



# T R E S T L E B O A R D

Newsletter of Washington Lodge No. 20

December 2010

To Make Good Men Better

Our 159th Year



## From the East

Joseph Dongo, Master

Merci, Merci, Merci.....

Congratulations to Bro. Thane Takahashi raised on November 11 and Bro. Alan Peay initiated a week after on November 18. Welcome to the Washington Lodge family.

At last Stated meeting we elected our Officers for the ensuing Masonic year and they will be proudly installed on December 12.

Our time has come and gone. Reflections!.....

We were elevated to the Oriental Chair with mingled feelings of pleasure and anxiety when the gavel of authority was placed into our own hand. We are leaving with the same mingled feelings, this time of pleasure and emptiness.

As I was dwelling on how best serve your needs as the Lodge Master, late last year, I came across this article which I would like to share with you. Many Freemasons wonder what the significance of the Masonic beehive is to our craft. Let's take a look at it: in essence, the Master's job is much like the Queen Bee's job in the symbolic Freemasonry beehive.

*"Queen bees develop from larvae, which is selected by the worker bees. She is specially fed Royal Jelly so that she becomes larger and therefore, can produce and retain a greater number of worker bees during her lifetime for the benefit of the hive. Without being chosen by her "brethren", to become the "Queen Bee", she would grow up to become a worker bee, just like all the rest.*

*While she is continuously surrounded by worker bees who meet her every need, her sole function is to serve as the reproducer of her species. During her life as the Queen Bee, she will usually only leave the hive once...and that is to reproduce. From this one-time outing, she will be able to lay eggs for the rest of her life, which is approximately 2-7 years. A well functioning lodge (I mean hive) consists of one Queen bee, (Master of the Lodge) many worker bees and a few drones. A well functioning beehive is a very busy place, indeed,...industry being each bee's highest virtue...with the exception of the drones.*

*Drones are larger than the worker bees, however they do absolutely nothing to promote the welfare of the hive. They do not gather nectar, make honey or make beeswax. They do not cap off each cell of honey that has been stored nor do they fan the cell to dry the bees wax. They also do not perform any housekeeping tasks toward the common good of their fraternity nor do they educate the younger bees in how to perform the work.*

*Needless to say, the drones do not worry about having enough honey stored to take the fraternity through the long Winter. The worker bees*

*must feed the drones or the drones would starve and die. The only reason the drones are kept alive by the worker bees is to promote the reproduction within the hive. As you can see, the hive needs very few drones if it is to function properly.*

*If too many drones have been produced by the Queen Bee, their excess numbers drag down the abilities of the entire hive because each working member has to attempt to care for and feed these non-working members of their fraternity without receiving anything in return.*

*In the bee world, their excess numbers are internally counted and when the drones numbers exceed their usefulness, the worker bees drag these non-working members of their institution to the front door of the hive where they are left, alone to perish...not because they feel no charity, but simply because for their fraternity to survive, they cannot continue to nourish and support non-working members.*

*Therefore, Worker Bees understand that:*

- *They must elect the strongest of the larvae to become their Queen (Lodge Master).*
- *If they do not continue to help the Queen (Lodge Master) reproduce offspring; they will die.*

*If each worker bee does not work in unison with the other members of the fraternity to feed, nurture and retain each and every other worker bee member of their institution, their industrious fraternity will die."*

Freemasonry is full of allegory. Allegory means that you are representing one thing, when you're actually alluding to another thing. It is a literary style which means you teach by innuendo. Most allegories include a "moral of the story". The story of the beehive, above, is an allegory. The last paragraph beginning with "Therefore, Worker Bees understand that:" contains the moral of the story.

*"Thus was man formed for social and active life, the noblest part of the work of God; and he that will so demean himself as not to be endeavoring to add to the common stock of knowledge and understanding, may be deemed a drone in the hive of nature, a useless member of society, and unworthy of our protection as Freemasons." ... Carl H. Claudy, The Master's Book, Published by The Temple Publishers, copyright 1946*

This allegory helped me realize that if we do not help the lodge gather new members, feed (teach), nurture (socialize) and retain each member of our fraternity, our lodge will dwindle in size or by necessity must merge with another lodge.

We knew first and foremost that we had a strong working group of officers and members who would help carry out the tasks within the Lodge. We also knew that for quite too long now most of the same workers have been carrying heavy loads to keep the lodge afloat. We decided to demand more from them once again but with the aim to relieve them at term by bringing in more new members, engage them early, and inject fresh and new blood, energy and vitality in our lodge. Membership development became one of our top priorities.

(Continued page 2)

The chart below depicts where we stand in comparison to the statewide average. We introduced 17 new members, including those to be voted on at the December Stated Meeting, we raised 11 members to the sublime degree of Master Masons, nearly thrice the best statewide average in 33 years of 4.1 per lodge. From our installation date of 12/27/09 to this year installation date of 12/12/10, there have been 49 weeks and if you take the 12 weeks of Stated Meeting out, we are down to 37 weeks in which we conferred 36 degrees, an average of one degree per week.

