

# The Waller Mason Lodge #808 Online Newsletter



The Waller Masonic Lodge Buildings From December 30, 1897 To The Present

**Worshipful Master Jason Tones - Editor John "Corky" Daut**  
**The June 2015 Issue**

## **It's Happening at Waller Lodge**

The Stated Meeting June 9, 2015 included some major changes for Waller lodge. Of course it is a major change for almost every Lodge when the new officers for the next Masonic year are elected and appointed. After the New Officers Initiation Ceremony on July 18, 2015 Waller Lodge will open with some new faces. The new slate of officers is;

Worshipful Master – Matthew Gass	Junior Deacon – Robert Wiggins
Senior Warden – Robert Podvin	Chaplain – Doyle Sitton
Junior Warden – Richie Frank	Master of Ceremonies – Calvin Trapp
Treasurer – Robert Cox	Senior. Steward – N/A
Secretary – Bart Harvey	Junior. Steward – Adam Harvey
Senior Deacon – AJ Ward	Tiler – Jimmy Hooper

I think the major change for Waller Lodge however, was an increase in the price for an Endowed Membership. When the Endowed Membership was introduced by the Grand Lodge of Texas, the price was \$500.00, roughly 10 times the annual membership fee at the time. So, for the cost of ten years of annual dues you bought a life time membership.

Any member with fifty years' service as a Mason no longer has to pay annual dues. So, if you were raised at age 21 and buy an Endowed Membership for the price of ten years dues you would have a forty year free ride.

Over the years however, the annual dues have slowly increased to try and keep up with the rising cost of living to \$100.00 annually. At the present annual dues rate, the Grand Lodge would have \$500.00 to invest and the Blue Lodge would have gained maybe \$1,000.00 from forty years of interest and lost \$4,000.00 in annual dues. But, then we also remember years when interest income was down and the Blue Lodges got nothing and Endowed Members were ask to donate annual dues anyway to help the lodge.

For these reasons a motion was made and passed unanimously to increase the price of Endowed Membership to \$1,000.00, the price of 10 years annual dues as it was original designed.

Both the Grand Lodge and the Blue Lodge will be able to earn twice the interest on future Endowed Memberships and the member will still be able to have a 40 year free ride for only a thousand dollars and still save three thousand dollars. What a deal.

And some of us Endowed Members still donate a hundred dollars every year anyway to help out with the loss of dues. My thought is that my Endowed Membership will continue to help the Lodge long after I am gone. *Corky*

## Masonic Anniversaries

	<u>Years</u>
James B. Haney	59
Edward M. Locklear	32
Zane Williamson	14
Robert Podvin	12
Jason Wade	06

## Happy Birthday Brothers

	<u>Age</u>
Carl G. Miller	83
Danny R. Williamson	67
Matthew Gass	38

## Waller Lodge Notices

Waller Lodge will be holding an open meeting Officer Imitation Ceremony on Saturday July 18, 2015. Bring the family and friends. Dinner at 6:00 pm and ceremony at 7:00pm.

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Waller Lodge will hold an Master Mason Degree on Monday July 13, 2015, Dinner at 6:00 pm and Degree at 7:00pm. All Brothers are ask to attend the study nights to help make this degree a great one.

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Waller Lodge will not have a study night session on July 22, 2015.

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## Say What???

