Chartered January 15, 1868

Vol. IV Issue X

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

OCTOBER 2010

Trestle Board



Leesburg Masonic Lodge 200 Richey Road, Leesburg, Florida 34748

352-787-5696

Officers for 2010

| Worshipful Master | W∴ Donald McIntyre, Sr. (Nina) 728-6954 |
|------------------------|---|
| Senior Warden | Randall Jesmok (Joye) 407-350-8284 |
| Junior Warden | Larry Duff (Brenda) 728-5270 |
| Treasurer | R∴ W∴ Ken Graves (Jean) 787-9538 |
| Secretary | Dean Sever (Linda) 787-6667 |
| | Lodge |
| Senior Deacon | Richard Cartier (Frances) 315-1886 |
| Junior Deacon | Jim Angelos |
| Senior Steward | Saul Goodkin (Joanne) 787-7403 |
| Junior Steward | Don Bierly (Elaine) 454-0164 |
| Tyler | Andy Sheffield |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| Jack 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 1 | .993/1994 |
| Don Barfield | 1996 |
| Tom Russell 1997/1 | .998/2002 |
| Mervyn Harris | 1999 |
| R∴W∴Kenneth Graves | 2000* |
| Robert H. Browning 2 | 2003/2004 |
| R∴H∴Dennis Ricker 20 | 05/2007^ |
| 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* Barry Rosenthal Wayne Parks Fred Lint Raymond D Trudeau Paul Shires M∴W∴Joseph Brearley Dennis Managan James McBride ^ Past District Instructor

18th Masonic District

* Past DDGM

| DDGM | R∴W∴ Dennis Ricker 314-0828 |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| District Instructor | R∴W∴ Glenn Reynolds 669-5226 |

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, Dick Cartier, Jim Angelos

Charity

Chairman R∴W∴ Joe Price, Dean Sever, Saul Goodkin, Fred Neilson, David Rosenthal

Catechism

Chairman Randy Jesmok, W∴ Bob Browning W∴ Roland Gibson, John Dean

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

Masonic Education

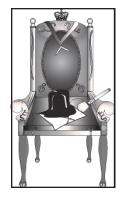
Chairman W∴ Ed Davidson, JW Larry Duff, Richard Tanner

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.





W: Donald McIntyre, Sr.

It was busy September with degree ceremonies (EA, FC & MM) having been performed combined with our normal activities.

I would like to Thank all who participated in these ceremonies and

those who attended and welcomed our new Masons and gave encouragement to those advancing in our degrees.

Congratulations to Brothers George Atz who was awarded a 60 Year Membership certificate and Pin. Receiving a 65 Year Membership Certificate and Pin was Past Master W: Carl Anzelmo. Thank You for your years of service to our fraternity and many more.

We have two new Master Masons, Brothers Brian McLaughlin and Cyril Stearns who were Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

Brothers Jason Driggers, Ronald Glover, John Moore and Eric Racine, having returned their Entered Apprentice Catechisms were passed to the Degree of FellowCraft during September. An outstanding effort was put forth by all.

And Welcome to Brother William W. Farmer who was initiated an Entered Apprentice on September

9th.. Thanks to R∴W∴ Clyde Clause who gave the Lecture and W∴ Bob Browning the Charge.

Our Meetings this month are on Tuesday, October 5th and 19th. Meetings begin at 7:30pm. In our next Trestle Board issue we will be announcing the November "Step-Up" date where the potential 2011 officers will host a meeting. The first meeting in December is election of the 2011 Officers. Make you plans to attend our meetings and help support and strengthen our Lodge.

Will be having a Lodge Work Day soon and we are in need of assistance. The work day will be announced at a Lodge Meeting and by e-mail.

October 30th is a planned Roadside Clean-Up day as part of our Community Service Projects with our sponsored Boy Scout Troop. Coffee and Donuts will be served at 8:00am. Come out and help our community while interacting with our Boy Scouts.

PETITIONS - None received this month.

CHARTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

\$400.00 was provided to the Lady Lake Little League for the fall Little League season. Leesburg Lodge now has a team who will be wearing our name on their uniforms.



