



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



THE TRESTLEBOARD

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY, 2010



OFF TO A GOOD START

Here it is, February already. We have already had our first Regular Communication of the year as well as our District Instructional. We have also welcomed two new Brothers as Fellows of the Craft and Raised Brother Bobby Lewis to the Sublime Degree. It has been a busy month so far and there is much work to be done.

Our Building Committee presented the Lodge with the proposal to do some major renovations to the Lodge in an effort to do several things. The first would bring the building up to A.D.A. Code for handicapped individuals. The second is to enhance the structural integrity of the building as well as the physical appearance and beauty of

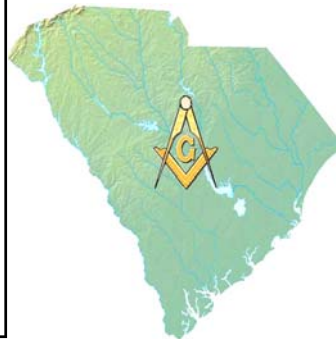
the property. Yet another goal is to increase the overall value of the building and property on which it sits. The spirit of the plan was adopted with the following conditions: 1) Get an estimate for the Forest Acres property and 2) Examine the legal status of our property and building and 3) Attempt to sell the Forest Acres property, providing an offer can be accepted.

We have much to do. This month, we will report on two petitions. We will ballot and should Raise and welcome two more Brothers into our great Fraternity.

I would encourage all of you to come out, see your Brothers, and get involved! Bro. Bosie

All Brothers are welcome. 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 2010

- *Vardie Corley, W.M.*
- *Bill Yandle, S.W.*
- *James Glyn Smith, J.W.*
- *Jim Jaco, Treas.*
- *Bosie Martin, P.M., Sec.*
- *Nathaniel Bensley, S.D.*
- *Jan Barkan, J.D.*
- *David Bostic, P.M., Stew.*
- *David Minton, Stew.*
- *Larry Snipes, P.M., Chap.*
- *Doyle J. Jaco, Jr, P.M., Tiler*

PLEASE CHECK YOUR DUES CARD—2010 ??

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MANY THANKS

My Brothers, I have been remiss in thanking our members for the help they have provided over the past months and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them now.

First, I want to thank Bro. Richard Prudence and his wife for the donation of the refrigerator and freezer. You can actually SEE the food in there now! We do appre-

ciate your generosity.

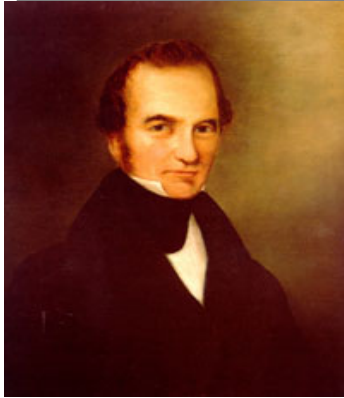
I want to thank Bro. Billy Hilliard for getting the drink coolers now located in our dining area. These have come in handy. Thanks to W. Bro. Doyle and W. Bro. Paul for handling the meals and having sodas for the Brothers.

I can't thank Bro. Jan Barkan and W. Bro. Fritz Hill for their work on name badges and shirts.

Bro. Jan is still seeing to the cleaning of the candidate clothing as well.

I want to extend my thanks to Bro. Nate Bensley for taking the donated food to Harvest Hope Food Bank.

Last, but not least, I can't thank W. Bro. Doyle and Brenda enough for helping get the annual report ready. THANKS to all!!!



Stephen Fuller Austin
(November 3, 1793 – December 27, 1836)

FAMOUS MASONS: BRO. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN

known as the Father of Texas, led the second and ultimately successful colonization of the region by bringing 300 families from the United States. Austin, a member of Louisiana Lodge No. 111 at Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, sought to establish Freemasonry in Texas. Freemasonry was well established among the educated classes of Mexican society. It had been introduced among the aristocracy loyal to the House of Bourbon, and the conservatives had total control over the Order. By 1827 Americans living in Mexico City had

introduced the American York Rite of Freemasonry as a liberal alternative to the established European-style Scottish Rite. On February 11, 1828, Austin called a meeting of Freemasons at San Felipe for the purpose of electing officers and petitioning the Masonic Grand Lodge in Mexico City for a charter to form a lodge. Austin was elected Worshipful Master of the new lodge. Although the petition reached Matamoros, and was to be forwarded to Mexico City, nothing more was heard of it. By 1828, the ruling faction in Mex-

ico was afraid that the liberal elements in Texas might try to gain their independence. Fully aware of the political philosophies of American Freemasons, the Mexican government outlawed Freemasonry on October 25, 1828. In 1829, Austin called another meeting where it was decided that it was "impolitic and imprudent, at this time, to form Masonic lodges in Texas."

