



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



## THE TRESTLEBOARD

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3

MARCH, 2011 A.D. 6011, A.L.



### LODGE IN FINANCIAL SQUEEZE

My Brothers,

After the report of the Building Committee and the Finance Committee at the March Regular Communication, we came to the grim conclusion that if we continue to spend money as we have the past couple of years, the Lodge will be "broke" within the next two years. Granted, much of the spending has been getting the former Forest Acres property ready for sale, the reality of it is that our Lodge cannot survive on the current \$ 40 a year dues.

Between the 40-year life members, the paid life members, the perpetual life members and ministers, we only have about 190 Brothers paying dues. Of these \$ 40 dues, \$ 19.25 per member goes to

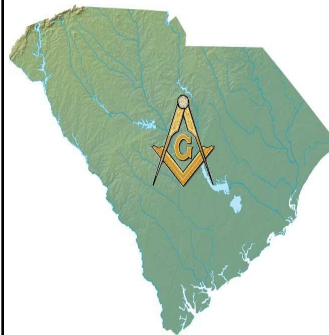
Grand Lodge for per capita.

The remaining leaves little to pay for general operating expenses such as water and electricity. We have had to go into the building fund to pay ordinary operating expenses.

No, we have not sold the property on Beckley Road, but we do have an agent who is aggressively marketing this for us. Yes, once we sell the property, we will have some capital to work with, but not enough to keep us "afloat" for much longer. We will not have to pay utilities and insurance on the other property once sold, but my friends we are in bad shape. This is mainly due to having one of the lowest dues in the state. See below for more.

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 2011

- *Bill Yandle, W.M.*
- *James Glyn Smith, S.W.*
- *Bud Mackey, J.W.*
- *Ron Mitchum, PGM, Treas.*
- *Jan Barkan., Sec.*
- *Chris Fletcher, S.D.*
- *David Minton, J.D.*
- *Oliver Hartner, Stew.*
- *Travis Rish, Stew.*
- *Larry Snipes, P.M., Chap.*
- *Doyle J. Jaco, Jr, P.M., Tiler*

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR DUES CARD—2011 ??**

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### WHAT CAN WE DO?

It was decided to send an appeal to EVERY member of Pacific in an effort to get an infusion of cash on hand to take care of necessary expenses (such as the \$ 3,000 + to repair the Forest Acres Lodge). This is NOT a mandatory assessment, nor is it intended to put ANY Brother in a position of financial distress. What this is, simply, is an appeal for those Brothers who have benefitted over

the years at the low rate. Many Lodges have raised their dues to over \$ 100 per year to keep up with inflation and to remain solvent. **We are asking for a minimum contribution, if you are able, of \$ 50.00** to help us through this difficult period. Please send your contribution to the Secretary denoting it is for a CONTRIBUTION. The members in attendance Tuesday agreed

to allow M.W. Bro. Ron Mitchum to draft BY-LAWS change proposals to deal with this problem. These will be read at the April Business Meeting and I urge EVERY Brother to attend and hear the proposed changes. NO discussion or vote can be taken until the third reading, which will be in June. I would ask every Brother to attend if at all possible. Fraternally, Bro. Bosie



**John Rutledge**  
**2nd Chief Justice of the**  
**U.S. Supreme Court**  
**Nominated by**  
**Bro. Geo. Washington**  
**Associate Justice**  
**Sept. 1789-Mar. 1791**  
**Succeeded by**  
**Thomas Jefferson.**  
**31st Governor of**  
**South Carolina**

## FAMOUS MASONS: BRO. JOHN RUTLEDGE

**John Rutledge** (September 17, 1739 – July 23, 1800) was an American statesman and judge. He was the first Governor of South Carolina following the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the 31st overall. For a time, he held dictatorial powers in that state. He was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, and he signed the United States Constitution. He served as an Associate Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court, and was the second Chief Justice of the Court from July to December 1795. He was the elder brother of Edward Rutledge, a signatory of the Declaration of Independence.

