randy & Joye Jesmok  
 Tavares Masonic Hi-12 Club  
 Irvin & Dorothy Creed  
 Tom & Bev Wright  
 Arnold Arthurton

Betsy Jordan  
 Delores Duff  
 Gene & Dolores White  
 Leo Blum  
 R.: W.: Kenneth Graves  
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W.: Tom & Lynn Russell  
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 Richard Tanner  
 Patrick Brunt  
 Dallas Douma

R.: W.: Joe Price  
 A Kitchen Helper  
 Ed & Cathy Sowden  
 Joseph Schlegel  
 Michael Maravich  
 Ken Hamilton  
 Ray & Jan Trudeau  
 Bob Rowden

Plantation Masonic Club  
 Pedro Perez  
 David Otteni  
 W.: Dr. Ronald & Cele Cottman  
 Pete & Nancy Taylor  
 W.: Edwin & Wanda Robbins  
 W.: Frank & Pat Peregrin  
 Hawthorne Hi -12

*If you would like to be a sponsor in 2010, please see the secretary with your donation. Your donations are applied to the monthly mailing costs of the Trestle Board, we need 60 sponsors to cover the yearly mailing costs. Sponsorship is \$20.00.*

**Editors Note:** All articles and information for publication must be received by the editor prior to the 15th of the publishing month for inclusion in the next issue. Articles can be e-mailed to Larry Duff at [Ldduff@comcast.net](mailto:Ldduff@comcast.net)

# MASONIC EDUCATION & DISCUSSION

*Seek to mentor a Brother Mason: It's good for him, it's good for you, and it's good for Freemasonry!*

"An Educated Mason Is A Dedicated Mason" and a dedicated Mason will ensure the perpetuation of our fraternity.



## EARLY MASONIC PRAYERS

The following information comes from the 7 volume set of Mackey's Revised History of Freemasonry - Clegg edition; by Robert Ingham Clegg. There are at least 2 revised editions of Mackey's History of Freemasonry. Some think the Clegg edition gives much more detail than the other editions. However, for the Masonic student the original as well as the Singleton and Clegg edition are all quite useful.

Below are included some segments of text from pages 692 & 693 of volume 3 of the Clegg edition. If you have access to this set you will enjoy reading the 'preceding chapter' Brother Clegg mentions below.

"The use of prayer in the Scottish Lodges of the 17th century is not a supposition. That is proved by actual records. Brother Lyon, in his invaluable work, to which we have been almost wholly indebted for the facts in the present and the preceding chapter, supplies us with two forms of prayers, one 'to be said at the convening,' and the other 'to be said before dismissing.' Both are taken from the minute-books of Mary's Chapel Incorporation for the year 1699."

"Oh Lord, we most humbly beseech thee to be present with us in mercy, and to bless our meeting and hail (whole) exercise which wee now have in hand. O Lord, enlighten our understanding and direct our hearts and minds, so with thy good Spirit, that wee may frame all our purposes and conclusions to the glory of thy name and the welfare of our Brethren; and therefore O Lord, let no partial respect, neither of freed (enmity) nor favor, draw us out of the right way. But grant that we may ever so frame all our purposes and conclusions to the glory of thy name and the welfare of our Brethren. Grant these things, O Lord, unto us, and what else thou sees more necessary for us, and that only for the love of thy dear son Jesus Christ, our alone Lord and Savior; To whom with thee, O Father, and the blessed Spirit of

Grace, Wee render all praise, honor and glory, for ever and ever. Amen."

"The Second Prayer, or that used at the dismissal of closing of the Lodge is as follows:

"Oh Lord, wee most humbly acknowledge the goodness in meeting with us together at this tyme, to confer upon a present condition of this world. O Lord, make us also study heaven and heavenly mindedness, that we may get our souls for a prey, and O Lord, be with us and accompany us the rest of this day, now and forever. Amen."

"The importance of this record of prayers at opening and closing in the Scottish Lodges, is that it adds great force to the claim that a similar custom existed in the English Lodges at the same period."

"Therefore we may fairly conclude that it was the practice of the Scottish Lodges of the 17th century to open and close their meetings with prayer, a ceremony that we have reason to infer was also practiced by the English Lodges of the same period."