©Wikipedia

For information more see:

http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen_F._Austin

Masonic Education: Moving into the 21st Century (part II)



Light from
M.S.A. of N.A.

Moving Masonry into the 21st Century second of a series

Part I – Introduction

“Change is the one constant and Freemasons have done little to keep pace with change.”
— MIC Task Force

“It’s about time!” When spoken forcefully, the phrase means an action is about to be taken addressing a situation needing immediate attention. Sometimes the words are said softly, “It’s

about time; I don’t have any,” thereby making “time” the excuse for doing nothing. How best to illustrate this conclusion?

Since the end of World War II, population figures in North America have soared. Masonic membership increased also until 1959. Since that time, while the general population has had dramatic increases, Masonic membership has dropped.

To further illustrate this trend, the Masonic Service Association (MSA) has tracked membership figures for Masons in the United States since 1925. The numbers tell a very sad tale of the decline of one of the world’s most important fraternal organizations, slowly fading away, as T.S. Elliot says, “not with a bang, but a whimper.”

This chart illustrates the rise and fall of Masonic membership from the 1920s to the year 2003.

Even at our membership’s lowest point in 1941, which included the Depression years (the worst depression in US history), Freemasonry still had 800,000

more members than we do today. In short, Freemasonry is at its lowest membership level in at least 80 years.

Interpreting the numbers

Four familiar excuses have frequently been touted as the cause of the decline.

- We are in a downward cycle.

History demonstrates that fraternal membership is always cyclical. Although national membership statistics prior to 1925 are very difficult to compile, the figures that are available clearly show cyclical ups and downs. However, our current membership total is at its lowest point in 80 years. This clearly indicates that the trend is not of a cyclical nature and must be viewed with the clear understanding that other factors are at work.

- We lost the Vietnam generation.

The Vietnam generation resisted joining traditional mainstream organizations. This was a generation turned off by any-

one over 35; to this group, any organization that embraced traditional values was distrusted. However, many years have passed producing diminished membership figures. We have no choice but to conclude the problem runs far deeper than one generation.

- We are all so busy.

Busy lifestyles complicate time commitments. No question about it. Where one spouse used to be the major source of the family’s income, now both spouses work. When they come home in the evening, they want time together rather than separate functions to attend, if indeed there is a desire to participate at all. This clearly means that any organization wishing to attract members must offer something of great interest to even be considered worthwhile.

TO BE CONTINUED...

FROM THE EAST - VARDIE D. CORLEY, W.M.

Greetings Brothers of Pacific Lodge 325!

This year has certainly started out with a bang. We had a very interesting Regular Communication during which building improvements were discussed. I would once again like to thank the building committee and especially Brother Glyn Smith for their hard work. We also conferred three degrees with more to come this month. There is plenty of work to be done!

While at the Instructional Meeting it was emphasized that the Worshipful Master must ensure his lodge is providing Masonic Education in accordance with The Lodge System of Masonic Education. Unfortunately, I have realized we are not in compliance. Brothers, we must do better.

While we do offer Masonic Education prior to conferring the first degree, that where it

stops. This means we are denying our newly made Brother the education he needs to fully understand what it means to be a Mason.

The Lodge System of Masonic Education recommends a committee of three or five members consisting of Master Masons and at least one Past Master. It has also been discussed in our lodge that the candidates should conduct this education. We will discuss and system of education at our next communication. Whatever we decide, Masonic Education must be completed.

There is so much knowledge in our lodge vested in Past Grand Masters, Past District Deputies, Past Masters and Master Masons that seems a crime not to utilize this knowledge. I am not only referring to Masonic Education but also to the work of the lodge. In every degree we have the same people giving the same lecture or play-

ing the same role each and every time. It has been my personal experience that meetings are more enjoyable when I am actively involved.