Note: Rutledge became Chief Justice while the Senate was not in session, and when they reconvened he was rejected. Still, he did serve for a time in that position. *Masonic Trivia and Facts* and The MSA 1940s study say he was a Mason, without identifying his lodge, but the publication *10,000 Famous Freemasons* does not list him.

For more information on our South Carolina see: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Rutledge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Rutledge)

©Wikipedia

This article raises a most interesting question of whether or not this South Carolinian was or was not a Mason. I would like to hear your thoughts on the matter. WAS the second Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court a Mason? I would be interested to hear of any research you have uncovered to prove that he was (or was not) a member of the Craft. Bro. Bosie

## Masonic Education: Shoe - From the Book of Ruth



Sandal worn in ancient Greece or Egypt can be seen in the illustration above.



Among the ancient Israelites, the *shoe* was made use of in several significant ways. *To put off the shoes*, imported reverence, and was done in the presence of God, or on entering the dwelling of a superior. *To unloose one's shoe and give it to another* was a way of confirming a contract. Thus we read in the book of Ruth, that Boaz having proposed to the nearest kinsman of Ruth to exercise his legal right by redeeming the land of Naomi, which was offered for sale, and marrying her daughter-in-law, the kinsman, being able to do so, resigned his right of purchase to Boaz; and the narrative goes on to say (Ruth iv, 7 and 8), "Now this was the manner in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a

man plucked off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbor; and this was a testimony in Israel. Therefore the kinsman said unto Boaz, Buy it for thee. So he drew off his shoe." The reference to the shoe in the First Degree is therefore really as a symbol of a Covenant to be entered into. In the Third Degree the symbolism is altogether different. This this degree the ceremony of taking off the shoes, as a token of respect, whenever we are on or about to approach holy ground. It is referred to in Exodus (iii, 5), where the angel of the Lord, at the burning bush, exclaims to Moses: "Draw not nigh hither; put off they shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy

ground." The Rite, in fact, always was, and still is, used among the Jews and other Islamic and Oriental nations when entering their Temples, Mosques and other sacred edifices. It does not seem to have been derived from the command given to Moses; but rather to have existed as a religious custom from time immemorial, and to have been borrowed by the Gentiles, through tradition, from the patriarchs. The direction of Pythagoras to his disciples was, "Offer sacrifice and worship with thy shoes off." Ex. 3:5 - Ruth 4:7-9

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OK, so the image shown is not exactly a "biblical" reference, but it does represent the idea of the article... Editor

## FROM THE EAST

Brothers, if you have missed our last two business meetings this may come as a surprise to you, our Lodge is heading for a financial meltdown in the next few years if we as a Lodge do not fix the dues downfall. In the next meeting an amendment to the current By-Laws will be read; this will also be read two more times before the final vote is made; this puts the vote in June's business meeting. If you are interested in voicing your opinion I suggest attending.

On another note, we raised two Brothers last month and have 3 candidates to be initiated on March 8th, come and welcome these gentlemen into Masonry. We also voted to accept two others reinstatement.

We have around 290 members in the Lodge, close to 30 on a regular basis, if you are interested in attending and cannot drive at night, please let a Brother know so we may provide a ride for you. We all would enjoy seeing the meeting full and looking for a place to sit; you can even sit in the East if you so desire.

I look forward to continuing to serve as the Master of Pacific 325, I value your input and Wisdom, and will see you at the next meeting if you are there. I hope you have a blessed time in whatever you desire to do.

- Bro. Bill -



W. Bro. Bill Yandle



GOD BLESS  
AMERICA



Emblems of the Craft  
Symbols of Masonry



**HARVEST  
HOPE  
FOOD BANK**

**FEED THE  
HUNGRY!**

ON THE WEB  
WWW.PACIFIC325.ORG

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## VISITING OTHER LODGES

One of the greatest things about being a Mason is the ability to visit other Lodges and enjoy the company and see their work. R.W. Bro. Edward Neeley told me of his visit recently to Broad River Lodge and Bros. Brian Gambrell, Del Collins and I attended an E.A. at Acacia Lodge.