	<b>Entered Apprentices Initiated</b>	<b>Fellow Crafts Passed</b>	<b>Master Masons Raised</b>	<b>Total Degrees Conferred</b>
<b>Washington Lodge</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Statewide Average</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>14.7</b>

There are many more activities that we initiated, sustained, or restored. The detailed list would be quite long for this space: the Grand Lodge Coming Home, Roll Call, Widows Luncheon, Sojourners Night, Tri Tip PicNic, USS Potomac Trip, Past Masters Night, Lodge visitations, Regional proficiency competition, Child ID program, 75 and 50 years award ceremonies, Adopt A Freeway, Ladies Night, etc.,

My hat is off to all of you and I would like to express my sincere thanks to each and all of you.

My appreciation and indebted gratitude go to:

The Officers who endlessly got called to duty and tirelessly and remarkably responded beyond any expectations, the various committees chairmen and committee members, who helped put together some of our best effort and events ever, the Past Masters who kept encouraging and emulating with their support, presence, and counsel,

The Dream Kitchen Team who perhaps never before was so much solicited and yet came out time and time again with a meal only more delicious than the previous one, the Ladies and Widows for their engagement and continued support, the Head Candidates Coach and Candidates Coaches for stretching forth their hands to guide our new members in their baby steps in Masonry. (26 Proficiencies among them 6 third degree proficiencies).

The Trestleboard Editor and the Ambassador of Fraternal Support Services for their unparallel service and dedication.

The 414<sup>th</sup> Masonic District Inspector and the Officers Head Coach for their patience and help making our rituals better each and every time.

All of you, new and senior members who proudly stepped up and made it possible for Washington Lodge to do on its own degrees, especially the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree.

And last but not least, my heart is bursting with gratitude for all those of our brethren who came from other lodges to support us every step the way, in the lodge and outside the lodge room. You know them. Worshipful Ron Green, Worshipful David Allmuth and others, I am forever indebted to you.

There are so many things we wanted to do but did not. It was not for lack of effort. Forgive me for not knowing that a year is so short. Hope you would agree that we leave the new team with a lodge better than how we found it. We have sowed the seeds for a sustainable and prosperous lodge.

I trust that the soon to be Master, Brother Cameron and his Officers will have all of your support to lead us to a new frontier so the timeless tradition of our craft and our Lodge endures. I know they have mine.

This has been the greatest honor and privilege bestowed on me as a Mason. Along the way, I have become a better Mason and a better Man. And I am eternally grateful, to you, for giving me the opportunity to serve you.

In Brotherly Love and Friendship,

Joseph Dongo

YORK RITE BREAKFAST	DECEMBER 5, 2010	9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM
1123 J STREET		
EGGS	CANADIAN BACON	CREPES (Applesauce) COFFEE, TEA, MILK
\$10.00 Adults	\$5.00 Kids	

## The 2010 Washington Lodge Officers

Master: Joseph Dongo

Senior Warden	David Cameron
Junior Warden	Michael Quinn
Treasurer	Eric Hixson, P.M.
Secretary	Jon Isaacson, P.M
Chaplin	Jed Van Wagner
Senior Deacon	Juan Faranda
Junior Deacon	Dan Dailey
Senior Steward	John Djubek
Junior Steward	Josh Djubek
Marshall	Richard Pullen, P.M.
Tiler	Floyd Tritt
Officer's Coach	Eric Hixson, P.M.
Candidate's Head Coach	Rich Wilson
Officers Coach Emeritus	Ray W. Lenau, P.M.
Inspector District 414	Vince Parel, P.M.
Masonic Lawn Board	Richard Pullen, P.M.
Masonic Lawn Board	Dave Freeman
Ambassador	Dave Freeman

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is published monthly

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## From the West

David H. Cameron, Sr. Warden

January 6, 2010 brings our first stated meeting of 2011, but much more importantly, it brings us Roll Call. From 1852 to present many Brothers have walked our halls and whispered in its rooms, it is in those steps we follow, and those voices which still lead our way, lets us assemble to honor these Brothers, who this year have taken the long, quiet, and peaceful walk to the Celestial Lodge above, and found rest in their Fathers House.

This my last opportunity to thank the Line of 2010. Each Brother, those elected, those appointed, those who hold committees, those who sit on a Board, those who coach, those who pray and those who attend degrees and give their all. It would seem I'm done, thank the cooking crew, the Job's Daughters, DeMolay, and Eastern Star. Yes I know, but they are all part of our line, did I mention our Families, Widows, and visitors too. You see, although we are 12 men chosen to lead, we are 12 men without sight or direction, unless you are there to guide us and keep our Compass true. Thank you everyone of Washington Lodge #20 for another wonderful year.