From the Chaplain Brother David Rosenthal

Sickness & Distress:

On August 28, Brother Arthur Ayris (81) was called home by the Grand Architect.

Brother Saul Goodkin (Senior Steward) is at home with back problems, Brother Saul mobility is limited and getting medical evaluations for treatments.

Your cards and visitation is appreciated by all.

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.

From the Great Light - "The end of a matter is better than its beginning; patience of spirit is better than haughtiness of spirit." Ecclesiastes 7:8 NASV Tanakh (Old Testament)

Words to Live By: The wages of a Master Mason are tax free.

Words to live by: "The way to patience is to think; 'Life is made up of a series of projects and goals. I will enjoy the involvement." Rabbi Zelig Pliskin



W∴M∴ Don McIntyre, Sr. presented W∴ Carl Anzelmo with a 65 year membership award and pin. As you can see W∴ Anzelmo who is 98 years young still gets to the Lodge when he can.



FROM THE SECRETARY

Brother Dean Sever

We still have 10 Brothers who have not paid their 2010 dues, the final notice will be mailed out in October. The 2011 dues will remain the same at \$60 per year.



Next Adopt-A-Highway cleanup will be the last Saturday of the Month, Oct 30, meet at Lodge 8 am. I encourage all

Brothers to come out and be a part of this Community Service and share your gifts and talents for a few hours to the level you are able. There is a job for everyone.

Be a positive example to our Boy Scout Troop who work with us on this Community Service Project.

FROM THE SOUTH



Junior Warden Larry Duff

Did you know that the efforts of the Kitchen crew have brought in over \$2,500 in donated equipment and decorations to the kitchen thus far this year. There is more to the efforts of this years *volunteers* than just cooking and serving a meal. *COME* and be apart of *YOUR* Lodges functions.

We would like to give a Special Thanks to Lady Ginny Ricker who donated a number of decorations for our dining room.

Also a Special Thanks to the Ladies of the Ocala Chapter of the Social Order of the Beauceant (York Rite) who met and after some house cleaning of their storage facility donated a number of decorations for our use in the dining room.

Thank You Ladies all.



A SUMMER VISIT TO THE OLD TYLER

By: Thomas C. Jackson, PGM Grand Lodge of Minnesota

"Old fellow, tell me about Masonry in the Great Depression," I said, eliciting a narrowing gaze from my friend, the Old Tyler.

"Hrumph. Old!? Age is a state of mind, young feller, and I can still whoop ya good in checkers. Chess, too, or pinochle, if n I wanted ter make a point." He was right, punctuating his words by taking another black checker AND gaining a king. Sigh. I should have been watching the board more closely, but it was a fine Summer day at the Masonic Home, and I was relishing just setting a spell with my friend, off on the side veranda.

I smiled. "Wouldn't a figured you to bruise so easily! You sure you aren't getting more cantankerous, these days?"

Looking back under his furrowed brows, "Tommy, I was born cantankerous. It's made my life more interesting."

He paused, then continued, "You know, we built this place well before the Crash. Old man Johnson moved in in 1920 - he was the first, and older than me," he said with the briefest of winks, "But in good times and bad, Masons have supported it, continued building

even when times were tough, and caring for folks that has need. It's Masonry in action, it is."

"That's for sure," I said, even more mindful of that sublime fact, now that a dear friend's wife has entered hospice care. "Tender hearts and hands sure help to lighten the burden, for the patients and families alike."

Masons are never far from gentle reminders of mortality. I think it is this grounding, this acute awareness of potential and eventual loss that makes us reach out all the more diligently to care for one another. We visit the convalescing, the suffering, those on the mend, and those in the twilight. And we attend more than our share of funerals. I think this gives Masons a better sense of mindfulness of life, and helps us know better what to say, and when to hug our friends tightly. When to look them in the eye and say we care.

He drew on his cheroot, wafting a single O-ring of smoke into the breeze, long having forgotten about the game he had won. "You know, during the Depression, we knew that if our little town and folks as lived there were to make it, we simply had to help each other along. Sure, the government wanted to step in here and there, and they helped a few. But it was always a day late and a dollar short. See, a hungry child needs food that night, not content to wait 'til after the paperwork had cleared and three officials had signed off on the program."

