



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



PACIFIC TRESTLEBOARD

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 12 DECEMBER, 2008



THE NEW MASONIC YEAR

It seems as if we just said hello to 2008 when here it is, the verge of the new Masonic year, 6009 A.L.

So much has happened over this past year. Much of it has been good. We have reinstated 2 and have "in the circuit" some 6 candidates. From Jan. through Oct., we Raised 9 Brothers with the potential of 3 more before year's end. This will match our number Raised last year. On a sad note, six Brothers laid down the working tools of this life to join the Great Architect of the Universe this year. We will miss them all.

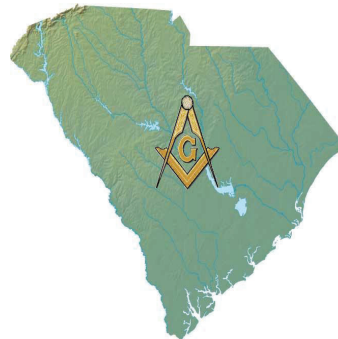
On November 4, we put five (5) petitions out for investigation. We have successfully consolidated

with Forest Acres Lodge # 410 as of January 1 and we continue to do good works in the community including flu shots for the elderly at the Lodge, supporting the Square and Compass Club of the Midlands in their charitable works and sponsoring the first annual Masonic Blood Drive.

The new year holds promise of being one of the best years ever for Pacific Lodge. I am so very proud of all we have done and all of the Brothers who have "stepped up to the plate" to do whatever needed to be done. For this, I thank you and I look forward to working with everyone in the upcoming year. May God Bless and Keep you all. Bro. Bosie

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.



W.B. EDWARD K. GUNTER AWARD RECIPIENT

Our late Worshipful Brother Ed Gunter probably forgot more about Masonry than I will ever know. He was instrumental in "guiding" me along my journey through the chairs. He gave me so many pointers and was always there with a huge smile, always watching

what was going on.

In this tradition, I find it most fitting that we have adopted into our by-laws an annual award named in this fine man's honor. W. Bro. Ed loved his family, his lodge and his country. I can't tell you how much he

meant to me and so many others of Pacific.

I was honored to be the first recipient of this award and to have his family present for this event made it even more special to me. I thank W. Bro. Fred and W. Bro. Ed. Thanks!

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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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 first question asked of M.W. Bro. Ron is "Where is Sue?" Welcome to your new home. We look forward to our future!



General of the Army , Brother 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

PLEASE JOIN US ON JAN. 2, 2009 FOR THE FIRST ANNUAL MASONIC BLOOD DRIVE

Please mark your calendars for January 2, 2009 for the First Annual Masonic Blood Drive to be held at Pacific Lodge.

An urgent plea was sent to me reminding me of the dire need for blood during the holiday season. I would ask any and all Brothers who are able to donate blood to join me at Pacific Lodge on Friday, Jan. 2 as we kick off the FIRST of what will hopefully become an annual event.

Remember that together, WE CAN HELP SAVE A LIFE. If you have questions about whether or not you will be allowed to donate, please contact the S.C. Chapter of the American Red Cross. They can answer any questions you might have.

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. FRIDAY, JAN. 2.

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!

Remember, there are a LOT of people counting on us and I want this to be a success in more ways than one. We will try to get some media coverage from this, but in any event, we want to do something positive for our community. Again, TOGETHER WE CAN. Please come out and give the "Gift of Life." Give Blood. PLEASE, COME AND JOIN US!

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

THE
LIFE
YOU
SAVE
MAY BE SOMEONE
YOU LOVE.



