



TRESTLEBOARD

NEWSLETTER OF WASHINGTON LODGE No. 20.

August 2009

To Make Good Men Better

OUR 157th YEAR



From the East

Richard Pullen, Master

Our next Stated Meeting is August 6. As you know, I missed the July Stated, probably due to a sinus infection or something like it that keeps coming back. My thanks to Brother Dongo for handling the meeting.

This month (July), we will confer the 3d Degree upon Joshua Djubek. Josh has done a fine job with the traditional form of the proficiency. The Scottish Rite Degree Team will perform the ritual. This is a great opportunity to see some excellent work. On August 13th we will initiate Alex Sepala at 7 PM. Officers are encouraged to be there at 6:30 for preparation. There will be no practice on July 30.

The next Officers School of Instruction will be held on September 1 and is mandatory for officers. All members and families are welcome to come and hear our Grand Secretary give a presentation that will explore the future of Masonry in California. The meeting will take place at the Scottish Rite center on H St.

Fraternally,
Richard Pullen, Master



Secretary's Desk

Jon Isaacson, PM

August Birthdays

- Theodore J. Miller - August 2, 1938
- Raymond F. Clausen - August 4, 1929
- Charles H. Moore, Jr. - August 4, 1947
- Richard W. Hixson - August 6, 1940
- James A. Smith - August 10, 1928
- James W. Gibbs - August 12, 1966
- Jerry W. Thornsberry - August 12, 1935
- Guy G. Heilman - August 14, 1919
- Phillip A. Richards - August 16, 1940
- Earl M. Fales - August 20, 1920
- Douglas J. Dern - August 24, 1948
- Dwight C. Bradish - August 26, 1958
- Robert E. Brooks - August 26, 1932
- Robert S. Cameron - August 27, 1951
- Reaburn D. Lenau, III - August 28, 1958
- William M. Hill - August 31, 1950



From the Editors Desk

Wally Clark

Congratulations to Zach Gossell who became a Fellowcraft on July 9th. The degree was well done and there were a number of sideliners which made it even better.

On July 23rd the 3rd Degree was conferred on Josh Djubek. Josh is from a family with a masonic heritage that goes back several generations. Josh was presented with the family Masonic Ring that has been passed down from grandfather to father and to son. Cousins, Jim West and Robert West, were also in attendance.

Now to the degree itself. The Scottish Rite Degree Team performed the degree and it was perfect. You can tell that they rehearse and the result was like going to a good play. There was feeling and emotion and when it was done you thought, "wow this was great, I'm glad I came".



The cast included such luminaries as Tony Wordlow, PGM and Fred Sorcebal, PGM, plus our own Ray Lenau PM and John Knox PM. For me, it brought many pleasant memories hearing the resonant tones of Ray and John doing their work.

We have a number of degrees coming up and I hope you will come and fill the sidelines as a good audience really helps the officers put more life into the performance.

August 13th, 1st Degree for Alex Seppala - 7 pm



One of our new Entered Apprentices, Emad Sweidan has opened the Jerusalem Cafe' at 7336 Fair Oaks Blvd. in Carmichael. He is open for lunch and dinner. The menu features Mediterranean Cuisine with a few American classics, too. The Chicken Shawerma with the house salad and a bottle of Almaza is a nice meal for a hot August afternoon or evening.

AUGUST STATED MEETING DINNER

Emad has generously offered to provide the food for our August Stated Meeting Dinner. He will bring a variety of his specialties so that you can experience the flavors of the Mediterranean.

Mark August 6th on your calendar and **please make your reservations by August 4th.** Call 888/828-4476.

The 2009 Washington Lodge Officers

Member Profile

Submitted by
Rich Wilson, P.M.

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Joseph Dongo..... Senior Warden
..... Junior Warden
Eric Hixson, P.M..... Treasurer
Jon Isaacson, P.M..... Secretary
email:secretary@washingtonlodge20.org
Jed VanWagner..... Chaplain
Michael Quinn.....Senior Deacon
David Cameron.....Junior Deacon
.....Senior Steward
.....Junior Steward
..... Marshal
Floyd Tritt..... Tiler
Eric Hixson, P.M..... Officers Coach
Ray W. Lenau, P.M..... Officers Coach Emeritus
Vince Parell, P.M.....Inspector District 414

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ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

So what have we learned in two millennia?

“The budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed lest Rome become bankrupt. People must again learn to work, instead of living on public assistance.

Cicero , 55 BC

Evidently Nothing...

A sign on a church in England

Adam blamed Eve,
Eve blamed the snake,
and the snake didn't
have a leg to stand on.

In the summer of 1968, after I had finished at Sonoma State College, my mother commented quietly, “if you’re planning on joining Lodge while your father [M. Reed Wilson] is Master, you’d better go talk to him.” Having been active in DeMolay in high school and junior college, I always expected to join Lodge – I just hadn’t thought about the process. So, I asked him, and I received my three Degrees that fall. I think I was the last Third Degree in his term, and it definitely was a very special night – for both of us.

Back then, there was no shortage of aspiring officers, so I started out learning Third Degree parts and coaching candidates. In 1974, Worshipful Al Grundel appointed me Chaplain, and a couple of years later I started up the line as Junior Steward. (Two decades later Al also appointed me to the line in the Scottish Rite Consistory). In 1983 I served the Lodge as Master, not knowing at the time that it would be only the first of three terms.

I joined Scottish Rite a couple of years after joining Lodge, and immediately became active working in several of the degrees, two of which I’m still in. I eventually served as Master of Kadosh in 1999. I also served on the Advisory Council of Tehama DeMolay Chapter in the mid/late-1970’s.

In 1990 I stepped back into the line as Junior Warden, to fill a vacancy that had occurred (I think I blinked first when the Past Masters met to discuss the situation). However, I then met and married Kitty, who was the Conductress in Naomi Eastern Star Chapter. We decided being in the East in Lodge and Chapter at the same time was not the best idea, so I remained in the South a second year. We served as Matron and Patron in 1992, then I served my second term as Master in 1993. About that same time I joined Shrine and Royal Order of Scotland.

In 1996 my younger son Andrew joined DeMolay, and I again became an advisor, this time with Robert L. Wade Chapter, with which I am still involved. Then in 2000 came my personal highlight in my Masonic career, when Andrew petitioned Lodge. I had the privilege and honor of sitting in the East for all three of his degrees, and, yes, those were very special nights.

In the summer of 2002, Worshipful Al Winter asked me to step in as Master a third time the following year (I was Treasurer at the time), so he wouldn’t have to stay in the East for a third consecutive term while he was preparing to be Venerable Master in Scottish Rite. 2003 was probably the most momentous of my three terms as Master, because in July I underwent five-way heart bypass surgery with no advance warning and had to turn the Lodge over to Senior Warden Doug Sleeper for a couple of months.

I was honored in 2005 with an appointment as the Grand Lodge Inspector for then-District 246, which comprised the Lodges at the 12th and J Temple, and I held that office for four terms, serving four Grand Masters. It was an enjoyable time, but it was also very busy.

Also in 2005, I finally joined the York Rite bodies, something Dad had wanted to do “some day.” They put me to work right away, and I served as Illustrious Master in the Council last year. This year I am serving as High Priest in the Chapter (and Ill. Master again). In addition, I am the Grand Musician for Phil Hardiman, who was installed the Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons in in Scottish in California in April. So far my rusty musical talents haven’t been needed, but there have been lots of “other duties as required”. It is a grand experience, and I’m thankful that I had the opportunity to say “yes” to Phil.

Special Acknowledgement

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Wally Clark, Editor