*Note:*

Prior to the formation of the Premiere Grand Lodge in 1717 (The Grand Lodge of England), which phrased what we now know as Anderson's Constitutions, and which opened up the door for admittance of men other than that of the Christian religion, the craft of operative Masons was predominately Christian; The predominately Christian population of the Craft could have been because of the customs of the population in which the operative Masons lived and operated. And it could be that for this same reason it remained as such during the period of transition from purely operative Lodges to accepting non-operatives into their Lodges. The earliest records of accepting non-operatives into the Masonic Lodges of the 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> centuries come from Scotland, and the earliest is dated in 1598.

Regarding the prayers above: it is thought that the Lodges in England also opened and closed their Lodges with prayers, but the information above is an account of the earliest known record of such, and that record comes from Scotland too.

A Masonic Student can not do any better than

reading in these 'old' Masonic books. Many Lodge libraries, and most if not all Masonic Libraries have copies of them on hand for reading.



## ARK OF THE COVENANT

*By: Ed Halpaus*

*Grand Lodge of A.F. & A. M. of Minnesota*

In Blue Lodge Masonry we learn that a Lodge should be situated due East and West because that was the way Moses set the Tabernacle that God had instructed him to build. The Tabernacle was a place for the Priests to worship, and for the people to offer sacrifices as well as a place to house the Ark of the Covenant.

We don't hear much about the Ark of the Covenant in the Three Degrees of Masonry, except that it was placed in the Sanctum Sanctorum of King Solomon's Temple. However those who pursue other degrees will find the Ark of the Covenant mentioned more in those degrees.

As long as I mentioned other degrees I will comment that in Freemasonry we say there is no higher degree than that of Master Mason, which is true; however there are other degrees such as the degrees contained in the Scottish and York Rites of Masonry, which will give the Masonic Student much more to learn and apply when it comes to studying Freemasonry. If you would like to know more about those degrees, so that you can enjoy Masonry more, check with some of your Lodge Brothers about the York and Scottish Rites, I'm sure they will be pleased to tell you about them.

The Ark of the Covenant was constructed according to God's directions given to Moses. The Ark was constructed by Bezaleel and Aholiab. The Ark of the Covenant is referred to in the Bible by other names as well; The Ark of the Testimony, The Ark of the Covenant of the Lord, The Ark of the Lord God of Israel, and The Ark of God, to name some of them. The various names applied to the Ark of the Covenant indicate the high veneration in which the Ark was held by the people.

Among ancient people an ark was thought of as a symbol of the receptacle of life, and the interior of the ark symbolized the place where life came into being, so the Ark of the Covenant therefore was held in great reverence as the Holy of Holies and it should be kept in a

sacred place such as the Tabernacle or Temple.

When we think of the Ark of the Covenant and the Tabernacle in the Wilderness we will remember that there was a cloud called The Shekinah. It first appeared when Moses consecrated the Tabernacle and then it appeared upon the consecration of the Temple of Solomon. The Shekinah is a visible cloud of light; it is a symbol of Divinity or Divine Glory, but as the true glory of Divinity is truth and righteousness therefore Divine Truth is The Shekinah of Masonry. "As the disappearance of The Shekinah from the Ark of the Covenant of the Israelites signified the withdrawal of the divine presence, and was accompanied by disaster and destruction, so in like manner the disappearance of Divine Truth and Righteousness from Masonry would presage the same sad ending of this order." "Masonry is not a mere social institution. Its antiquity, its universality, and its active vitality under widely divergent conditions seem to prove that it was founded and continued under Divine Approval. It is for us to see to it that we do not, like the Israelites, become self-confident by reason of our strength and prosperity and wander away to strange gods and thus lose our Shekinah, our Divine Presence, and come to destruction."

"Among all ancient races the ark was a symbol of salvation, its preservation implied safety, sanctifying the nation who honored it as the abiding place of Divine wisdom and power."

To the Mason the word Ark suggests a mystery; an Arcanum or Arcana which are Latin words meaning secrets or mysteries. "The Ark symbolizes the Divine Presence manifesting in us. The ark of the living temple-Man – is the soul, and between the mystic Cherubim (will and intellect) the Most High reveals himself to the true initiate. The ark was made of Acacia wood and Acacia is the symbol of eternity. The ark was overlaid with plates of gold, and gold is the emblem of the Sun, and the Sun is the ancient symbol of Deity."



## DEGREES and LIFE

*By: M. · W. · Dewey H. Wolstein*

*Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia*

We cannot introduce innovations in Masonry. However, this does not mean that we cannot put something of ourselves into Masonry. It is the responsibility and duty of everyone who has a part in conferring the

degrees to not only speak the words but to deliver their meanings. His own heart must reach the heart of the candidate. Together with the words there must be a feeling that the lessons are not related to life, but are life.

