

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



THE PACIFIC TRESTLEBOARD

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 11 NOVEMBER, 2008



CONSOLIDATION & BY LAWS CHANGES

My Brothers, I am elated to inform you that our Lodge and the Grand Lodge has approved the consolidation of Forest Acres Lodge # 410 with Pacific, effective Jan. 1, 2009. We now would like to welcome our newest members and let them know how pleased we are to have them as part of the "New Lodge."

Notice was given and the proposal was read in three consecutive Regular Communications regarding the proposed changes to our by-laws. Both proposals passed and we are now waiting on approval from the Grand Lodge.

The first proposal allows the Worshipful Master to name a "Mason of the Year"

for outstanding contributions to the Lodge. This will be named in honor of the late W. Bro. Ed Gunter.

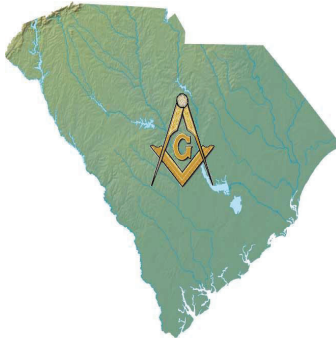
The second proposal raises the annual dues from \$ 35 to \$ 40 a year, still one of the lowest in the state. This modest increase will help us to keep up with inflation and increases in per capita by the Grand Lodge.

This is an exciting time in the life of Pacific Lodge. We have Raised several Brothers over the past few months and the Lodge's Past Masters "followed" a candidate and conferred all three degrees on him, including a Saturday morning degree.

I would urge you to visit and support YOUR Lodge!

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 2008

- Fred Garren, P.M., W.M.
- Brian Gambrell, S.W.
- Bill Yandle, J.W.
- Jim Jaco, Treas.
- Bosie Martin, P.M. Sec.
- Del Collins, S.D.
- Richard Prudence, J.D.
- David Dowden, Stew.
- Michael Hershberger, Stew.
- Wayne Whitworth, Chap.
- Jan Barkan, Tyler

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LADIES' NIGHT - AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Brethren, I hope you have marked your calendar for Nov. 21, this year's Ladies' Night. While we will have the usual entertainment BINGO and meal, along with , we are most fortunate to have M.W. Bro. Jack A. Marler, PGM, Grand Treasurer, as our

guest speaker. I can tell you that if you haven't heard M.W. Bro. Jack speak, you are in for a treat.

The menu for the evening will be Bernie's Fried Chicken with all the fixings and Bro. Brian Gambrell is working to get prizes for

our Bingo games.

The evening wouldn't be complete without presenting 9 service pins and certificates to our long-time members. Come out and enjoy the evening, see some old friends and see what Masonry is all about!!



M.W. Bro. Ron Mitchum
Immediate Past Grand Master

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - M.W. BRO. RON

Lodge

Forest Acres No. 410
Raised July 1980
Served as Master three times

Grand Lodge Service

- Senior Grand Deacon 1987
- District Deputy Grand Master - 1991 - Tenth District
- Grand Treasurer 1992-99
- Junior Grand Warden - 1991-01
- Senior Grand Warden - 2001-03
- Deputy Grand Master - 2005-07 **Religion**
Spring Valley Baptist Church, Columbia

OK, the consolidation has been approved, but the Brothers from Forest Acres aren't QUITE members of

Pacific just yet. Nonetheless, I want to take a moment and welcome ALL the Brothers from #410. We are thrilled

to have you as a part of us, to make us stronger! We look forward to having M.W. Bro. Ron (and his prowess in the kitchen) with us whenever he can. M.W. Bro. Ron is married now for 40 years to "Miss Sue" who deserves a space in this publication all her own. Rarely do they go on a visit out-of-state that the fist question asked of Bro. Ron is "Where is Sue?"... Welcome to your new home. We look forward to our future!



