Testle Board



From the East

Joseph Wallach - Worshipful Master



Greetings Brethren,

As we March into the third month of the Masonic year, I am pleased to say that we have conferred our first degree, the First Degree, upon our new Brother **Isai Jaimes**.

All of Washington 20 looks forward to assisting him on his Masonic Journey.

It has been said March comes in like a lion and I would have to agree. There is much work to be done this month and practices to be had in preparation for future degrees.

Time invested in the Craft is well spent and yields great Masonic dividends as we grow and learn together. As busy as we may be, we must pause and remember.

We will pass this way but once, if there is any good we can do, let us do it now for we will pass this way no more.

Sincerely,

Washington Lodge No. 20 Free & Accepted Masons

> 1123 J Street 95814 916-443-5058

> > WLN20.ORG



WLN20 Trestle Board

Francisco Marques • PM
Editor

Dave Freeman Grammarian





Brethren,

March is here and we celebrate Spring. My personal favorite season while living here in Sacramento. It's a promise of rebirth and a welcome trend of warming, blossoms and an awakening of the senses. As an avid gardener of succulents and cacti, I now get to break them all out of the greenhouses and expose them to fertilizer and sunshine.

The same rebirth is happening with our Lodge. We have a new member, Isai James! Welcome to our fraternity brother Jaimes! It is wonderful to see the excitement through the eyes of our youngest entered apprentice and brings with it a renewed spark that motivates us in our continued path of light and learning through our craft.

Did you know that there is a lost Masonic Symbol called Ouroboros? I think it's fitting that this is the year of the Sanke in Chinese Zodiac symbol for wisdom, transformation and renewal. A time for reflection and personal growth.

According to Dr David Harrison of the York Grand Lodge:

"The symbol of infinity as a Masonic symbol can be seen in various exposes during the eighteenth century, seen as a snake or a rope twisted in a figure of eight position, a never-ending flex without any limit, which reflects the theme of rebirth within Freemasonry: The Master Mason rising from the figurative grave during the Third Degree. An example of the symbol of infinity appearing within English Freemasonry can be seen in a print of the symbol of infinity appearing within English Freemasonry can be seen in a print of various Masonic symbols in a copy of the 1769 Book of Constitutions. The symbol survives as the figure of eight snake clasp of the Master Mason apron-something that reminds us of the attention to detail within every part of Freemasonry.



The theme of rebirth can also be seen in the Ouroboros symbol - the snake eating its own tail - which can be traced to Ancient Egypt, and occurs in many other cultures, such as in Norse mythology, where it appears as Jormungand. The Ouroboros symbol was adopted by the Alchemists of the early modern period: its circular representation of eternal life and infinity being alluded to in esoteric works of the seventeenth century such as The Garden of Cyrus by Thomas Browne. "





From the South Brandon Jenkins - Junior Warden



Greetings, Brethren. I hope you all experienced a good February and are prepared for March. Remember, beware the <u>Ides</u>!

As I prepared for our first degree ceremony of the year, I often contemplated the purpose of the seemingly vast amounts of memorization work we undergo as Freemasons. Although I have felt a positive influence in my life from this endeavor, I frequently found myself considering the meaning behind why we attempt to remember so much of the ritual "by heart."

A good friend and Brother summed up the purpose of our memorization in excellent terms. Speaking of the importance of study to Freemasons, he said, "This is the work WE do." He alluded to the fact that Free and Accepted Masons no longer build cathedrals and castles with our hands; we build and shape our hearts and minds to fit in the "building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." (2 Corinthians 5:1). The memorization work we do is the method by which we internalize the principles and virtues of Freemasonry, and this is how we change ourselves into "living stones, fit for the Builder's use."

In his paper, "Three Uses of Memorization in Freemasonry," Worshipful Brother J. Scott Kenney explains further reasons for our memorization work. He states, "...the active memorization...has a progressive impact upon who and what we are...What I am suggesting is that we do not only memorize material, we gradually internalize it from the outside in – and in so doing gradually act to change who and what we are in a more moral direction."

I have definitely seen this change within my own life. The memorization work often seems daunting to me; when I begin, I often feel I will never be able to accomplish it. It appears too large a task for my miniscule brain, but I begin in faith, realizing that many, many others have accomplished this task. I use their example as motivation (Master's trestle board). I set out time to study, often while I lay in bed at the end of the day, when the world is quiet and I can be alone with my thoughts (gather tools and

materials). I start slowly, establishing a foothold on the basics (foundation). The work progresses slowly at first as I make mistakes and have to start over, but then an awakening occurs...I find that word by word (stone by stone) my mind (temple) begins to grow (build). I remember more and more day by day. As long as I continue to work, the ritual forms in my mind and I am amazed at how much I am able to remember. And finally, I look up and see that the temple is finished, knowing that it is the handiwork of the Supreme Architect much more than the work of human hands.