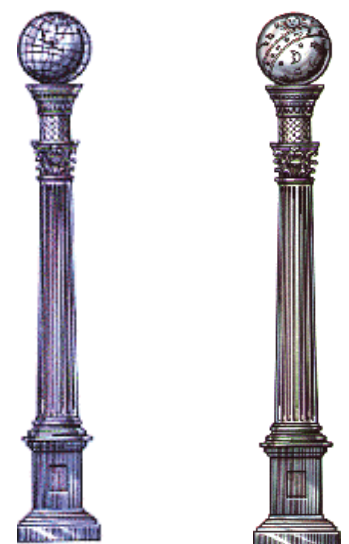

PILLARS OF THE PORCH

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



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WE'RE ON THE WEB

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BOSIE MARTIN, P.M.,
SECRETARY & WEBMASTER

MASONS IN ACTION

MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

SETTING THE WORK

December 2 - Regular Communication

December 9—Entered Apprentice Degree *

December 13 - S.C. Masonic Research Society, 11:00

December 16 - Master Mason Degree *

January 2 - First Annual Masonic Blood Drive

January 6 - Regular Communication

January 20 - Fellow Craft Degree *

January 21 - 10th District Annual Instructional Meeting

Scottish Rite Temple Garner's Ferry Road

Square and Compass Club of the Midlands - 6:00, Meal Served - 6:30
Instructional Meeting begins at 7:00

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

MIXED EMOTIONS WITH THE COMING YEAR

The holiday season and coming year bring with it a time of mixed emotions. I mentioned in an earlier issue that I don't like seeing a lodge fade and have to join another, but the plus side of that is that our Lodges will be stronger for it. Look at the knowledge we got when Columbia # 326 consolidated with us!

I look back and say goodbye to dear Brothers Dillard Miles, Clayton Collins, Thomas Fowler, Richard Snelling, Sam Youngblood and W. Bro. Curtis Spivey.

I look forward to the young men who have "asked the question" and have taken an

active role in the Lodge. I have seen a son raise his father at Shandon (Bro. Wayne Whitworth) and I have seen a father raise his son (Bro. Bill Elswick). There is nothing more touching, in my opinion.

I have seen two Brothers learn, to perfection, the first and second degree lectures. I have seen them asked to deliver those at Lodges throughout the District.

I have seen so much good done by continuing to support Mrs. Evelyn Wall, a widow from Columbia Lodge. I have seen the Lodge come together to support a blood drive to help

our community. I have seen us work to support the Square and Compass Club of the Midlands to raise money for youth charities.

We should take all of these events as joyous occasions, as we will be reunited with our departed Brothers. We will see the new members grow and flourish within the Lodge. We will see the Past Masters of Pacific, Columbia and Forest Acres Lodges mentor and lead those following in our footsteps.

I am blessed to be a part of Pacific Lodge as we travel along that Level of Time, from whose borne no traveler returns. God Bless!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Knock and it shall be opened
unto you.

Matthew 7:7, Luke 11:9



MORE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM BRO. DAVID NEWMAN

Well Informed Brethren

Author Unknown

In the Charge of the first degree of Freemasonry as printed in the manual in many Grand Jurisdictions is the phrase "At your leisure hours, that you may improve in Masonic knowledge, you are to converse with well-informed brethren, who will always be as ready to give, as you will be ready to receive, instruction."

Taking this seriously a candidate requested information after receiving his third degree; "What is a cable tow, and how long is it? What is the difference between a cowan and an eavesdropper? Tell me what a hecatomb is. What is the difference between ample form and due form, and what is a pilaster?"

Not a brother in Lodge could answer all the questions!

Here are the answers to forty common questions. Perhaps they will be of use to others than initiates:

Allegory. "Freemasonry is a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. "Allegory is an extended simile; metaphors is an abbreviated simile. Allegory is a parable, fable, fiction. It tells its story as if true, leaving the hearer to discover that it is fiction and from the discovery, learn the lesson. The fictitious character of the allegory is not deceptive; the fiction is used to teach just as the Great Teacher used parables to instruct.

Ample form; due form; form; designate the particular variety of ritual used. Ample form refers to what is done by a Grand Master or the Grand Lodge. Due form, or form as "The Lodge opened in due form" refers to a correct manner, all that is necessary, appropriate, usual, required by law or ancient usage. Due and ancient form; due form; form; used in different Jurisdictions, means the same.