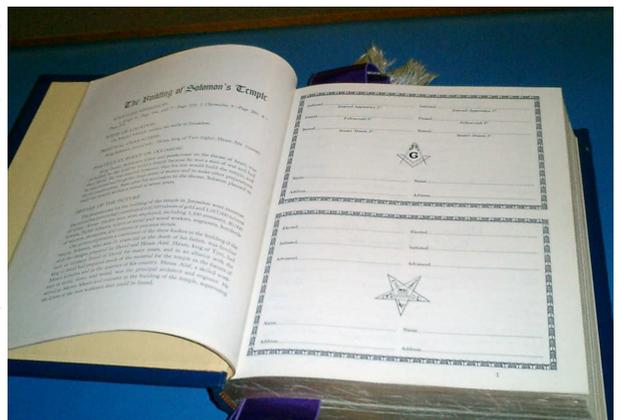
By Corky

Despite my advanced age, I have only been a Mason for a little over 22 years. However, I have been a member of 4 different Lodges, the Scottish Rite and the Shrine and visited many different Texas Lodges. I have held almost every Lodge office including Worshipful Master and was an officer in the local M.W. & S. Association and I have never seen a copy of Albert Pike's Morals and Dogma. And the only place I have ever heard of it is when it's quoted by anti-Masons and then it's usually the fake version hoax perpetuated by Leo Taxil to embarrass the Catholic Church. Morals and Dogma is supposed to be "The Masonic Bible" according to anti-Masons.

My Masonic Bible is a King James version with a couple of extra printed pages in the front to record major events and dates of my personal history as a Freemason.

One of the Church's complaints is that Freemasonry doesn't teach about Jesus Christ. No we don't and any person with reasonable intelligence should realize that if we did then we would be a religion which we are not. The only thing I have ever seen or heard religious in a lodge meeting is seeing the open bible on the alter and hearing an opening and closing prayer. And, since Grand Lodge law forbids discussing religion in a Lodge, it makes it a little hard to teach any kind of religion.

Another thing Masonry is condemned for is that we are taught we should do good works. A



quick search on Google titled "Judged by good works in the bible" revealed 101 references. So it seems that good works is more important than the Catholic hierarchy wants its followers to believe.

One of the favorite charges anti-Masons love to bring against Masonry is that Masons have a different God of their own, called GAOTU or The Great Architect Of The Universe. The phrase, Great Architect of the Universe, came into Freemasonry as early as 1723, according to Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia, when it appeared in James Anderson's Book of Constitutions. Anderson, a Scottish Presbyterian minister in London however, did not invent the phrase.

The phrase, Great Architect of the Universe, was repeatedly used by Reformed theologian John Calvin (1509-1564). In his Commentary on Psalm 19, John Calvin states "The heavens were wonderfully founded by the Great Architect." Again, according to the same paragraph, Calvin writes "When once we recognize God as the Architect of the Universe, we are bound to marvel at his Wisdom, Strength, and Goodness."

Anyone with normal intelligence would have to acknowledge that the term, "The Great Architect of the Universe" was not an invention of Masonry since it first appeared about 200 years before Freemasonry even existed. And it was in the writings of one of the most important "Christians" of the Reformation.



## Old Tiler Talks

### Those Disclosures

By Carl Claudy

"I have just visited the Masonic library," began the New Brother, excitedly, "and I am much distressed."

"It is a shame," answered the Old Tiler, sympathetically. "It is the best we can do, as we can only afford just so much and so we haven't all the books we want. Even so there is a lot of good reading there and..."

"That isn't the trouble!" cried the New Brother. "What worries me is the apathetic attitude of the authorities of Masonry who permit so many books to be written about our secrets! I skimmed through some and all a man not a member of the lodge need do is read a few and he will know more Masonry than I do!"

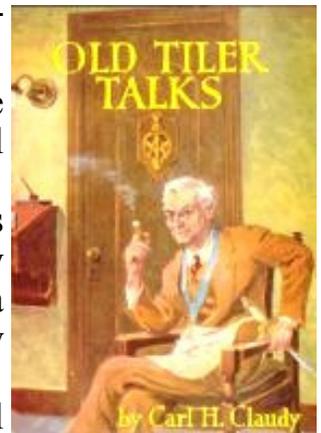
"That is probably true!" smiled the Old Tiler. "But what of it? He will then be a well-informed man. You will remain ill-informed. Surely it is better to have well-informed profanes and ill-informed Masons than have both profane and Mason badly informed!"

"But the profane will learn our secrets! Where will we be when we have no secrets? How can Grand Lodge authorities allow brethren to publish what they have sworn never to reveal?"

"Oh! what makes you think these books contain secrets?"

"Why, I read them! There was one book which had an account of the great lights, and another which talked about Jachin and Boaz, and another which referred to the drama of Hiram Abif, and another which quoted old obligations at length to show the genesis of Masonic obligations and..."