"I recall one night, getting a call from the Master about an emergency meeting. I asked him if he wanted me to tyle the door. 'No,' he told me. 'But I want your advice. Can you join us at the Lodge tomorrow night?' Well, like you've done, he showed me he knew the way to my heart. He'd asked the Grand Master for permission to hold a special stated meeting, to discuss Billings' young wife, who had an awful time with a breech birth, and some were asking for the Lodge's help while Billings took care of her and the little one."

"Everyone cared. But no one agreed what to do. Seems some were clamoring to write a check. Others wanted to hold fast, with the Almanac telling us it was going to be a dry summer, and it looked bad for crops. The Master knew what he wanted to do, but he was smart enough to realize he had to get the consent of the lodge and pull on the reins a bit to guide her. We had a good meeting that night, Tommy, and didn't even burn through a full set of candles. See, the lodge got organized. We set up a list of folks who would

take turns bringing over meals, not all at once, tripping over each other. We wrote a check, but didn't let passion overrun us. Billings was told that if he needed more, to come and ask, but that a couple of volunteers were going to help him get his planting in and a few of the ladies would take a turn watching his wife at the house. Heh. I don't think he was alone for a month, until she was up and around."

"So, to answer your question, I think Masonry was more personal in those days. We were closer to the earth, if you get my meaning, which is a good perspective for a feller to have. Most Masons knew when to lend a hand, and a lodge would flourish in the same degree they rallied together to help their fellows."

"Mind if I tell others that story?," I asked, thinking about how uncharacteristically clear he was this time. Had he been planning to pass this advice along to the Craft? "It's a good reminder for us, in an age when our reliance on insurance, or bureaucrats, or distant programs seem to insulate us from reaching out to the folks right in front of us."

"Why do you think I tell my tales, lad?" he said, glancing at the board. "A good Old Tyler always considers a few moves ahead." A slow smile grew on his face. "Another game?"



MORAL CODE

General Douglas MacArthur Written for the Western Australian Freemason in 1950

"It embraces the highest moral laws and will bear the test of any system of ethics or philosophy ever promulgated for the uplift of man.

"Its requirements are the things that are right, and its restraints are from the things that are wrong.

"Inculcating doctrines of patriotism and brotherly love, enjoying sentiments of exalted benevolence, encouraging all that is good, kind and charitable, reprobating all that is cruel and oppressive, its observance will uplift everyone under its influence

"To do good to others, to forgive enemies, to love neighbors, to restrain passions, to honor parents, to respect authority, to return good for evil, not to cause anger, not to bear false witness, not to lie, not to steal-these are the essential elements of the moral law."



REMEMBER YOU'RE A MASON

By an Unknown Brother

When the pressures of recession Make us concentrate on greed, Take heed, a worthy Mason Cares about another's needs:

Don't let pressures of the moment Make your obligation sway, Stop and help a fallen brother Or another by the way;

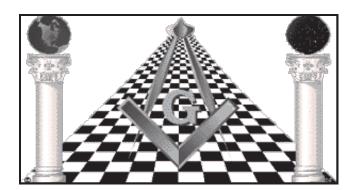
What you give is like a bubble Whenever you assist, What it costs in time and trouble Is, soon after, never missed:

Brother, bear that obligation You accepted on your knee, It's in direct relation

To your own security;

Never hesitate, my brother Square your actions now and say, "I'll remember I'm a Mason, And behave like that today;"

"With regard to human kindness And the 'Golden Rule', I pray, I'll remember I'm a Mason... And behave like that today."





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 Masonic 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 Masonic 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 Masonic 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 Masonic High Twelve meets 10:30 a.m. 1st Wednesday of each month at La Hacienda Recreation Center, The Villages. Reservations for lunch due by 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.



SUNDAY DINNER



Leesburg Lodge No. 58 October 10th, 2010 11:30 a.m. TO 1:15 p.m.