Artificer. Differs from mechanic, workman, craftsman, in that the artificer uses skill and art combined; the sculptor is an artificer, the bricklayer an artisan. Tubal Cain, worker in brass and iron, was an artisan; Hiram was an artificer.

Ashlar. A building stone. They are "rough" and "perfect" in a Masonic Lodge. the "rough" stone being but partially cut, while the "perfect ashlar" is truly squared.

Cable tow. Probably from the German "Kable tau." Originally the term was "cable rope." Symbolically, like the umbilical cord which attaches infant to mother, it attaches the initiate to his Lodge. It is removed as soon as the spiritual bond of the obligation takes the place of physical restraint. The Baltimore Masonic Convention of 1843 defined the length of the cable tow as "the scope of a brother's reasonable ability." Half a mile might be beyond the length of a cable tow for a lame man and a hundred miles within its length for one with a car and a good road.

Calendar. Masonic Calendars differ from civil calendars. Four thousand years are added to civil dates to get Masonic dates; thus, this is the year 5941, A.L.-standing for Anno Lucis. (After Light). Each Rite of Freemasonry-Royal Arch, Royal and Select Masters, Knights Templar, Scottish Rite, has its own Calendar.

Caviling. Frivolous argument; raising hypercritical objections; asserting untruths to gain an end. Those who cavil attempt to persuade by means they know are not true; those who argue may present what they believe to be facts. The man who argues may be wholly sincere. He who cavils is not.

Chapiter. Often confused with Chapter. Chapiter is the capital of a pillar. Chapter is a division, usually of a book or treatise. In the church the Chapter is the body of the clergy connected with a cathedral. In Freemasonry the Chapter is a body of Masons, usually of the Royal Arch or the Scottish Rite.

Circumambulation. Walking around a central object, as an Altar. The Rite of Circumambulation was practiced by the most ancient sun worshippers. Masonic circumambulation is from East to West by way of the South, an imitation of the apparent course of the sun in this hemisphere. Anciently circumambulation from East to West by way of the North was symbolic of death. Originally such reversed circumambulation was used in Freemasonry but "ritual tinkers" and well intentioned but ignorant Custodians of the, Work have here and there sanctioned reverse circumambulation in Masonic degrees with no significance beyond that of convenience.

More information will come in the next newsletter and I would like to thank Bro. David Newman, who is in the U.S. Army and now stationed in Alabama, for providing us with this very interesting information. May God be with you, Bro. David.



FROM OUR FRIENDS AND BROTHERS AT PAWLEY'S ISLAND # 409

Last night we had what I feel was an historic Masonic event! A WONDERFUL, HEART-WARMING STORY.

As many of you know Worshipful Brother Robert Henry Cape is under Hospice care and not doing very well at all. When Brother Wayne Carey and I visited with WB Bob yesterday afternoon, I put Most Worshipful Brother Jerry Carver, Grand Master of Masons in SC on the speaker phone with WB Bob, his loving wife Carole and his EA candidate son John who is up here from Texas to be with his Dad before he goes back to Texas to get his EA Degree on Tuesday from Humble Lodge 979 of Humble, Texas. Our Grand Master knew that Bob, who could not even move his head on his pillow, had asked to be put on a plane to Houston so he could be at his son's initiation. After speaking to the Cape family, MW Brother Carver asked John if he would like to have his EA Degree done here. John was in disbelief that such a wonderful thing could happen but said he would love it to be that way.

I want to let all of you know that, within a couple of hours, MW Brother Carver had the consent of the Grand Master of Texas and Humble Lodge for Pawley's Island # 409 to confer a courtesy EA Degree on John Cape in Bob's house! He gave us special Dispensation to do so and it was done at 8:00PM last night, less than seven hours after the phone call mentioned above.

I want to apologize in advance if you did not get a call from me to attend but you must understand that I had to keep the number of Brothers small because of the venue. I can assure you that WB Bob considered that all of you were there in spirit. We had 13 Brothers present – 8 from P.I. # 409 including Bob and 4 from other Lodges in the 29th District and, of course John Cape.