General of the Army Omar Bradley
in 1950

FAMOUS MASONS - GENERAL OMAR BRADLEY

Bro. Omar Nelson Bradley

Nickname:
" The G.I.'s General"

Born: Clark, Missouri, USA
February 12, 1893

Died: N.Y. City, New York
April 8, 1981 (aged 88)

Branch of Service: US Army
Service: 1915–1953

Rank: General of the Army

Commands held:

82nd Infantry Division
28th Infantry Division
U.S. II Corps, First Army,
12th Army Group, Army
Chief of Staff, Chairman,
Joint Chiefs of Staff (first
officer ever appointed)

Battles/wars:

Mexican Border Service
World War I

World War II
Korean War

Awards:

Army Distinguished Service Medal, Navy Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Knight Commander of the British Empire, Order of Polonia Restituta.

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Symbolism within the Lodge
The Square and Compasses

MASONIC EDUCATION - SYMBOLIC TOOLS

Masons conduct their meetings using a ritualized format. There is no single Masonic ritual, and each Jurisdiction is free to set (or not set) its own ritual. However, there are similarities that exist among Jurisdictions. For example, all Masonic ritual makes use of the architectural symbolism of the tools of the medieval *operative* stonemason. Freemasons, as *speculative* masons (meaning

philosophical building rather than actual building), use this symbolism to teach moral and ethical lessons of the principles of "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth" — or as related in France: "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity".

Two of the principal symbolic tools always found in a Lodge are the *square and compasses*. Some Lodges and

rituals explain these tools as lessons in conduct: for example, that Masons should "square their actions by the square of virtue" and to learn to "circumscribe their desires and keep their passions within due bounds toward all mankind". However, as Freemasonry is non-dogmatic, there is no general interpretation for these tools (or any Masonic emblem) that is used by Freemasonry as a whole. © Wikipedia

WINDING STAIRS

In the First Book of Kings 6:8 it is said: "The door for the Middle Chamber was in the right side of the house; and they went up with *winding stairs* into the Middle Chamber, and out of the middle into the third." From this passage the Freemasons of the eighteenth century adopted the symbol of the *Winding Stairs*, and introduced it into the Fellow Craft's Degree,

where it has ever since remained, in the American Rite. The candidate, then, in the Second Degree of Freemasonry represents a man starting forward on the journey of life, with the great task before him of self-improvement. For the faithful performance of this task, a reward is promised, which reward consists in the development of all his intellectual

faculties, the moral and spiritual elevation of his character, and the acquisition of Truth and knowledge.

This piece was used once before, I believe, but felt it worthy of a repeat. The lecture of the Second Degree holds many beautiful and meaningful lessons.



The winding stairs...

© Phoenixmasonry.org

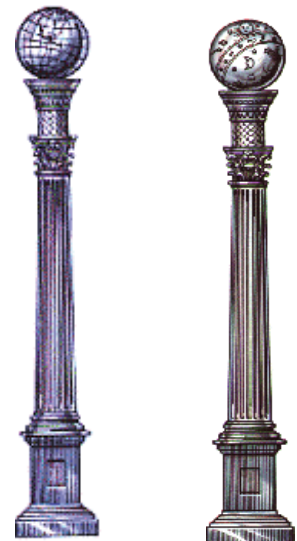
PILLARS OF THE PORCH

Here are the "Pillars of the Porch" of King Solomon's Temple... King Solomon did not simply erect them as ornaments to the temple, but memorials of God's repeated promises of support to His people of Israel. Boaz, the name of the left pillar means "in strength", the right pillar Jachin means "God will establish", which signifies when combined, the message "In strength, God will establish His house in Israel". And thus were the Jews, in passing through the

porch to the temple, daily reminded of the abundant promises of God, and inspired with confidence in His protection and gratitude for His many acts of kindness to His chosen people. The globe on the left pillar represents "Earth", that on the right, "Heaven". As supports for the porch these pillars were exceedingly strong, circular in form. Made of bronze, the thickness of the walls of these

shafts being three inches, 18 feet in circumference and 6 feet in diameter. Each of these pillars was 27 1/2 feet in height and their chapters of lily work extended the elevation 7 1/2 feet, making a total height of 35 Feet. The chapter were highly decorated with various ornamentations.