Menu

CHICKEN CORDON BLEU,

Rice, Vegetable Melody
Garden Salad, Dinner Rolls,
Drinks and Desserts
(Sugar Free / No Sugar Added)

BRING THE FAMILY, CANDY BAGS FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Suggested donation \$8.00 per Adult - 14 and under \$4.00.

Please call the Lodge at 787-5696 or sign the guest list in the foyer, and provide the number of guests attending with you, this ensures enough food is purchased and prepared for all.

ALL MASONS, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS
ARE INVITED



Tuesday Morning Coffee Klatch & Breakfast

Eggs, Pancakes, Sausages (Patty's or Links), Pancakes, Breakfast Potatoes, Grits, Sausage Gravy, Biscuits, Toast, Fruit Cup, Breakfast Dessert, Coffee, Orange Juice and lots of great Fellowship



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. the first Monday of each month, at 7:30pm. Next meeting is September 6th. Fall Reunion is scheduled for October 16th & 17th, 2010.

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 – 1st 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—Jim Stueber

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 OCTOBER 2010



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 Ocala SR 7:30 pm DeMolay 7:30 pm Eustis Lodge Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm | S Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8 am Leesburg Lodge Stated Meeting | 6 Tri-County Hi-12 La Hacienda Recreation Center, The Villages 10:30am | 7 Leesburg Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 84 - 7:30 pm | Triangle Commandery No. 28 7:30 pm @ Eustis Lodge | 9 Tall Cedars, No. 200 at Leesburg 10:30 am |
| Sunday Dinner 11:30—1:15 pm Chicken Cordon Blue w/ Rive & Veggie | 11 Mid-Florida Lakes Hi-12 meets at Mid- Fla. Lakes Clubhouse at 11:30 am Boy Scout Troop 1 | Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8:00 am Hawthorne Hi-12 Taste Tempters 11:00am | 13 Ocala York Rite (Chapter) Plantation Masonic Club 11:00am At Plantation Oaks | 14 | Golden Triangle Council & Chapter 7:30 pm @ Eustis | 16 SR Valley of Ocala Fall Festival |
| 17 SR Valley of Ocala Fall Festival | 18 DeMolay Chapter Meeting 7:30 pm at Eustis Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm | Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8 am Leesburg Lodge Stated Meeting | 20 District Association Wildwood 7:30 pm | 21 Tavares Hi-Twelve Golden Coral Eustis 11:00 am | 22 Orlando Scottish Rite 7:30 pm | 23 |
| 24 | 25 Boy Scout Troop 1 7:30pm | Coffee Klatch & Breakfast 8:00 am Hawthorne Hi-12 Taste Tempters 11:00am | Ocala York Rite Commandery District Instruction Wildwood 7:30 pm | Leesburg Hi-Twelve Club, Meeting at Taste Tempters 9:00am | 29 | 30 York Rite Super Ex- cellent Master Degree Bartow Lodge |



Those who become Freemasons only for the sake of finding out the secret of the order, run a very great risk of growing old under the trowel

without ever realizing their purpose. Yet there is a secret, but it is so inviolable that it has never been confided or whispered to anyone. Those who stop at the outward crust of things imagine that the secret consists in words, in signs, or that the main point of it is to be found only in reaching the highest degree. This is a mis-

taken view: the man who guesses the secret of Freemasonry, and to know it you must guess it, reaches that point only through long attendance in the lodges, through deep thinking, comparison, and deduction. He would not trust that secret to his best friend in Freemasonry, because he is aware that if his friend has not found it out, he could not make any use of it after it had been whispered in his ear. No, he keeps his peace, and the secret remains a secret.

Giovanni Giacomo Casanova, Memoirs, Vol. 2a, p. 33

W∴ Richard Ecott

Holt & Libby Whatley

Bob Rowden

John Gammon

Ken Hamilton

Patrick Brunt

R∴W∴Gary Smith

Jim Angelos

Joseph Schlegel Bill & Sharon Aston



TRESTLE BOARD SPONSORS

YOUR NAME HERE - INDIVIDUAL OR COUPLE FOR ONLY \$20.00 Current year or any part thereof - HELP US KEEP YOU INFORMED!