Please take the time to learn a lecture or a role and volunteer to help in the degree work. If you are already proficient in one, step up to the plate and take a swing.

One of my goals is to get every Master Mason actively involved in some part of the work because I believe it will enrich you as much as the candidate.

Fraternally,
Vardie Corley, W.M.

"The importance of improvement, setting an example, and shouldering responsibility for the future are our Masonic goals. And where will it end? In brotherhood. What we build today will endure. That is our hope and our faith!" Stanley F. Maxwell



Bro. Vardie Corley
W.M. 2009-2010



GOD BLESS
AMERICA

THAT TIME OF YEAR~ANNUAL REPORT

It is, perhaps, one of the hardest jobs of being Secretary of a Masonic Lodge. It really doesn't have to be. After all, we have forms for everything and as long as we keep up...

Well, keeping up is just a part of it. When a petitioner comes to a Lodge, there are investigative committees and reports. There is much to be done once a man joins a Lodge, both for the candidate and the Lodge. While the candidate concerns himself with the memorization of work, the Secretary has to make sure that all monies have been paid and receipts are properly received. Addresses of members

must be kept up to date. Every time a newsletter gets sent back by the Post Office, it costs the Lodge. Everyone knows the Secretary tries to pinch pennies and save the Lodge as much as he can.

Please make sure that the Lodge has YOUR correct information. You can help by dropping us an e-mail and just letting us know your address and zip+4 (if you know it) as well as your personal phone number so we can contact you.

Putting this newsletter out in electronic format is just one way to keep our costs down. As much work as it is to keep up with every thing, it is much easier when help

is given. W. Bro. Doyle Jaco, your immediate past Secretary, and his wife Brenda are constantly helping me to learn the job and to do it right.

All the Brothers of the Lodge contribute to the running of the Lodge. Believe me when I tell you that the Master and Secretary are just two Brothers. It takes an entire Lodge to make it run. For that I say thank you and I look forward to this year with great expectation.

Data from the Annual Report are available for review, but the bottom line will be included in next month's *Trestleboard*.



FEED THE
HUNGRY!

ON THE WEB
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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

February 2 - Regular Communication - 7:30

February 9 - Entered Apprentice Degree - 7:30

February 23 - Master Mason Degree - 7:30

March 2 - Regular Communication - 7:30

JOIN US FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP!

Any questions, please call

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

or

Bro. Vardie Corley, W.M. at 803-755-1900

(*) 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

NOTE: 2 Petitions out on Investigation

INDEPENDENCE ROCK - THE REGISTER OF THE DESERT

On July 4th, 2010 the Grand Lodge of Wyoming A.F. & A.M. will again commemorate the first Masonic meeting in Wyoming by re-enacting the events of July 4th, 1862. Masons from all over the world are invited to participate in this historic occasion.

The first Masonic Meeting to be held in the great Rocky Mountain region was opened and closed in due form on the top of Independence Rock by about twenty sojourning Masons on July 4, 1862. They were emigrants traveling along the old Oregon Trail, and

they represented lodges from about a dozen States. This occasional and unusual lodge was given the name of Independence Lodge No. 1 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. The name was most appropriate, for it was held on Independence Day and on Independence Rock.

Independence Rock is an elongated Granite Dome located on Highway 220 where the Old Oregon Trail crosses the Sweetwater River approximately 45 miles southwest of Casper or 65 miles northeast of Rawlins, Wyoming.

There is a Highway Rest Stop with RV dump station and pure water on the west side of the Rock. Our meetings will be held on the east side of the rock, where there will be RV and Auto parking with no services except food services and rest rooms. The meetings will be held on July 3 and 4, 2010, with both public and tyled meetings on July 4, the tyled meeting to be held on top of the rock. Rubber soled shoes and some agility are necessary for the climb.

~ All information from their website. Visit for more information at:

<http://www.independence-rock.com>



Masonic History of...



WYOMING

JULY, 2010

Official Publication of
PACIFIC MASONIC LODGE # 325 A.F.M.

A Non Profit Corporation

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