I also got a call from Bro. David Newman who now lives in Louisiana. He was a bit nervous about going to a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction and he was afraid he might be a little "rusty." I assured him that it would all come back to him and that he would do just fine when they examined him. He later let me know that he had a great time and once the "formality" of trial had been successfully

completed, it was as though he was a member of that Lodge and he felt right at home. That experience has prompted him to ask for the formula to become a Perpetual Life Member.

Whether you are going to visit a Lodge around the block or around the world, you will find Brothers who have been through what you have been through and most of whom will treat you as if you were a member of their family.

Remember that when you are in another Lodge, you are a representative of Pacific Lodge and are urged to remember the code of conduct as you visit. Proper decorum must prevail at any Lodge meeting, but even

moreso during the conferral of Degrees. There can be no laughter or play during these times. The work in conferring a Degree is difficult enough for those putting it on. It is a MOST serious time for the Candidate.

Please uphold that oath to maintain the necessary rectitude of conduct. We are ambassadors of Pacific and we must convey a positive image. I have never heard anyone say that we have not, nor would I expect to hear such. I am proud of our members and it means a lot to the Brothers of the other Lodges and perhaps even more to the candidate on his Masonic Journey. Enjoy your travels! Bosie



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**WE'RE ON THE WEB**

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BOSIE MARTIN, P.M.,  
EDITOR & WEBMASTER

**MASONS IN ACTION**

**MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER**

**SETTING THE WORK**

March 1 - Regular Communication - 7:30

March 8 - Entered Apprentice Degree - 7:30

April 5 - Regular Communication - 7:30

April 12 - Entered Apprentice Degree - 7:30 (\*)

April 19 - Fellow Craft Degree - 7:30 (\*)

April 28-29 - Grand Lodge in Greenville, S.C.

May 3 - Regular Communication - 7:30

**JOIN US FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP!**

Any questions, please call

Bro. Jan Barkan, Secretary at 803-743-2501

or

Bro. Bill Yandle, W.M. at 803-600-4928

**(\*) Denotes tentative Special Communication**

**NOTE: ALL SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS DEPEND ON THE BALLOT BOX  
AND THE CANDIDATES...**

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

**FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY - MASONIC PILLARS**

I honestly do not wish for this newsletter to be one of "gloom and doom." Far from it, I want to educate and illuminate those in our Craft.

Every Lodge has difficult financial times now and then. Ours is no different. We simply need to help out IF WE CAN. Again, I know there will be Brothers who cannot afford \$ 50. That is understandable and I don't want this to worry you. If you can afford to send in any amount, no matter the size, our Lodge will take it and put it to good use.

I can assure you that the finances of the Lodge are well kept. The checks and balances system works in the Lodge just as it does in our government. OK, so perhaps that wasn't a good example. The Audit Committee does a thorough review of monies taken in and spent and we do our best to spend it wisely and for the best cause.

We have had a few costly problems arise over the years. The tree over the Lodge had to be taken down. The termites had to be treated and the damage has to be repaired. Above all, the Per Capita for EVERY member has to be paid annually to Grand Lodge.

Like everything else, inflation is taking a toll on our daily lives. While gas is hovering at \$ 3.50 a gallon, we are forced to make difficult decisions in our everyday lives. We do not know what the future holds, but we know that we all want our Lodge to be around when it comes.

Look around and see the number of Lodges that have merged or worse, simply closed their doors. I know that you, like me, refuse to let that happen to Pacific. We will work together in the interest of Masonry in general and our Lodge in particular to see that our

Lodge continues to be a driving force, not only in our community, but in our state and our country. We will continue to lead the way of CHARITY, which is the cornerstone of our Institution. We will continue to practice those CARDINAL VIRTUES that we have learned and we will survive.

Never before in the history of mankind has there been a more noble and forthright organization than this one of ours. Our nation was founded upon its principles and we owe homage to God above for giving us the guidance and the strength to weather the storms.

May HE continue to bless and keep you and our Gentile Craft. May Brotherly Love prevail and may every moral and social virtue cement us.



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c/o Jan Barkan, Secretary

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