"You are somewhat in the dark regarding the secrets of Freemasonry," observed the Old Tiler. "You can read of Jachin and Boaz, and Hiram in the Bible and the old obligations were



printed long before they were incorporated in Freemasonry. The secrets of Freemasonry are not disclosed in the printed works of Masonic students. You are not to reveal anything not proper to be made known. You are not to describe the Masonic initiation. You are not to divulge the modes of recognition. But nowhere in any obligation of any degree in Freemasonry will you find any prohibition against teaching the principles of Masonry, or explaining the symbolism by which Masonry reveals her gentle teachings.

"In books learned Masons have expounded for you and me something of the meaning of Freemasonry; what it is all about, what it teaches, why it exists, what it can accomplish. It is not necessary to make a secret out of knowledge. It is not necessary that Masonry keep to herself the philosophy of conduct, morality, upright living, brotherhood, she has developed. That is for the world to read if it will. The pity of it is that so few will; that so many rob themselves of their Masonic birthright and refuse to read what has been written for them.

"Masonry is a far greater subject than most members of the fraternity know. The majority of us take the three degrees and stop. Not for us is there symbolism. Not for us is there an intimate intertwining between our order and the wise men, the knowledge of the past. Not for us is Masonry a welding together of the underlying principles which animate all religion, with the dogma left out. Not for us is there a literature, a tradition, a history. We let it all go by the board, content to wear a pin and pay dues and vote for a new Master...and call ourselves Masons.

"But a few of us in every lodge are not satisfied merely to be members; we want to be Masons in our minds as well as the records of the lodge. So we read and study. And once in a blue moon is born a Pike or a Pound, a Haywood or a Newton, a Mackey or a McBride, who interprets through the greatness of his vision that you and I may catch at least a glimpse of the vastness which is Freemasonry.

"They do that in books, but none tells what he has sworn never to reveal... why should he? But he explains the meaning of that which is hidden, so that we who have the key may understand. The trouble with our Masonic books is not that they tell which should not be told, but that we are not rich enough in our lodge to buy enough of the expositions of Freemasonry to educate all our brethren.

"Go back to that library. Take one or two books home with you. Read and reflect. When you find the Masonic author who has violated his obligation, show it to me, because I am an old, old man and I have heard of this forsworn author all my life, but I have never found him!"

"I'm going," answered the New Brother, "I wish I had more sense!"

"I don't!" came the smiling answer. "If you knew much there'd be no point in talking to you, and think of the fun we'd both lose!"

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## **Surviving The Big Ones**

By Corky

The big ones for me were that 16 year period between the Great Depression and World War II. Being born in 1928, I grew up during the hard times between the stock market crash of 1929 and the end of World War II in 1945. Then came working and raising a family.

I was watching Nellie doing the wash the other day. After the washer finished it's automatic cycle she opened the lid and lifted the damp clothes about two feet and poked them in the dryer door on her fancy stackable washer-dryer combination. That made me remember

when it wasn't that easy.

One of my earliest memories of mama working was on Monday mornings when she did our laundry. I mean, I know I had seen her doing other things all my life but they didn't register in my young mind as work.

Every Monday morning she would get the three tin washtubs down from their nails on the side of the garage and place them side by side on the wooden bench that dad had built in the back yard. I hated that backyard, it was too little to play in and its main feature was a small willow tree that mama let grow so he would have a supply of switches. Anyway, she would fill the first one up with hot water, carrying it a bucket full at a time from the faucet inside at the kitchen sink. We were modern city folk in 1933 and our rented house had a real natural gas fired water heater mounted up on the wall in the kitchen. And, of course, being city folk we didn't have a big black cast iron wash pot in the back yard to boil the clothes in.

She filled the other two tubs with cold water from the backyard tap. Then she would pour a little bluing into the third tub. I always ask why she made the water blue. And she always answered it was to make the clothes whiter. You know, that answer didn't make much sense to a five year old. In fact, it still doesn't to a seventy one year old. She would put the white clothes in the tub of hot water and stand the corrugated metal wash board in the tub. Then she would lay the first piece of wet laundry on the wash board and rub it vigorously with the big bar of P and G soap before rubbing the article against the washboard's surface. Then she would jog it up and down in the water to get as much soap out as possible before twisting it as tight as possible to get all the water out.

