



PACIFIC MASONIC LODGE # 325, A.F.M.



THE PACIFIC TRESTLEBOARD

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 5

JULY, 2007



DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

They are here. Yes, you know exactly what I'm talking about, the "dog days" of summer. It gets SO hot here in South Carolina that the pavement will get soft. Contrary to popular belief, THESE are the days that try mans soul.

While the summer marks the annual bar-b-que for us (and end of school for our children) it's the time that we cherish those late afternoon storms. We'll park blocks away from where we're going just to find a parking spot in the shade.

Lodge attendance seems to fall off a bit in the summer months. Many folks go on vacation with their families during this time of year. Many Lodges have a history

of going "dark" for a month or two, but we work on.

As a matter of fact, we will receive a new petition to be put out on investigation this month. We will also have both a Fellow-craft and Masters Degrees in July. This, as always, depends on the ballot box and the candidate.

I hope you will come on out when you can. We would love to see you. We can always use some help, even if it's your support of these younger brothers. The Lodge is here for you and your enjoyment (your dues help pay for the air conditioning)... Join us in fellowship and seeing these young men continue their Masonic journey during these "dog days" of summer.

All Brothers are welcome at Pacific. Please be prepared to show a valid dues card or have a Brother vouch for you. This is not done to embarrass anyone, but rather to ensure that all who pass are duly qualified....

**Under the jurisdiction
of the
Grand Lodge A.F.M. of
South Carolina.**



OFFICERS FOR 2007

- *Fred Garren, W.M.*
- *Patrick Brown, S.W.*
- *Del Collins, J.W.*
- *Jim Jaco, Treas.*
- *Bosie Martin, P.M. Sec.*
- *Vardie Corley, S.D.*
- *Bill Yandle, J.D.*
- *Richard Prudence, Stew.*
- *Glenn Gates, Stew.*
- *Brian Gambrell, Chap.*
- *Tommy Hill, Tyler*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

OFFICER SPOT-LIGHT	2
FAMOUS MASON	2
EDUCATION	2
BROTHER GEORGE WASHINGTON	3
VIRTUE	3
SOMETHING NEW	5
SETTING THE WORK	5

ANNUAL GA-SC EXCHANGE MEETING

Brethren, I can't begin to tell you how good and how pleasant it was to dwell together in unity with our Brothers from Georgia on Friday, June 29.

Pacific Lodge was represented by R.W. Bro. Edward Neely, DDGM and

chauffer, W. Bosie Martin and Fred Garren, W.M. I can honestly tell you that our numbers were FAR greater than theirs, although the G.M. of Georgia declared it a "tie."

As a matter of fact, I would estimate that S.C.

Masons comprised about 70% of those in attendance. We brought so many from S.C. that they ran out of food! A good message was delivered and the fellowship was enjoyed by all. It was fantastic having all our Grand Lodge officers represent us. CONGRATS!



The Master of the Lodge

A principal support...

OFFICER SPOTLIGHT - W.B. FRED GARREN

At the suggestion of our Chaplain, this is a new part of our newsletter to introduce you to our officers. I thought it would be fitting to start at the "top" with our Worshipful Master, Fred Garren.

Former owner of Fred Garren Electric Company, Worshipful Brother Fred began his Masonic journey at Boyleston Lodge # 123. Fred got his first degree and waited 24 years before continuing his journey. He jokingly ex-

claims that he was learning to subdue his passions during that time. Be that as it may, we believe that W.B. Fred holds the record for being an Entered Apprentice the longest.

Fred is married to Betty Hamiter. Fred has a father-in-law AND brother-in-law who are **both** Right Worshipful. Stanley Hamiter, Fred's father-in-law is PDDGM of the X district. Of course, our very own Right

Worshipful Brother Edward Neeley, Fred's brother-in-law, is our current District Deputy Grand Master of the 10th Masonic District. As you can see, Masonry runs deep in the family.