Moral lessons are taught men by good mothers and good fathers. Men are morally qualified before they are qualified to become Masons. The great purpose of Masonry then is to make possible a system of moral development which will widen the path of improvement. When the lessons of Masonry fail in the objective of creating a living philosophy, a philosophy that helps to make life a richer, fuller experience, then the greatest good is lost.

A great poem becomes even greater when one takes the time and effort to study the state of mind of the author, and to more clearly understand the thought and inspiration behind the printed words.

So it is with the lessons of Masonry. We must take that which is warm, pulsating, alive, and drive it into the heart of the candidate.



## KEEP THE "GREAT" LIGHTS IN SIGHT

Some things we might think should be known by every Freemason aren't always as well known as we think. In the United States, and maybe some other countries, the Three Great Lights of Masonry are disposed upon an Altar in the center of the Lodge Room. Some are surprised to learn that the protocol of not walking between the Master of the Lodge and the altar, so as to even temporarily block his view of the Three Great Lights, is not always known by every Freemason.

A Mason isn't likely to know this unless he is either very observant or he has a mentor to inform him of such things. Informing a Brother of what he should know about Masonry is very important. Just as it is important to inform a Brother about the rule of not walking between the altar and the Master when the Lodge is at labor it is also important to explain why there is this protocol.

The simple explanation is that the Master must keep the Three Great Lights in his view when he presides, so that he can draw inspiration and wisdom from them as he presides.

I often wonder what each Mason in the Lodge Room thinks of when he hears that short explanation

and I also wonder if he gets the opinion that having the Great Lights in view is only important for the Master. What do we, as Brethren who attend the Lodge Communication, either as a side-liner, or an officer, think about having the Three Great Lights in our view? Do we think on those things, think enough to draw inspiration to assist us in subduing our discordant passions?

The design, or layout, of a Lodge Room for a communication as an Oblong Square with all the officers and Brethren arranged on the outside border of this oblong square we all have the Three Great Lights in view. And with but a few exceptions our view of the Three Great Lights is not interrupted, so we do know they are there and can look at them if we wish. We can, as the Master does, draw on the lessons of the Holy Bible, Square, and Compass, while we are in Lodge and have the opportunity to interact with our Brethren, as well as to keep the lessons of The Great Lights in mind when speaking and voting.

I once met a Mason who was wearing a Masonic ring that I thought was about the best Masonic ring I ever saw; it had The Three Great Lights on it: It depicted the Volume of Sacred Law open with the Square and Compass disposed upon it. I thought if I ever see one like that for sale I sure would be tempted to buy it, but I haven't ever seen one elsewhere, and I neglected to ask him where he got it. But a ring like that could serve a Mason well in continually reminding him of the important lessons contained in The Great Light, and in the symbolism of the other two Great Lights.

To me seeing the altar with The Three Great Lights disposed upon it, and seeing, in my mind's eye that ring, gets me to thinking about all there is to know about The Three Great Lights of Masonry. There is a lifetime worth of beneficial study for the Mason who wants to learn everything he can from these Three Great Lights. It's my opinion, and maybe mine alone, since I've never seen anyone else write about it, that all of us in the Lodge could look at the altar and The Three Great Lights, and think about them before we get up to interact in the Lodge.

When we enter the Oblong Square we know as the Lodge Room, it seems that it might be a good idea to leave the cares, and concerns of the everyday world outside of the Lodge Room door, and spend a few minutes in silence meditating on Freemasonry; the tenets and virtues might be a good place to start. Then when the



opening ceremonies begin and the Great Lights are disposed maybe for the moments the others finish their duties we can view the Great Lights and be reminded of the lessons Masonry passes on to us about each one of them.

After we pray and conclude the final moments of the opening ceremony by the Pledge to the Flag, (at least here in the U.S.), if we do our best we might be able to keep the precepts enjoined by the Three Great Lights in mind as we proceed in all our doings. And if we're diligent the lessons and precepts of the Three Great Lights and the other lessons of Freemasonry will be in our minds and doings outside of the Lodge too.

A friend and Brother mentioned recently about some Lodge Communications when some important subjects were discussed that discussions became heated. We would all prefer to avoid heated discussions in Lodge as well as elsewhere, but being human beings we don't always do what we would prefer. However, the design of the Masonic institution can help us avoid heated discussions. Again if we keep in mind how the Lodge Room is laid out with one Mason (the Master) in charge, with all discussion directed to him, and The Three Great Lights in our view as we sit or rise to speak in Lodge, we might be able to keep any discordant passions from rising to the top.