R∴W∴ J.L. "George" Aladro - Senior Grand Warden M∴W∴ Joseph & Anna Brearley

Mr. Tubalcane George Shoemaker Betsy Jordan **Delores Duff** R∴W∴Dennis & Ginny Ricker Larry & Brenda Duff

W∴ Charles & Marlene White John Dean Gene & Dolores White

Dan Bluxom W∴ Jack Holloway Leo Blum

Garth & Molly Phillips R∴W∴ Kenneth Graves Jim & Dorothy McBride Dean & Linda Sever W∴ Don & Nina McIntyre Paul & Delores Shires Richard Tanner Ken Hamilton Dick & Jackie Frazier John Parfumore

Susan Keast & Helping Hands Cleaning

W∴Forest & Anne Case

George Wikane

Richard & Frances Cartier Randy & Joye Jesmok

Tavares Masonic Hi-12 #557

Irvin & Dorothy Creed

W.: Bob & Carolyn Browning

Tom & Bev Wright R∴W: Joe Price Pedro Perez Leesburg Masonic Hi-12 #424 Arnold Arthurton W∴Tom & Lynn Russell David Octeni Plantation Masonic Club #719 Richard Tanner

R∴W∴ Ted & Marilyn Jansen W∴ Edwin & Wanda Robbins A Kitchen Helper

Ray & Jan Trudeau W∴ Bill & Nancy Green Ed & Cathy Sowden

Wil & Norma Hoehndorf Michael Maravich W∴ Dr. Ronald & Cele Cottman

Ed & JoAnne Davis Pete & Nancy Taylor W∴ Frank & Pat Peregrin

Hawthorne Masonic Hi -12 #547 Dallas Douma

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@centurylink.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!

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



PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

R∴W∴ Jorge L. Aladro Senior Grand Warden, Grand Lodge of Florida

My Dear Brothers:

It has been said many times that Freemasonry is a microcosm of society, and anyone can see the truth in this statement with just a glance. Good and bad behavior is represented in society and ours is no different.

If you look at the settlement of our country throughout our westward expansion of three and a half centuries you can see and recognize a pioneering spirit, a sense of deep commitment to succeed, were both men and women took their responsibilities seriously, life itself depended on it, failure was not an option.

This brings me to today and how much our world and our society has changed. I give thanks to my God each and everyday that we had these folks as our predecessors; which have given me a leg up, an opportunity to succeed, a place where I was free from interference, where I was the master of my future, if I only took the responsibility for my failures and success? If I applied the teachings, my parents taught me of hard work, of perseverance, of righteousness, of forgiveness, of charity, of education, of common decency, of love of God, country and fellow man, good things can and will be achieved.

Today, we have the obligation to leave a future to our successors just like our predecessors left us. However, there is a small problem, today there is a constant gambling of tomorrow's future whether it will be there or not. What is he saying? Has he gone out of his mind?

Well my Brothers the answers are simple. Look around your Lodge, is your Lodge future secure, can you see your Lodge being in existence 5, 10, 25, 50 years from now, because if you do not, than you have not secured its future for your posterity. My Brother this is your responsibility.

I want you to think carefully about the condition of your Lodge. Nothing is to be left out of the equa-

tion, is your

Lodge financially secure. Is the Building in good repair? Are there any funds to address proper building maintenance? Do you have reserves for future air conditioning, roof or other major repairs? Do you have property or at least liability insurance? Do you have fire and burglar alarm. Does your building compliment the neighborhood standard or better than them. Do you have open houses to meet your neighbors? Do your Lodge Officers perform according to their duties and responsibilities? Do your Lodge Brothers assist the Officers in the performance of their duties? Is your Lodge proficient in the ritual including but not limited to opening and closing, and conferral of the three Degrees.

Are candidates and Brothers Mentored in your Lodge? Does your Lodge teach Masonic Education? Do you sponsor different charities throughout the year in Open Lodge as well as trestle board? Does your Lodge have a Trestle Board? Do you have a Widow's Program? Are your Lodge records up to date and secure? Have the Lodge minutes been backed-up by Grand Lodge to preserve them. Are the Lodge Records secured at the Lodge and not a members home. Brothers the list goes on and on and on, think about it.