Then she repeated the jogging up and down in the second tub of clear water. She would go through the wringing twisting again before dropping it in the third tub with the bluing water. More jogging and wringing and drop the article in the wash basket to be hung on the clothesline later. The clothesline was the first invented solar clothes drier. Before that you hung them on the nearest bushes. Then this routine was repeated with each article of laundry, slowly working through the piles of laundry that was sorted by colors and types, until she was finished.

I must have been about eleven or twelve when the big truck backed into our driveway and unloaded the brand new wringer type washing machine and the set of two wash tubs mounted on a roll around stand. I don't remember if mama cried at the sight of the "fancy new machine" or not, but do I know she was happy enough to. The new washer and tubs sat on the tiny screened porch off the kitchen and mama could wash under a roof and didn't have to carry the water so far. In the really cold weather she would roll the washing and tubs into the kitchen and do the washing in the warmth of the house.

With the new system she still sorted the clothes and still put bluing in the second rinse water. She could sit back and listen to Stella Dallas on the radio while the washer in the washing machine did the job she used to do on the old rub board. When the load finished washing she would pick up each piece one at a time and run it through the power wringer. No more jogging and twisting. The washer was positioned beside the rinse tubs so that the clothes fell in the rinse water as they came out of the wringer. Then she would turn the wringer to where it was centered over the two tubs. She jogged the clothes up and down a few times and run them through the wringer again, to fall into the bluing colored rinse water. After another jogging the clothes up and down a few times, they were run through the wringer again to fall into the clothes basket.



*Corky Back Then*

About 1949 dad finally bought her an automatic washer. We built a big washroom and storage room with a concrete floor behind the garage to house the new machine. Of course it had to be bolted to the floor to keep it from jumping around the washroom during the spin cycle, but all she had to do was put them in and take them out. She still hung them on a clothesline to dry, but she always liked the warm fresh smell of sun dried clothes.

You know, I really felt good when mama finally got a stackable washer and dryer in the house a couple of years before she died.

Oh yes, before I forget, Nellie and I inherited the old wringer washer and tubs after we got married in 1949 and used them until I was drafted into the army in 1952. Nellie's mother got the machine and tubs after that and continued to use them for many years.

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## **Why Not, The Knights Templar?**

By John "Corky" Daut P.M.

Since no historian, Masonic or non-Mason, knows the true beginnings of Freemasonry, why is it hard for so many historians to believe that Freemasonry was an alternative continuation or conversion of the Knights Templar? Actually a few historians did, such as John Robinson in Born in Blood and Dr. Robert Lomas in The Origins of Freemasonry

The following are some of the pieces of evidence that all Masons should consider.



On Friday the thirteenth of October 1307, Jaques de Molay Grand Master of the Templars, and sixty of his senior knights were arrested in Paris: simultaneously many thousands of other Templars were arrested throughout the realm of France. A few escaped arrest and once the word got out the remainder simply fled.

Immediately after the first arrests the King's agents visited the Templar treasury. The great treasure which was the objective of outlawing and arresting the Templars, had vanished without trace, as had almost the entire Templar fleet French Masonic ritual indicates that Scotland was designated as the place of refuge or safe keeping for the Templar treasures.

In 1312, after the Council of Vienne, and under extreme pressure from King Philip IV, Pope Clement V issued an edict officially dissolving the Order. Many kings and nobles who had been supporting the Knights up until that time, finally acquiesced and dissolved the orders in their fiefs in accordance with the Papal command. Most, however, were not so brutal as the French. In England many Knights were arrested and tried, but not found guilty. And a few Templars had a relative safe haven in Scotland, since Robert the Bruce, the King of Scots, had already been excommunicated for other reasons, and was therefore not disposed to pay heed to Papal commands.

The layout of Rosslyn Chapel near Edinburgh Scotland, which was started in 1440, is an exact replica of the ground plan of the Third King Solomon's Temple, built in Jerusalem by Herod and destroyed in the First Century by the Romans.