Fred was Installed Worshipful Master at the Regular Communication of Pacific Lodge on December 5, 2007 by Most Worshipful Brother Ron Mitchum, the Grand Master at the time. Great to have you in the East, Brother.



Bro. Benjamin Franklin

FAMOUS MASONS

Last month I reflected on Brother George Washington and the founding Fathers. Once again, at the suggestion of our Chaplain, I am going to include a brief article about famous Freemasons.

The problem is, WHERE to I begin? There are SO many who have done so much. I've decided to start this series with one of MY favorites,

Brother Benjamin Franklin. Now, there is NO WAY I can limit my remarks on Bro. Ben in this short space, so if you will indulge me, I am going to make this a slightly longer article. Bro. Franklin was indeed a renaissance man in every sense of the word. His discoveries and inventions are far too numerous to mention here. I will produce a paper on Bro. Franklin and it will be

available at the Lodge after the Bar-B-Q for anyone who might be interested. I find him absolutely fascinating. I hope you will take the time to read the article and come to "know" our Brother, Benjamin Franklin. Bro. Franklin is buried in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Please see page 5 for a brief outline of his take on VIRTUE.



Freemasonry



A Global Fraternity

MASONIC EDUCATION - PHOENIXMASONRY.ORG

What is the derivation of the word **Mason**? As a practical question, we are compelled to reject all fanciful derivations which connect the Masons etymologically and historically with the Greeks, the Egyptians, or the Druids, and to take the word Mason in its ordinary signification of a worker in stone, and thus indicate the origin of the Order from a society or association of

practical and operative builders. We need no better root than the Mediaeval Latin (Maconner), to build, or as (Maconetus), a Builder. found in 1 Kings 7:13-22 The **Master Mason** represents man, when youth, manhood, old age, and life itself, have passed away as fleeting shadows, yet raised from the grave of iniquity, and quickened into another and better

existence. By its legend and all its ritual, it is implied that we have been redeemed from the death of sin and the sepulcher of pollution; and the conclusion we arrive at is, that youth, properly directed, leads us to honorable and virtuous maturity, and that the life of man, regulated by morality, faith, and justice, will be rewarded at its closing hour, by the prospect of eternal bliss. [Romans 6:4-5](#)

BROTHER GEORGE WASHINGTON (AGAIN)

I RARELY enter into a Lodge that does NOT have a picture of Brother Washington on display. While I wrote a brief piece about Brother Washington a few months ago, I thought I would elaborate and include the **entire** article (and more) which can be found at the website of www.Phoenixmasonry.org

Born at Bridges Creek, Westmoreland County, Virginia, February 22, 1732, of the present calendar, but February 11, 1731/2 of the birth record and on December 14, 1799, he died at Mount Vernon, Fairfax County, Virginia, about fifteen miles from Washington, District of Columbia. At sixteen he became surveyor on the estate of Lord Fairfax, then joined the army and later was on the staff of General Braddock.

Delegate to First and Second Continental Congresses. Unanimously chosen in 1775 as Commander-in-Chief of Colonial Army and his Yorktown campaign ended the war on October 19, 1781, with the surrender of Lord Cornwallis and his British Army. Washington presided at the Federal Convention in Philadelphia, May, 1787, for the framing of the Constitution, and then was elected President, and in 1792 reelected, refusing a third term. He was recalled from his retirement in 1798 to again serve as Commander-in-Chief but the prospect of war with France did not materialize.

The Oath of office as President of the United States was administered on April 30, 1789, New York City, to General Washington, by Brother Robert R. Livingston, Chancellor of the State of New York, and who was also the Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons.