Because I am fallible, I know the work is never complete. There are always improvements to be made. A missed word or phrase here, a misstep or stumble there. The ashlar will always require smoothing. But the Supreme Architect loves a doer, and he blesses those that work to improve, especially when we are humble enough to know that we will always fall short. (Psalm 103:13-14)

It is my hope that you continue constructing your temple. Do not merely learn the words, learn what they mean to you. If built worthily, your temple will grow and change, becoming perfected, and it will be a house acceptable to the Supreme Architect of the Universe.

Keep building, Brother.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

- 04 Monthly Executive Committee Meeting (Zoom) Tuesday 06:30 PM
- 06 Stated Meeting Dinner (Banquet Room) Thursday 06:00 PM
- 06 Monthly Stated Meeting (LR1) Thursday 07:30 PM
- 13 Officers' Practice (LR1) Thursday 07:00 PM
- 19 Officers' School of Instruction (LR3) Wednesday 07:00 PM
- 20 Officers' Practice (LR1) Thursday 07:00 PM
- 27 Degree (LR1) Thursday 07:00 PM

APRIL

- 01 Monthly Executive Committee Meeting (Zoom) Tuesday 06:30 PM
- 03 Roll Call Dinner (Banquet Room) Thursday 06:00 PM
- 03 Monthly Stated Meeting (Inspector's Visit) (LR1) Thursday 07:30 PM
- 10 Bowling with Brothers (LR1) Thursday 07:00 PM
- 16 Officers' School of Instruction (LR3) Wednesday 07:00 PM
- 17 DARK Thursday
- 24 Degree (LR1) Thursday 07:00 PM

Washington Lodge No. 20

Mission Statement

To practice and promote a way of life that binds like-minded men in a worldwide brotherhood that transcends all religious, ethnic, cultural, social and educational differences.

Through Masonic principles and tradition, and by the outward expression of these through its fellowship and compassion, **Washington Lodge No.20 Free & Accepted Masons** provides ways in which to serve God, family, country, neighbors, and self in an environment that contributes to the enrichment and betterment of its members, mankind, and its communities.

MARCH

BIRTHDAYS

- 07 Ronald Forsberg (Master Mason)
- 11 Jared Bishop (Entered Apprentice)
- 12 James Keehner (Master Mason)
- 13 **Heath Hamm** (Master Mason)
- 16 Alexander Chompff (Master Mason)
- 17 Melvin Pinsler (Master Mason)
- 18 **Jeffrey Hardiman** (Master Mason)
- 18 Dan Mosier (FellowCraft)
- 20 Ko Chang (Master Mason)
- 23 Bill Workman (Senior warden)
- 23 Robert Hovorka, Jr. (Master Mason)
- 24 George Morrow (Master Mason)
- 24 Ivan Flowers (Entered Apprentice)
- 25 Michael Mc Glone (Master Mason)
- 26 Fred Bloom (Master Mason)
- 26 Paul Evans (Master Mason)
- 28 John Petersen (Past Master)
- 28 Gerald Singer (Master Mason)
- 30 Juan Faranda (Past Master)
- 30 Christian Wheeler (Master Mason)
- 30 Eric Van Houten (Master Mason)

MASTER MASON ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Edward Hardiman (37 Years)
- 14 Lucas Zeiher (12 Years)
- 15 James Ramey (28 Years)
- 16 Russell Tomas (Past Master) (8 Years)
- 17 Robert Cole (74 Years)
- 20 John Petersen (Past Master) (45 Years)
- 20 Christopher Boothe (11 Years)
- 21 Kyle Campbell (6 Years)
- 22 Kelvin Mark (18 Years)
- 22 John Otten (63 Years)
- 23 Marcus Bole (19 Years)
- 23 Arthur Henrikson (47 Years)
- 27 Scott Germer (45 Years)
- 28 Matt Mason (Past Master) (6 Years)
- 28 Bradley Mitchell (29 Years)
- 29 Derek Waterman (13 Years)
- 31 Christopher Hamilton (Marshal) (7 Years)
- 31 Ryan Gooch (7 Years)