Rosslyn Chapel was built by Sir William St Clair Last St Clair Jarl of Orkney. He was a direct descent of William de St Clair, the Last Temple Grand Master of Scotland to house artifacts brought by the Knights Templar to Scotland in 1126. Between 1118 and 1128 the Templars excavated the ruins of Herod's Temple in Jerusalem. This was proven in 1860 the British Army Engineers mounted an expedition to Jerusalem. They excavated beneath Temple Mount and found many deep tunnels in which they also found and recorded Templar arti-

facts.

There is a statue in the Rosslyn Chapel that was carved at the time the Chapel was being built. The figure shows a man kneeling between two pillars. He is blindfolded and has a running noose about his neck. His feet are in a strange and unnatural posture and in his left hand he holds a bible. The end of the rope about his neck is held by another man who is wearing the mantle of a Knight Templar. This was two hundred and seventy years before the claimed founding of the Craft in England.

Degrees in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite such as the Knight of Saint Andrew, the Knight of Rose-Croix, and the 32nd Degree in Consistory make reference to a "Masonic Knights Templar" connection.

**A few more thoughts;**

Why did the Templars completely disappear during the 1100's when they were in no danger in Scotland?

Why didn't Masonic Lodges develop in Europe until after they were developed in England. There were many times more Cathedrals being built in France, Spain, Portugal, and Germany and many times more stone masons in Europe?

You can understand how the Knights Templar may have required blood oaths from all members to prevent revealing any information about the order, since they were outlawed throughout the world by the Catholic Church, except in Scotland. But, why would stone masons need them to protect the secrets of building a church?

Why is the Masonic youth organization for young men, the Order of DeMolay, be named after the last Grand Master of the Templar order, Templar Jacques de Molay who was executed?

Why is the Masonic Knights Templar, one of the largest philanthropic organizations in the United States, and the largest Templar order in the world? The Order's efforts include the "Knights Templar Eye Foundation", and the "Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage".

Why is the Knights Templar the final order joined in the York Rite Masons. (Unlike other Masonic bodies which only require a belief in a Supreme Being regardless of religion, membership in Knights Templar is open only to Master Masons who promise to defend the Christian faith, as did the original Knights Templar founded in the 12th Century .)

Actually, some historians have make the connection between the Knights Templar and Masonry, such as John Robinson in Born in Blood and Dr. Robert Lomas in The Origins of Freemasonry.

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## **Is Walt Wallet Skeeze's Real Father?**

By Leon Hale

*Editor's Note; Nearly every reader of this newsletter is old enough to remember Gasoline Alley and some may even remember when it started back in 1920. It's one of my favorite comic strips and where my nick-name, "Corky" came from, back in 1928. The following story was a Leon Hale column in the Houston Post back in 1982. Leon was my favorite newspaper columnist.*

A few days before Christmas one of the customers wrote a letter to make a comment about the comic strip Gasoline Alley. Customer remembered that Skeeze Wallet was a foundling, left when a few days old on the doorstep of Walt Wallet. The comment was, "Isn't it somewhat strange that Skeeze grew up, and is now growing old, to look so much like

Walt, who is not his natural father”.

Well, actually we don't know for sure that Walt is not Skeeze's natural father. The public has assumed it all these years but the fact is we don't know who the father is. It might in fact be Walt.

Because Skeeze didn't just grow up, as the customer suggests, to look like Walt. He looked like him from the jump. Right this minute I am studying an old Gasoline Alley published when Skeeze was about 8 or 9 (I am just guessing). His profile is a carbon copy of Walt's.

Their heads are shaped almost exactly the same, and they both have that unruly cowlick at the hairline. If they are not kin, this is a great coincidence indeed.

This matter interests me because I have kept up pretty closely with Skeeze's mild adventures ever since I got the funny paper habit in the 1920s. Skeeze and I are the same age, give or take a few weeks, and that has accounted partially for my interest. Also accounting for it was the unmentioned mystery of Skeeze's origin.

Even yet I am a little intrigued by the fact that Walt was a bachelor when Skeeze was parked at his front door that time in a baby basket. That happened on Feb. 14, 1921. Walt did not get married until five years later.