The questions above are just simply to stimulate your thinking of the different aspects of the Lodge. So many times, we just look at the surface and fool ourselves that everything is okay. Remember appearances often fool us.

Be diligent, look deep and seriously, into all matters, if they are worth doing they are worth doing right.

We as Masons must take our responsibilities seriously. Remember that although we can delegate many things, we cannot delegate our responsibilities. Because regardless of whom you have asked to perform some type of service, ultimately it is, your responsibility to see it that it is done and not an excuse to place the blame on someone else.

All too often we see this happening and every time it happens it seems to have less of an impact, as society makes this kind of action more and more acceptable. However, no one is looking down the road and sooner rather than later, we will reach a point where there will be no one left to blame for the inactions of those in charge.

You see my Brothers we are also a reflection of society and as such we have too many of us that take positions of greater responsibilities for the wrong reasons. While the rest of us go along with it so we ourselves do not have to take them on, consequently we fall short, very short of good leadership and management of our Lodges.

Along with this shortfall, comes apathy and mediocrity a symptom that seems to be spreading at a very fast rate over the last one a half to two decades, so often it is accepted because God forbid we may have to do it ourselves.

At other times and again all too often is made into a joke or something that is supposed to be funny devaluating the importance of whatever is being done, such as opening and closing, Degree or proficiencies.

Accepting less than perfection is un-Masonic, as we are taught to seek perfection although we know it is not attainable, because man's perseverance and determination to improve himself must be a quality among us Masons that it should be an automatic known part of any Mason.

So I challenge everyone that reads this dialogue, to analyze himself first, then his Lodge and his peers and serve as an example of what a Mason and a well operated Lodge should look like. Step-up to the plate be a leader remember our Grand Master M:W:J. Dick Martinez slogan "Masons always rise to the occasion" and my Brothers there is no more pressing time than the present, stand-up and be counted, are you with me.

My Brothers I urge you to be the one who says, "We're going to make it happen"

Fraternally your most humble servant.



PATIENCE

By: W∴ Allen Greene Minnesota River Valley Lodge

Patience is remaining calm and relaxed in the face of delay or provocation without becoming annoyed or upset; or exhibiting forbearance when under strain, especially when faced with longer-term difficulties. That's the dic-

"Each breath is a gift. Our sight, hearing, being able to talk and walk are all gifts. The food we eat and the clothes we wear are gifts. Being alive is a gift. Making constant gratitude your reality is the path to joy.

tionary definition, but patience is so much more. It is also used to refer to the character trait of being steadfast and having forbearance. What could be better than forbearance as a Masonic virtue!

Patience is often described as a core virtue in religion or spiritual practices. For example, Job is a figure that appears in the Hebrew Bible, Christian Bible and the Qur'an; his story is considered a profound religious work. We have all heard the phrase "He has the patience of Job". Well this theme is about the co-existence of the devil and God. The application of patience is highlighted as the resolution of the earthly struggles caused by that co-existence. The theme of Job in these Holy books is that Job endures near-catastrophic calamities without losing his patience or reproaching the Creator. In the Qur'an, the person of Job is actually known as Ayyub, which is a name that is symbolic of the *virtue* of patience.

Patience and fortitude are prominent themes in Judaism. The Talmud extols patience as an important personal trait. The story of Micah, for example, is that he suffers many challenging conditions and yet endures, saying "I will wait for the God who saves me." Patience in God, it is said, will aid believers in finding the strength to be delivered from the evils that are inherent in the physical life. In the Hebrew Bible, Ecclesiastes, it is said: "Better is the patient spirit than the lofty spirit. Do not in spirit become quickly discontented, for discontent lodges in the bosom of a fool."