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THE TWO PILLARS

MASONIC BLOOD DRIVE - JAN. 2, 2009

As I was trying to finalize a date with the Red Cross for a Masonic Blood Drive, I learned an interesting fact. I had originally tried to set a date on a Friday in the months of either November or December. I told the coordinator that I felt we could easily get 100 units. I was asked to see if we could possibly shoot for the first Friday in January. I expressed concern about people being out of town just after the New

Year. I was assured that during this time of year, even 25 units of blood would mean as much to the Red Cross as 100 units would most any other time.

Make no mistake about it, THEY NEED US and the holiday season is when their supply runs at a critical level.

PLEASE join me, and the Brothers of Pacific as we host the first annual MASONIC BLOOD DRIVE on Friday, Jan. 2, 2009.

We hope to start about 9:00 that Friday and will do everything to get folks in and out in a timely manner to you can return to your jobs, family or football games.

It may be a bit much to ask for some of your time on a "holiday weekend" but together we can make a difference. Let's show our community what Masons can do. Hope to see you!

GIVE BLOOD

Help keep our community blood supply prepared for those in need.



The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give blood."

www.givelife.org



**FIRST ANNUAL
MASONIC BLOOD DRIVE
GIVE THE GIFT
OF LIFE**



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

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WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.PACIFIC325.ORG

BOSIE MARTIN, P.M.,
SECRETARY & WEBMASTER

MASONS IN ACTION

MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

SETTING THE WORK

November 4- Regular Communication

November 18 - Fellow Craft Degree *

November 21 - Ladies' Night, 7:00

December 2 - Regular Communication

December 9—Entered Apprentice Degree *

December 23 - Master Mason Degree *

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

HANG ON, IT'S ABOUT TO GET BUSY

Perhaps I should have said it was going to get busy AGAIN. We have had a couple of months where we have had one or two candidates. At the November Communication, we will have three and possibly four petitions to put out on investigation.

I would like to take this moment to ask for your assistance in volunteering on these committees. We also need some help in the kitchen. W. Bro. Doyle and W. Bro. Paul do a great job, but they need a break. Consider giving an hour or two before and after the meeting to help prepare the meals and to clean up. Our Stew-

ards do a worthy job, but most of the officers are young and work during the day. W. Bro. Doyle has done a tremendous job in putting together fantastic meals for us. Thanks!!

Another thing we will need in the coming months is some help in coaching. Bro. Billy Hilliard can't do it all by himself, and yet we have come to lean on him heavily.

Yes, indeed, things are about to get real busy. I have heard stories of meeting twice a week with 5 candidates on each night. It looks like these days may be coming back. I have NO idea what to attribute all of the

interest. Perhaps it's the movies and books, but I would like to think that it is by our EXAMPLE of how we live our lives. People look up to us when they see we are Good men trying to be better. There is no better "recruiting tool" out there than simply being the just and upright man and Mason that we are taught to be.

Keep up the good work. I am looking forward to our new members and the resurgence of work within the Lodge. Come out and join us and pitch in when you can. We can always use a hand SOMEWHERE in the Lodge. Cheers! Bro. Bosie



Support YOUR Lodge



Knock and it shall be opened
unto you.

Matthew 7:7, Luke 11:9



MORE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM BRO. DAVID NEWMAN

Masonic Emblems

My father had this on his wall when I was young and I was thinking that if I ever was honored to be in the east I would give a copy of it to each brother I obligated in the first. You have probably all seen it before, but for those who have not, enjoy.

The Lamb Skin
It is not ornamental, the cost is not great,
There are other things far more useful, yet truly I state,
Though of all my possessions, there's none can compare,
With that white leather apron, which all Masons wear.