Remember Phyllis Blossom? She was Walt's lady friend. Skeeze called her "Auntie Blossom" when he was a cute little kid. She and Walt were married in June of 1926 when Skeeze was 5.

I said a while ago that Skeeze's origin was not ever mentioned. It was his father who never was mentioned. The question of his real mother came up in the strip several times, early in the game.

One Mrs. Octave came ghosting onto the scene when Skeeze wasn't anything but a runny-nosed toddler and claimed she was his mother. She showed up with that claim a good many times but nothing much ever came of it. By the fall of 1924, the matter had been dropped.

I never did buy Mrs. Octave as Skeeze's real mama. But I did figure Walt for his real father and I do still.

The way I had it doped, Walt being a bachelor and all, he had sown a crop or two of wild oats and maybe he'd sired Skeeze and didn't even know it.

And the mother didn't tell Walt. Didn't tell anybody she didn't just have to tell, because in the early 1920s having babies out of wedlock wasn't anywhere near as popular as it is now.

So when the baby was born the mother stuck it in this basket and put it on Walt's doorstep and went on south. What she was saying is, "Here, it's yours, you raise it."

I had all this doped out by the time Skeeze and I were 17 years old but I didn't let on about it. You didn't speak of such matters then, except behind the barn or in the gym after basketball practice.

You may now be thinking this: If what I say is true, why didn't the pregnant party confront Walt and say, "OK, pal, I'm in the family way. Take me to the church."



Skeeze about two and Walt. They sure look kin to me.

Sure I have thought of that. And I think she didn't do that because she didn't want to marry Walt Wallet. If you will take a close look at that big dude when he was a bachelor, you might understand why. He was about 110 pounds overweight. His feet were the size of tennis rackets. He had no chin. And he wore, all the time, a silly little sailor hat about six sizes too small, so that it perched on the back of his noggin and threatened constantly to fall off.

I mean what kind of maturity could a person like that have, when he's still wearing a toy hat at age 25? I'd guess the mother asked herself, "Why should I marry that tub of lard?"

Walt Wallet turned out to be a lot more agreeable old man than he was a young one. Skeeze is a great deal like him in appearance" except he did manage to keep his weight within reason, And his feet aren't as big as Walt's. Still I have been disappointed in Skeeze. He's a hard worker and he's honest but he has become a tightwad and a griper, always singing the blues about money. I get tired hearing him.

To know all the answers about Skeeze, we would need to talk to Frank King, the cartoonist who originated Gasoline Alley. But King died in 1969. The strip was drawn now by Dick Moores until Jin Scancarelli took it over in 1986 and neither had have much to do with Skeeze or Walt.

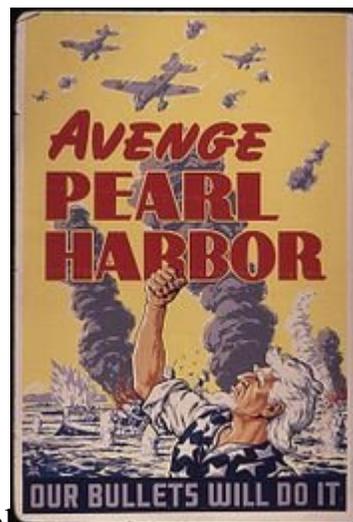
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## **Pearl Harbor - Masonic Connections**

The disastrous attack by Japan against the United States at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, resulted in some Masonic connections.

Henry C. Clausen, later to become the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction of the U.S., was assigned in 1944 by the U.S. Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson, to conduct one of the many investigations of the Pearl Harbor attack in 1941. (Lodge of the Double Headed Eagle, by William L. Fox, pages 321-322). He conducted his extensive investigation during 1944 and 1945, while he was in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the U.S. Army, a Major and then Lieutenant Colonel.

Fox said that Clausen "concluded it was absurd to assume any complicity on the part of President Roosevelt or General George C. Marshall" for the Pearl Harbor attack, but instead Clausen blamed communications problems and an unworkable system of military intelligence. (Conspiracy theorists might say that Clausen, the Freemason, found that Roosevelt and Marshall, also Freemasons, were not to blame.)