In the Christian religion, patience is one of the most valuable virtues of life. Increasing patience is viewed as the work of the Holy Ghost in the Christian who has accepted the gift of salvation. Patience, is one of the seven virtues, alongside chastity, temperance, charity, diligence, kindness, and humility. In Islam, patience is one of the best and most valuable virtues of life. Through patience, a Muslim believes that an individual can grow closer to Allah and thus attain true peace. It is also stressed in Islam, that Allah is with those who are patient, more specifically during suffering. The Qur'an states that Muslims should "Persevere in patience and constancy" and "be steadfast in patience". It notes that "No one will be granted such goodness except those who exercise patience and self-restraint, none but persons of the greatest good fortune."

Interesting, but what does this have to do with us? I'm glad you asked. One of the fundamentals of Freemasonry is patience or tolerance. The Old Testament tells us that we should conduct ourselves with all humility and gentleness, with patience showing tolerance for one an-

other with love. Being tolerant and indulgent with those whose opinions and practices differ from ours. It also means being free from intolerance and bigotry, or severity in judging the opinions or practices of others. John F Kennedy summed it up nicely "tolerance implies no lack of commitment to ones own beliefs, but rather it condemns oppression and persecution of others".

Speculative Masonry, like Operative Masonry, cannot make a Perfect Ashlar out of an imperfect specimen: Speculative Masonry admits only good men; just as the Operative Mason will work only with good stone; flawed material cannot be made perfect. 'A rough stone can be made smooth, but it must be capable of taking the polish or the work will be in vain.

Making a stone perfect, much like perfecting a man, or carving a statue, is not done by adding something; it is done by taking away: removing the superfluous, brings out what is within and thus is found what is closer to perfection; this takes time and patience. Sound familiar?

As Masons we are taught the Cardinal Virtues through the respective lectures of the three degrees, and which, we are taught are the formula to govern the conduct of every Mason. Fortitude, Temperance, Prudence and Justice are impressed upon us early in Masonic learning and are an included part of the Entered Apprentice degree. Fortitude means we stay the course. It does not permit us to give up. Temperance dictates moderation in all things and therefore, the practicing Mason is not excessive in his living habits. Again, there is nothing particularly spiritual in that practice. Prudence requires that a Mason use good judgment in all that he endeavors as he goes about the business of daily living, and Justice dictates that he would practice the biblical lesson that "he would treat others as he would be treated." The preceding describes those attributes required for a stable, happy and productive life in the material world. They work quite well when followed and certainly have withstood the test of time as a formula for constructive-action.

Continuing the degree work we hear also of Faith, Hope and Charity and we are told that of these the greatest is Charity. Faith and Hope are clearly functions of the mind. A Mason has Faith that he will achieve a unity with Deity. In his mind he Hope(s) to fulfill his goal. Neither Faith nor Hope can occur outside of man's thought process and so must be attached to the Fellow Craft degree as that is the degree of a thinking Mason who is able to apply his gavel in the horizontal to remove rough edges and achieve an ashlar of not only horizontal dimensions, but

also of true perpendiculars.

Charity, being the greatest of the virtues and the third of the group presents its own special considerations because it is found in both our earthly life as well as our spiritual world. As the third of the group it creates the number three. Therefore, it is also a characteristic of the Fellow Craft degree. It is also a spiritual act insomuch as Jesus said, "that which you do to the least of man, you do also to me." Thus, it ties directly to the Master Mason degree since the Master Mason is supposed to be a Master in his understanding of the ways of the Craft. Finding these parallels, Charity could be said to be a giving act, prompted by thought, and that we are all part of the Divine.

These then, are the 7 Cardinal virtues that govern the conduct of every Mason and determine the traits of a Freemason, and Patience is a trait to be desired within the heart of every Mason if they will grow in Light on their Journey. What does a Mason do when he meets another with differing views? Nothing - he patiently listens.



MEMBERSHIP AND THE FUTURE

By Gerald A. Edgar, P.M. Mosaic #125 AF&AM, Dubuque, IA

Recently I "visited" our ELCA, aka Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, website. My wife & I were delegates to our Synod convention this spring and we were informed the site had some great suggestions based on recent sociological and demographic research. In the 'Resources' section was an article by a Pastor; delineating the different reasons people join a church. This is just as relevant as to why people join a service club or a fraternal group.