As a young lad I wondered just what it all meant,
When Dad hustled around, and so much time was spent
On shaving and dressing and looking just right,
Until Mother would say: "It's the Masons tonight."

And some winter nights she said: "What makes you go,
Way up there tonight thru the sleet and the snow?
You see the same things every month of the year."
Then Dad would reply: "Yes, I know it, my dear."

"Forty years I have seen the same things, it is true.
And though they are old, they always seem new,
For the hands that I clasp, and the friends that I greet,
Seem a little bit closer each time that we meet."

Years later I stood at that very same door,
With good men and true who had entered before,
I knelt at the alter, and there I was taught
That virtue and honor can never be bought.

That the spotless white lambskin all Masons revere,
If worthily worn grows more precious each year,
That service to others brings blessings untold,
That man may be poor tho surrounded by gold.

I learned that true brotherhood flourishes there,
That enmities fade 'neath the compass and square,
That wealth and position are all thrust aside,
As there on the level men meet and abide.

So, honor the lambskin, may it always remain
Forever unblemished, and free from all stain,
And when we are called to the Great Father's love,
May we all take our place in that Lodge up above.

Utopia Found?

There is a place that you can find
Where everyone is always kind,
Where everything is harmony,
Where every man is always free.

No politics are spoken there,
No arguments to rend the air,
Where smiles glow bright on every face,
A joyful and a friendly place.

A place where men can do good deeds
And share their lot with those with needs,
But still have fun in all they do
While being good and firm and true.

A place where God is still revered
And tyranny is never feared,
A place there virtues still are taught,
Where goodness is not sold or bought.

"A Shangri La?" you say to me,
"Why such a place can never be!"
Untrue, my friend, there's one I know,
A place where good men often go.

And not just one, but many more,
Both here at home, on distant shore,
Thousands and thousands, I would guess;
There might be more, but never less.

They've been around hundreds of years,
These places where men need have no fears,
So now you ask, "Where do I go?"
All right, my friend, I'll let you know.

Look for a sign with compasses and square,
Easily found, they're most everywhere,
Just note the number and the street
To know where Masons go to meet.

Anon.

Rule and Guide

The memorial address given in honor of their deceased Brethren by Most Worshipful Brother Geoffrey M. Davies, PGM, at the 107th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba in 1982, was based upon "The Master's Blueprint," by the late Brother and Rabbi Sheldon Gordon of Ionic Lodge No. 186, Duluth, Minnesota.

In an ancient collection of Jewish literature appeared a statement by a teacher who lived some 2000 years ago, who was not very well known, and about whose real identity there appears to be some doubt. With reference to the parchment scrolls of the Holy Bible, he said: "Turn it and turn it again for everything is in it. And contemplate it and grow gray and old over it and stir not from it for you can have no better rule than it." What this almost anonymous teacher said some 2000 years ago is of deep meaning in Masonry, for he described one of the Great Lights of Freemasonry—the Holy Bible which is our rule and guide of faith.

Our ritual makes great use of Holy Scripture and, of course, the Bible itself plays a vital and dynamic role in the work and thought of Masonry. If we, as Masons follow the admonition and guidance of this teacher to turn to the Bible and turn to it again, we will find many concepts which give us a deeper insight into the great teachings of Masonry and correspondingly, we will find that the wisdom of Masonry adds another dimension of meaning to many passages of the Sacred Text. A great teacher of Judaism once described the Bible as being God's blueprint in the creation of the world. Let us, then, as builders consult the Master's blueprint.

There is a very natural tendency for the individual Freemason, once he has achieved the sublime degree of a Master Mason, to pay little attention to the insights and teachings of the two initial degrees through which he reached at great height. As Shakespeare says in *Julius Caesar*, "But 'tis a common proof that lowliness is young ambition's ladder where to the climber upward turns his face. But when he once attains the upwards rounds, he then unto the ladder turns his back, looks in the clouds, scorning the base degrees by which he did ascend." But our degrees are closely interconnected and mutually supporting one building on, and incomplete without the other.