In the book *At Dawn We Slept: The Untold Story of Pearl Harbor*, by Gordon W. Prange, which is the most extensive book about the attack, the author refers to Clausen's appointment to investigate the Pearl Harbor attack saying that Stimson "had an excellent eye for a good man and could recognize efficiency when he saw it." He also says: "Clausen's judicious gaze reflected the astute lawyer which he was. Something in his eyes also revealed a touch of the mystic, a quality which led him to become a deeply committed Freemason of the thirty-third Degree." (page 668)

In Clausen's own book about his Pearl Harbor investigation, *Pearl Harbor: Final Judgment*, with Bruce Lee, published in 1992, shortly before his death, Clausen mentioned Freemasonry several times.

At pages 56-57 he wrote: "So I called upon Harry Truman and met him for the first time. He was cooperative, but stiffer and more formal than I had expected. . . he didn't respond with any enthusiasm. Then I told him: "When you were the Grand Master of the Masons in Missouri, I was

Grand Orator of the Masonic Grand Lodge of California." Hearing this, Truman literally jumped up from his chair, came around the desk and began shaking my hand vigorously. "You'll have my complete cooperation, Henry," he promised, and he immediately began to put his words into action."

At page 149 he wrote:

". . . MacArthur asked me some personal questions. I told him that when the war began, I had been the Grand Orator of the Masonic Grand Lodge of California, and I congratulated him, as I later did President Truman, on being made a thirty-third-degree Scottish Rite Mason. "He kept me in his office for nearly another hour, talking about how to expand in the Far East the moral principles of Freemasonry. Every dictator in history has tried to put the Masons out of business because they believe in freedom. MacArthur was positive that Hitler had poisoned the minds of the Japanese against the Masonic Order for this very reason, and that was why even the Constitution of Japan forbade anyone from joining the order. MacArthur promised me that if and when he got to Japan, he was going to make sure that provision was eliminated from any future Constitution. He did, too.

"Since we're talking in this fashion,' I said, 'may I tell you about the plight of some Masonic people in Manila? . . . Would there be any objection, General, to my using the military mail to send over some implements that are used to start up the Masonic Lodge, items such as rods, Bibles and so forth?' 'Absolutely not,' MacArthur said. 'I'm a Mason. My G-2, Willoughby, is a Mason. We'll make the arrangements for you.'

"Well, Willoughby went overboard. He told me to send anything I wanted. . . . MacArthur was also instrumental in getting confiscated property in Manila and Japan returned to the Masons, and the Order has had the basis to flourish in both places and inculcate the spiritual values MacArthur recommended."

Perhaps because of these comments, in Scapegoats: A Defense of Kimmel and Short at Pearl Harbor, by Edward L. Beach, the author, a retired U.S. Navy Captain, said that Clausen's book particularly faulted Admiral Kimmel and General Short for what happened at Pearl Harbor and other U.S. areas in December 1941, and laid qualified blame on President Roosevelt. (page 149)

"Significantly, he places no fault on either General Marshall or General MacArthur but took pleasure insofar as General MacArthur was concerned in the fortuitous fact that he and MacArthur were both thirty-second degree Masons. As he explains it, this fact itself exonerates MacArthur of any fault."

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**A man was stopped by a game warden in East Texas recently with two ice chests full of live fish in water, leaving a river well known for its fishing.**

**The game warden asked, "Do you have a license to catch those fish?"**

**"Naw, my friend, I ain't got no license. These here are my pet fish."**

**"Pet fish?"**

**"Yep. Every night I take these fish down to the river and let 'em swim' round for a while. Then I whistle and they jump right back into this ice chest and I take 'em home."**

**"That's a bunch of BS! Fish can't do that!"**

**The redneck looked at the game warden for a moment and then said, "It's the truth. I'll show you if you want me too. It really works."**

**"Okay, I've GOT to see this!"**

**The Texan poured the fish into the river and stood and waited. After several minutes, the game warden turned to him and said, "Well?"**

**"Well, what?" said the redneck.**

**"When are you going to call them back?"**

**"Call who back?"**

**"The FISH!"**

**"What fish?"**