His comments: Older members have not yet grasped that "membership" is a wholly secondary reason for being in church to many younger people. Baby-Boomers look for facilities and programs. Baby-Busters (their children) look for spiritual value and meaning I.E. older members of any group came from a generation that treasured 'membership. "Boomers" look for the actual building and activities; 'Busters' (those from the 70's and later) look for what they might <u>learn</u>.

This reaffirms what many Masonic scholars are saying: to attract those in their 50's & 60's we need to have a well-kept building and activities that are meaningful and which the newly made Mason may join in

with. The 20's & 30's group look at the original roots of Masonry - what do we teach AND do we actually "teach" same?

Can we be attractive to potential members while keeping current ones happy? Certainly! A clean, well-maintained building hosting a variety of activities (beyond reading Minutes & paying bills) with a healthy dose of Masonic education and group discussion of same should be our goal.

This issue has become a vital one to me as two weeks ago a first ever grandson entered our lives. By luck of birth (and the insight of his ancestors), he can potentially become a documented, son-to-son eighth generation Mason going back to 1840 (and a fourth generation DeMolay).

However, assuming he desires to become a Mason some day, will there be a lodge available to him? In my home state of Iowa, we have gone from the 500+ Lodges when I was Raised to fewer than 300. Two entire counties no longer have any Lodge, several others have but one. (And many are NOT working Lodges and make no effort to be attractive to "Boomers" or "Busters"). What will we do today to insure [that] the opportunity for good men to become Masons exists in another twenty years? Yes, those who are motivated by family ties may seek out a distant Lodge but what of all the good men who live a significant distance from a Lodge? Where will be the source of their awareness of Masonry? Doors will not be knocked upon if the doors are unavailable.



THE WAGES OF A MASTER MASON

There is a saying which you have heard in Masonry many times: "You get out of Masonry only what you put in it." There may be a great deal of truth in such a statement, but it is a rather conservative estimate.

You get far more out of Masonry than you ever can put into it. There is no work or study that pays greater spiritual dividends than the work of Masonry. There is no time better spent and which yields more happiness and satisfaction than time spent in the work of Masonry.

If one is looking for a purely material or financial re-ward, then his time in Masonry is only a waste of effort. From the time you evidenced a desire to become a

Ma-son, it was made plain to you that Masonry offered an opportunity for spiritual and mental growth, and did not offer or promise the least financial reward. The Wages of a Master are in keeping with the thing sought through Mastership.

Then, is this work of Masonry confined to the lodge room? No. It is important that every Mason attend as many meetings of his lodge as he possibly can, and it is important that the Mason participate in as many activi-ties of the lodge as he possibly can, according to his talents, large or small. Yet, the work of Masonry is as extensive as life *itself*. The work of Masonry calls for an examination of self to determine how our own lives Reflect the teachings of Masonry. If we are honest in this, then other fields of work. In the interest of humanity will be opened, and we will enter into them with joy and enthusiasm because we are Master Masons and cannot do otherwise.

Try it! You'll find a harvest of happiness.







IT WAS NATIONAL CHICKEN MONTH

So the Kitchen Crew dawned their clucker hats and served up another Sunday Dinner Meal of Chicken or Veal Parmigianino with Spaghetti.

Thank You to all who attended and we hope to see you at Octobers Second Sunday Dinner.

To all our Northern Brethren and their Ladies, hope to see you soon, you are missed.

There's a hint on Page 7 as to Octobers Theme.





Leesburg Masonic Lodge No. 58 F & AM

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

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SUNDAY DINNER — OCTOBER 10th, 2010 11:30 a.m. TO 1:15 p.m.

Menu items:

CHICKEN CORDON BLEU RICE and VEGETABLE MEDOLY Garden Salad, Dinner Roll Deserts (Sugar Free / No Sugar Added) and Drinks

Suggested donation \$8.00 per person, Children under 14 years of age \$4.00

* PLEASE call the Lodge, or sign the guest list in the foyer, provide the number of guests attending with * * you, this ensures enough food is prepared for all. ALL MASONS, their families, friends and guests are in-* vited to our Second Sunday Dinners and 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.