Much is said in the Bible of the construction of Solomon's Temple, the magnificent edifice . . . rivalling and perhaps surpassing the architectural wonders of all history. The Bible also records a humble construction which had, in the realm of the spirit, a significance at least as great as that of Solomon's Temple. . . . When Moses returns to the people, having stood at Sinai's heights, he is told by God to construct an altar for Him, of simple and pure unhewn stone. The foundations of that altar are to be made of rock upon which no iron has come. In the lodge, the E.A. is the unhewn stone, the rock upon whose surface no iron has yet come, and we would do well to remember the great meaning of this for Masonry and to impart to our Brothers of the First Degree the high and noble level which they have attained, and what it is we expect of them. It is the Bible which gives us this insight. The unhewn stone of the altar built by Moses represents the foundation of the lodge.

In the Entered Apprentice Degree, we are urged to the great task of moral improvement and betterment, to learn to subdue our passions that we may emerge the better man, indeed the better servant of God. David on his death bed, giving his son Solomon a father's final word of guidance, turned to the building of the great temple, the House of the Lord. It is written, "And David said to Solomon: My son, as for me, it was in my heart to build a house unto the name of the Lord My God, but the word of the Lord came to me saying, 'Thou has shed blood abundantly and hast made great wars. Thou shalt not build a house unto my name because thou has shed much blood upon the earth in my sight.'" (I Chro. 22:7) Notwithstanding David's great attributes as a singer of psalms, the shepherd who could see so clearly the shepherding love of God for man, he was also a man of violence, of bloodshed, quick to indulge his appetites and his passions. Thus God forbid such a one who was unable to subdue and refine himself, to build His temple. In this great building work, this Temple of Solomon, at its very inception, we find further illumination of the great Masonic teaching which urges us to refine ourselves and to learn to subdue our passions" . . . that we may be enabled the better to show forth His glory and contribute to the happiness of mankind."

The Fellowcraft Degree is likewise heightened in significance and deepened in meaning by the Volume of the Sacred Law. The Operative Fellowcraft was instructed in the science of the builder and was entrusted with the working tools which required care and diligence, selectivity and refinement in their use. We, as Speculative Masons, expect of the Fellowcraft a degree of proficiency in the builder's art, whether that be the physical building of the operative mason or the spiritual and moral uplifting of the Speculative Mason. Again, turning to the V.S.L., the Book of Exodus tells us of the construction of a sanctuary in the wilderness during the period when the Children of Israel wandered about in the Sinai Peninsula preparing themselves for their ultimate entry into the Promised Land. And we read, "and the Lord spoke unto Moses saying, 'See I have called by name Bezalel. . . of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the spirit of God in wisdom and in understanding and in knowledge and in all manner of workmanship, to devise skillful works; to work in gold and in silver and in brass and in cutting of stones for setting and in the carving of wood to work in all man-

ner of workmanship. ' " (Ex. 31:1-6)

Bezalel was appointed as Moses' deputy in the construction of the sanctuary. The skills which were his indicate that he may serve us as a model and a prototype of the F.C. degree. He is not to make the sanctuary on his own, he has yet to achieve the Master's status, for he works under Moses, but he has reached a significant level of his development as a human being and as a skilled artisan and is therefore prepared to build a sanctuary, a place, a dwelling for God and for man. Now it is important for us to pay careful attention to the words of scripture which describe Bezalel, for the key notion here is not merely that he has achieved wisdom and knowledge, but the manner in which he has achieved this understanding. "And I have filled him with the spirit of God in wisdom and in understanding and in knowledge." We must never forget that our skills and our knowledge, our understanding and our insight, while refined by dedicated teachers within the great fraternity of life--and for us within the sacred halls of the Blue Lodge--stem ultimately from the gracious endowment of God. Knowledge is itself a sacred trust and responsibility. The wisdom, the skill to build, challenges us to build something worthy of the divine imprint, that we may earn wages celestial as well as earthly.