Below are a few excerpts from the Minutes of this wonderful Masonic event:

Secretary Peteet noted that this degree is very special because WB Bob Cape is bedridden under Hospice care and could not go to Texas to see his son John get his EA Degree which was scheduled for next Tuesday at Humble Lodge #979 in Humble, Texas. RW Peteet asked all to appreciate the effort of our Grand Master to clear this degree with MW Brother Tommy Griffin, Grand Master of Masons in Texas and WM Mark Mullins of John's Lodge which Most Worshipful Brother Carver accomplished within two hours earlier today.

...newly made EA John Cape gave a heartfelt thanks to all, but especially his father, WB Bob, who was his inspiration to become a Mason. Several Brothers spoke of their admiration for WB Bob Cape, but it was Bob's old friend Brother Bud Chestnut who spoke truly from his heart about his long-time love and admiration for all that WB Bob has done for the Craft and his brothers.

I feel that, as Secretary, I must add a few parenthetical notes about this historic meeting:

o I know that we could have filled a large hall with Brothers who would want to be here for WB Bob and his son John, but due to the venue and Bob's condition, I felt that I had to restrict the attendance to a small number. I apologize to all that did not know about this meeting.

o WB Bob's wife Carole has been his steadfast supporter in all things regarding our Craft for many years and she deserves all of our thanks for allowing us to intrude in her home at this time.

o For those of you who haven't seen WB Bob lately, he is in really bad shape which is probably obvious when someone is under Hospice care. He is totally aware when he hears a Brother telling him that they are there, but he is unable to really communicate because all he can get out is a barley audible whisper. But if you could have watched him while this degree for his son was being done, you would have been amazed at his strength by seeing him focused on WM Seman and Candidate John while John was being obligated. It also brought tears of joy to my eyes when twice tonight, I saw WB Bob raise his hands and actually clap his fingers together. Once when his son John gave his thanks to the Lodge and his father for being his inspiration to join Masonry and secondly when his old friend Bud Chestnut spoke about him.

o Tonight has made me more proud of Masonry than anything else because I saw that this Brotherhood can accomplish all things if we just give it a try. It could have been a different Grand Master that approved this, it could have been a different Brother that was in distress, it could have been many things but tonight was proof to me that Masonry is what Masonry is – Brothers caring for Brothers!

Fraternally yours,

Hugh C. Peteet, PM

Secretary, PI 409

DDGM, 29th District

ONE MORE FROM BRO. DAVID DOWDEN:

When doing your Christmas cards this year, take one card and send it to this address. If we pass this on and everyone sends one card, think of how many cards these wonderful special people who have sacrificed so much would get. When you are making out your Christmas card list this year, please include the following:

Holiday Mail for Heroes
PO Box 5456
Capitol Heights MD 20791-5456



A PERSONAL MESSAGE from the Secretary, Editor, Webmaster...

I want to take this final space to wish each and every one of you and your families a very safe and HAPPY Holiday season. Whether it be Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy St. Nicholas Day, Happy Bodhi Day, Happy Al Hijra, Happy Boxing Day and yes, Happy Kwanzaa, I want to urge you to celebrate. Thanksgiving has passed us by, and yet we still have SO MUCH to be thankful for. Remember our Brothers and their families who are ill, suffering or lamenting the loss of someone dear to them. Remember the members of our Armed Forces and may God keep them safe and speed their return home.

I thank everyone for their most favorable comments about and contributions to this newsletter. I only hope you enjoy it as much as I enjoy putting it together. I love this Craft and am thankful for the opportunity to serve. God has granted me this most wonderful opportunity, but I couldn't do any of this without the support of my wife and family. I will pause here and say thank you. I love you all. I am blessed to have so many friends and to have the experiences and good fortune to meet Brothers from around the globe.

May the coming year treat you and your family well. Remember the needs of others and keep them in your prayers. May God Bless and Keep you all.

Bro. Bosie