Another important protocol to observe is that in Lodge we are not supposed to talk amongst each other; not even to answer a question that has been posed by a Brother sitting anywhere other than the Master's chair; when we rise to speak, we don't speak until we are recognized by the Master, and when we are recognized we speak to the Master on the question or matter before the Lodge, not to another Brother. If we answer a question posed by anyone other than the Master we still address the Master to answer it. Speaking to the Master, (so all can hear,) helps us stay cooler than if we were to look at another Brother who we might not feel all that Brotherly towards at the moment.

Pondering and studying all that we can wonder and learn about in Freemasonry will help us become the better men we wanted to become when we began our Masonic journey. A truism that one can hear in many houses of worship is this: "If you can ignore something, you don't really know it, you don't really understand it, and you haven't really internalized it." As far as Freemasonry is concerned if this is the case, the Mason hasn't

begun to have a learning make a positive change in his life: Masonry is a way of life, but to make it so we need to study it, know it, understand it, internalize it, so we can apply it to our life. Then the individual Mason will see some positive changes.

For anything to become a way of life we don't study something just once and be set for life. The more time we spend studying and absorbing the underlying lessons available to the Mason from all the allegories and symbolism of the Craft, the deeper our awareness and understanding of them will become. And the deeper our awareness becomes, the more consistent we will be in reflecting that awareness in our actions. Rabbi Yitzchak Berkowitz – paraphrased



## THE PERFECT LODGE

*(Author Unknown)*

I think that I shall never see  
A lodge that's all it ought to be;  
A lodge whose members never stray  
Beyond the straight and narrow way.

A lodge that has no empty chairs  
Whose Master shows he really cares;  
A lodge where attitudes are never bleak,  
Where none are proud and all are meek.

Where members never peddle lies  
Or make complaints or criticize;  
Where all are always fair and kind  
And to all others faults are blind.

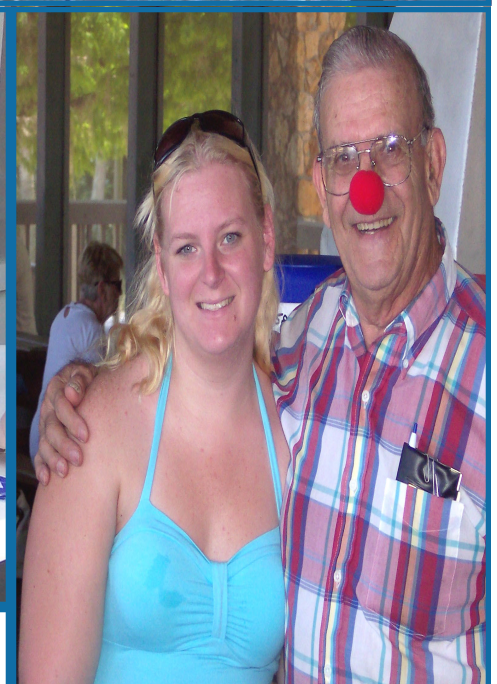
Such perfect lodges there may be  
But none of them are known to me;  
Yet, still I'll work and pray and plan  
To make **MY LODGE** the best I can!

### Words to live by:

You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives.



# 2010 18th MASONIC DISTRICT PICNIC



SEE YOU NEXT YEAR





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*Celebrating 142 years (1868 — 2010)  
 in Leesburg, Fla. "The Lakefront City"*

*SUNDAY DINNER — JUNE 13th, 2010*

*11:30 a.m. TO 1:15 p.m.*

*Menu items :*

*STEAK - New York Strip or Chicken Breast  
 Baked Potato, Mixed Vegetables, Dinner Roll,  
 Salad, Deserts (Sugar and Sugar Free) and Drinks*

Suggested donation \$8.00 per person.



Please call the Lodge, or sign the guest list in the foyer, and provide the number of guests attending with you, this ensures enough food is prepared for all. **ALL MASON**S, their families, friends and guests are invited to our Second Sunday Dinners and Tuesday breakfasts. Menu items subject to change due to availability and cost.



**HELP THE CHARITY FUND  
 LEESBURG 58 COFFEE CUPS**

W.· Richard Ecott (Jr. Past) purchased 150 coffee cups. These cups are cobalt blue with a gold square and compass and Leesburg 58 embossed on them. The cups are available for a donation of \$7.00 each. Your donation will be deposited into the Charity Fund for charitable projects by the Lodge. Get one while they last and help someone in need.