And so we come to the sublime degree of Master Mason. In the Book of Genesis, we are afforded an interesting insight into the theme found in the climax of our Hiram drama when one is raised to that sublime degree and when we concern ourselves with the great Lost Word. Much as has been written on this subject within and beyond the confines of our Fraternity. Its symbolism is a deep and meaningful one. Many have been the scholars who have attempted to determine its origin. In the Book of Genesis, we are told that Jacob spent a lone night by the Ford of the River Jabbok. Jacob wrestled with an angel and said, "Let me go for the day breaketh." And he said, "I will not let thee go except thou bless me." And he said unto him, "What is thy name?" And he said, "Jacob." And he said, "Thy name shall be called no more Jacob but Israel, for thou has striven with God and with men and hast prevailed." And Jacob asked him and said, "Tell me, I pray thee, thy name." And he said, "Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there. " (Gen. 32:26-30) The name, two names, play a great role in this drama. The name which Jacob can never learn, the name of the Angel, the name of God; and the name which is conferred on him as he is reborn.

The Hebrew word for Israel is made up of two parts, the first coming from a verb which means to wrestle, to struggle; and the second, coming from one of the names of God; as it is explained that Jacob has striven with God and with man and has prevailed. Now there is a concept here which is of great meaning to us as Master Masons. The word which we seek and its great secret will never come to us through idle speculation. We must confront life, strive with it, and force it to yield us its blessing even as did the great Patriarch Jacob. Our strength will lie in deeds of morality and righteousness, our tools, the skills of our Craft. Thus, the means of achieving and recovering the Lost Word--the meaning of the Lost Word--is to strive with life with vigor, with firmness, and with purity of intent.

We speak, in Masonry, of the quest for light, by which we mean understanding. We know that the creation of light was the first great act of God as recorded in the Bible. And the continuing source of light is God. As the Psalmist reminds us: "Thou coverest thyself with light as with a garment, who stretcheth out the heavens like a curtain." (Psalm 104) It is the light from that celestial source which gives significance to our work as Masons. It guides and directs us in our labors as builders and designers of a better world. But as we strive for this better world, let us remember what was taught in the lovely Song of Solomon, preserved in the Book of Psalms, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." (Psalm 127)

Building with God, the true Master of our Craft, building under His guidance and with His light, is the purpose of Masonry. And if we so build, if we rear up and erect such a sanctuary for His spirit and for our brothers as was said of the great work of Moses, "For the cloud of the Lord was upon the tabernacle." (Ex. 40:38)

The spirit of God inhabited that abode. If our Masonic work is truly dedicated, that spirit will inhabit the structure which we erect. This is our goal--that we may build a sanctuary by our deeds in which God may dwell. Then we may be sure that in the end of our days, we shall find our abode in that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

MASONRY IN THE HOLY BIBLE where to Find it :

Entered Apprentice Psalm 133 Psalm 161 1st Kings 7 21 1st Kings 6 7 1st Chron. 22 2nd Chron. 3 Isaiah 9 2 Ruth 4 7 8 Ruth 2 I Ruth 4 18 22

Fellow Craft Exodus 17 9 11 Ruth 4-7-21 -22 1st Kings 7 21 2nd Kings 23 17 Judges 12 17 Samuel 12 17 2nd Chron. 2 15 Amos 7 7 Exodus 17 11 1st Kings 6 8 Ezek. 40 22 Ezek. 44 5

Master Mason Ecclesiastes 12:1-7 Gen. 4 22 1st Kings 6 8 1st Kings 7 13 14 1st Kings 3 30 Psalm 10 ~ 12 Job 14 1-2-5-7 Ezek. 8 16 Ezek. 11 I Ezek. 40 20 Ezek. 44 1-5