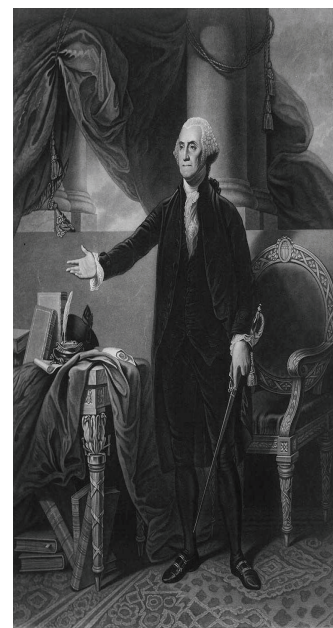
The name of Washington occupies a prominent place in Masonic biography, not perhaps so much because of any services he has done to the Institution either as a worker or a writer, but because the fact of his connection with the Craft is a source of pride to every American Freemason, at least, who can thus call the "Father of his Country" a Brother. There is also another reason. While the friends of the Institution have felt that the adhesion to it of a man so eminent for virtue was a proof of its moral and religious character, the opponents of Freemasonry, being forced to admit the conclusion, have sought to deny the premises, and, even if compelled to admit the fact of Washington's initiation, have persistently asserted that he never took any interest in it, disapproved of its spirit, and at an early period of his life abandoned it. The truth of history requires that these misstatements should be met by a brief recital of his Masonic career.

Washington was initiated, in 1752, in the Lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia, and the

records of that Lodge, still in existence, present the following entries on the subject. The first entry is thus: "Nov. 4th. 1752. This evening Mr. George Washington was initiated as an entered Apprentice", receipt of the entrance fee, amounting to £2 3s., was acknowledged, F.C. and M.M. March :3 and August 4, 1753.

On March 3 in the following year, "Mr. George Washington" is recorded as having been passed a Fellow Craft; and on August 4, same year, 1753, the record of the transactions of the evening states that "Mr. George Washington," and others whose names are mentioned, have been raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Curiously enough each of the days when Washington attended Lodge was Saturday, the dates already mentioned falling on that day, and he was last in the Lodge at Fredericksburg on Saturday, January 4, 1755. Brother Franklin Stearns, Past Master of Fredericksburg Lodge, says that Washington paid his fees November 6, 1752 and that no further fees appearing in this connection he has arrived at the conclusion that £2 3s was paid for all three Degrees.

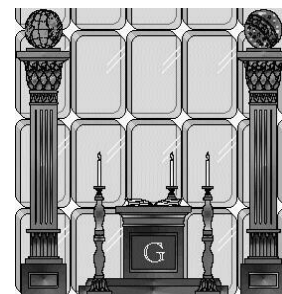
This July 4th, the anniversary of the birth of our country, I ask that you remember Brother Washington. I hope everyone has a safe holiday and I look forward to seeing you at the Lodge soon!



Bro. and President
George Washington



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
AMERICA!



ON THE WEB
WWW.PACIFIC325.ORG

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VIRTUE - BRO. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN (FROM PG. 2)

Franklin sought to cultivate his character by a plan of thirteen virtues, which he developed at age 20 (in 1726) and continued to practice in some form for the rest of his life. His autobiography (see references below) lists his thirteen virtues as:

"TEMPERANCE. Eat not to dullness; drink not to elevation."

"SILENCE. Speak not but what may benefit others or yourself; avoid trifling conversation."

"ORDER. Let all your things have their places; let each part of your business have its time."

"RESOLUTION. Resolve to perform what you ought; perform without fail what you resolve."

"FRUGALITY. Make no expense but to do good to others or yourself; i.e., waste nothing."

"INDUSTRY. Lose no time; be always employ'd in something useful; cut off all unnecessary actions."

"SINCERITY. Use no hurtful deceit; think innocently and justly, and, if you speak, speak accordingly."

"JUSTICE. Wrong none by doing injuries, or omitting the benefits that are your duty."

"MODERATION. Avoid extremes; forbear resenting injuries so much as you think they deserve."

"CLEANLINESS. Tolerate no uncleanness in body, cloaths, or habitation."

"TRANQUILLITY. Be not disturbed at trifles, or at accidents common or unavoidable."

