

February, 2010

STEPHEN D. VINING, P.M. SECRETARY

WORSHIPFUL MASTER 517-787-8438

MICHAEL E. HICKS

Temple Location - 355 Napoleon Rd. Michigan Center, MI *CONSTITUTED 1847*

517-914-8400



Michael E. Hicks, Worshipful Master

From The

Master

Greetings Brothers!

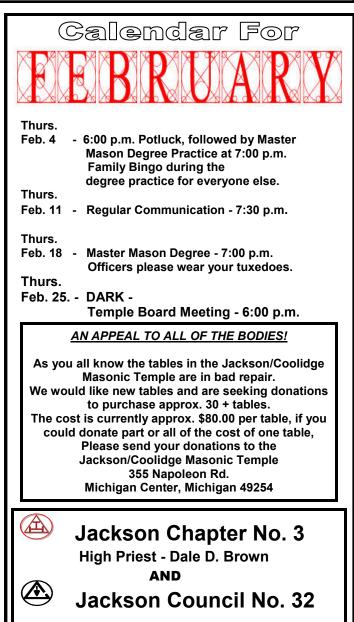
Thanks to Frank Lutze who filled in for me at the January regular meeting. Frank was suddenly asked to run the meeting and he did a fine job. Be sure to check out our website, www.Jackson17.org from time to time to see what is coming up in the months ahead. We have a couple of brothers who will have received the Fellowcraft Degree by the time you read this and will be receiving the Master Mason Degree in February. We also have a couple of potlucks scheduled in the next two months that have programs that may be helpful to you and your family. One will give you information on how to keep your assets from getting eaten up by probate court and our legal system as well as how to pass them on to your heirs without legal battles.

Freemasonry is steeped in history and mystery and is also a big seller for authors who write mysteries. If any of you have read some of the books or seen the movies that came from the books by author Dan Brown such as, The Da Vinci Code, Angels and Demons, or The Lost Symbol, you know that people like to read about the so called mysteries of Freemasonry. Of course much of the information in these books and others is completely false and mixed up, but some of it is also true. I found the books entertaining and hopefully was able to separate some of the fact from fiction. I think these books and movies give us a great opportunity to tell people about our craft, but we need to know the difference between fact and fiction. When I Googled "masonry" I had over 15 million hits on the web. That doesn't sound like there is too much of a secret now does it? Brother Steve Vining who is our webmaster has several links to websites on our own website that you should check out. When you get to those websites you will see more websites and so on and so on. Now if you are like me you just keep going and going from one to another. Check The Working Tools Masonic Magazine on the web. http://hawthornefortitude200.com/jooma/index.php? option=com frontpage&Itemid=1

You can read about famous Masons and Masons in the news at this site.

Most of us know that George Washington was a Mason and that we celebrate his birthday in February, but did you know that the poet and lyricist Robert Burns was a Mason? Burns wrote the song *Auld Lang Syne* as well as many well known poems. He was passed and raised a Master Mason on October 1, 1718 in Scotland. A number of Burn's poems have strong Masonic philosophy and ideals in them.

Dates of interest: February 19, 1909 U.S. President Harry S. Truman received his first degree in Belton Lodge #450 in Missouri. On February 19th, 1909 U.S. President William Howard Taft received his first degree in Kilwinning Lodge #535 in Cincinnati, Ohio. February 23rd Sir Author Conan Doyle, who wrote the books about Sherlock Holmes, received his 2nd degree. As you can tell I am into trivia. But trivia is also about history. Check out our history and you might be surprised as well as proud.



Thrice Illustrious Master - Thomas E. Royce

Chapter and Council Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month. 7:30 p.m.

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From The Secretary's Desk



Brothers, It is now February which means we are one month closer to Spring and warmer weather. We have started out the year with a very busy schedule. Please check the calendar and attend Lodge when you can and enjoy the fellowship and see what we have done with the new Temple. We all hope to see you soon in <u>your</u> Lodge.

> Fraternally Yours, Secretary, Stephen D. Vining, . P.M.

viningsd@comcast.net

	Jackson Commandery No. 9 February 2010
- 🖉 🖉 February 8	6:30 p.m. Drill Corp - Location TBA
February 15 -	6:30 p.m. Dinner with the ladies -
_	7:30 p.m. Stated Conclave
February 22 -	7:00 p.m. Practice—Masonic Temple
March 2 - March 16 - April 6 -	Fern Leaf #66 and Jackson County Assoc. Closed January and February 2010 Regular Meeting Regular Meeting Regular Meeting Regular Meeting Regular Meeting