"CHASTITY. Rarely use venery but for health or offspring, never to dullness, weakness, or the injury of your own or another's peace or reputation."

"HUMILITY. Imitate Jesus and [Socrates](#)."

Benjamin Franklin died on [April 17, 1790](#), at age 84. His funeral was attended by about 20,000 people. He was interred in [Christ Church Burial Ground](#) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Christ Church Burial Ground is also the home of [Benjamin Rush](#). One of the houses he lived in on Craven Street was previously marked with a [blue plaque](#) and has since been opened to the public as the Benjamin Franklin House [\[19\]](#). In 1728, as a young man, Franklin wrote what he hoped would be his own epitaph: *"The Body of B. Franklin Printer; Like the Cover of an old Book, Its Contents torn out, And stript of its Lettering and Gilding, Lies here, Food for Worms. But the Work shall not be wholly lost: For it will, as he believ'd, appear once more, In a new & more perfect Edition, Corrected and Amended By the Author. He was born on January 17, 1706. Died 17." [\[20\]](#) Franklin's actual grave, however, as he specified in his final will [\[21\]](#), simply reads "Benjamin and Deborah Franklin."*

In the book *The Life of Benjamin Franklin* as written by himself, a passage (obviously not written by himself) reads thus about Franklin's death: "...when his pain and difficulty of breathing entirely left him, and his family were flattering themselves wit the hopes of his recovery, when an imposthumations, which had formed itself in his lungs, suddenly burst, and discharged a great quantity of matter, which he continued to throw up while he had strength to do it; but, as that failed, the organ of inspiration became gradually oppressed; a calm lethargic state succeeded, and on the 17th of April, 1790, at eleven o'clock at night, he quietly expired, closing a long and useful life of eighty-four years and three months"

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We should all endeavor to follow Brother Ben's philosophy and live by his virtues.



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BOSIE MARTIN, P.M.,
SECRETARY & WEBMASTER

MASONS IN ACTION

MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

SETTING THE WORK

July 3—Regular Communication

July 17—Fellow Craft Degree *

July 24—Master Mason Degree *

August 7—Regular Communication

JOIN US FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP!

Any questions, please call

W. Bro. Bosie Martin, Secretary at 803-960-9136

or

W. Bro. Fred Garren, W.M. at 803-518-6277

(*) Denotes tentative Special Communication

ALL SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS DEPEND ON THE BALLOT BOX AND
THE CANDIDATES...

We eat at 6:45 and Meet at 7:30

SOMETHING NEW

You may notice a little something new this month in the Trestleboard. I have added one more page. I thought since we were not going to mail these copies (these go out via e-mail and are available at the Lodge) that it won't cost more for just a one more page.

I also took the liberty of revisiting Brothers George Washington and Benjamin Franklin. I wrote about the former recently, but wanted to expound on this great American. As for the latter, Brother Ben, there is NO way to possibly encapsulate his many accomplishments

and discoveries in one of the standard margins. Books have been written about both of these famous Brothers and I recommend them highly.

As for me, I would say that Brother Ben is probably my favorite figure in history, bar none. He was a true renaissance man in every sense of the word. I won't wax poetic on Bro. Ben, but his inventions and life are simply too much to put in such a small space. Hence, you will find some of the "gleaned" material on our new page 4. I hope you will enjoy the read this month. The virtues found there are some of the

same pillars which are the foundation of our Fraternity. While admittedly, he may not have lived this virtuous life himself (he was known as quite the ladies' man) I feel sure that his heart was in the right place. If you look closely, it says that he "sought to cultivate his character..." We, as Masons, should learn from this wise Brother. We should follow his example and attempt to cultivate our character in like manner. As the Grand Master of Georgia said the other night, "remember your name and your reputation are all you have." Strive to keep it as spotless as that apron.



Support YOUR Lodge



Kock and it shall be opened.

Matthew 7:7, Luke 11:9