God Bless you and your Family this holiday season. I ask each of us to think of one person, one friend, or family member who would understand why you gave the jacket or sweater you thought they would like so much, to a stranger, and then watch that friend smile at the news.

**The 160th Installation of Officers is  
December 12, 2010 at 2:00 pm  
Downtown Temple  
RSVP by December 1, 2010  
1-888-828-4476**



## From the South

Michael P. Quinn, Jr. Warden

As Brothers of the Craft we all share a common bond as members of this Great Fraternity. We should also remember that as Human Beings we share a common mortality and as we entered this world in total dependence on our parents and family, so should we share a common dependence on each other. By the same token this common bond requires us to support each other through good work and charity. Then through our collective efforts we may the better be enabled to understand our surroundings, evaluate our current condition, adapt to the changes surrounding us, and conquer the challenges confronting us; thereby enjoying a fuller, brighter, and better life. My brothers, as I move from the Pillar of Beauty to the Pillar of Strength, I will know that each of you supports me in this effort.

Fraternally,  
Michael P. Quinn

**Editor's Desk** Victor U. Sanchez

As we ponder the year soon to pass, let us remember those who have forged ahead and laid the pavers upon which we will soon travel. Remember those who have sacrificed of themselves to make our going much easier, and let us not forget those who will follow us, will we make their travels easier?

As we look upon a new, and hopefully, better year, let us endeavor to fulfill our goals, reach out to others, and guide those who need our wisdom, experience, and knowledge. Let us not shut out those who have gone this way before, but rather learn from their experience. Those of us recently elevated must beseech our older brethren to teach us the traditions of our craft as well as the why of said tradition. Otherwise we stand to lose much history when our brothers' journey reaches his destination. It is too often that we take such things for granted and it is not until we lose its meaning that we realize that we should have learned more than what we had.

Welcome our new brothers by sharing with them the reasons why we do that which we do and why it is important to do it in the proper manner. We must be willing to guide each other into the light and away from the darkness, it is why we became Masonic brothers!

Finally, let us bind ourselves to the leaders we have chosen to take us into the next year and may that Supreme being, who holds us all accountable, give to them the serenity to accept the things that cannot be changed, the courage to change the things they can, and the wisdom to know the difference.



**Adopt-A-Freeway Program  
Volunteers Needed  
December 18, 2010 at 9:00 AM  
Litter Removal on Freeway 244: On & Off Ramp I-80 at  
Auburn Blvd.  
Meet at Del Paso Park, corner of Park Road and Auburn Blvd (near the Ramp.)**

## A great Christmas Gift

The Rainbow Girls of Woodland Assembly #2 are currently selling Masonic Eastern Star and Rainbow Girl hand towels, to raise money to attend Grand Assembly 2011 in Fresno, California.

The Towels are very beautifully embroidered with the Masonic Eastern Star or Rainbow Girl logos, and fit very easily in a stocking for that special Mason, Eastern Star or Rainbow Girl. The towels come in a set of two and cost \$10.

Please contact Barbara Mustard, Past Mother Advisor and member of the Eastern Star, at 707-365-0829. We hope to hear from you soon and look forward to seeing you at your next Stated meeting dinner, so you can see the towels in person.

Thank you for your support,

Kaylee Mustard

Woodland Assembly #2



## Ambassador's Corner

Bro. Dave Freeman

I recently became aware of college scholarship funds that will be offered by the California Scottish Rite Foundation in 2011. The scholarships are for undergraduate and graduate level studies. The specifics are as follows:

The basic undergraduate scholarships are for California residents aged 17 to 25 seeking a college degree as an undergraduate in any fully accredited college or university nationwide. The study plan major must be in a standard academic field. Class load is a 12 unit minimum while maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or better. Grant awards will be for \$2,000 per year, until graduation, or for a maximum of four years.

The Ruppert Memorial Scholarships are for California residents aged 17 to 25 seeking a college degree as an undergraduate in the study of (1) medicine, (2) engineering, (3) forestry, or (4) public school administration. The grant award is for \$2,000 per year until graduation, or for a total of four years. Class load is a 12 unit minimum while maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or better.

The Baldwin Scholarships are for California residents pursuing a masters or doctorate degree in the study of public school administration in the elementary or secondary levels of the public education system as administrators or superintendents; or graduate level study in speech and language pathology. The grant award is \$6,000 for one year, and is not renewable.

It is anticipated that approximately twenty-five (25) scholarships will be awarded in total. Applications for financial aid can be obtained by contacting the California Scottish Rite Foundation, 855 Elm Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90813-4414, telephone (562) 435-6061.

There may be other sources of Masonic Funds available for college scholarships, and if there are, I will report on them in the January Trestleboard. If you have any questions, call me at (916) 363-7158.



### Stated Meeting

December 2nd, 2010

5 PM: Social Hour Billiards

6:00 PM: Dinner

7:00 PM: Meeting

Please RSVP:

Monday November 29th

(888) 828-4476

### December Schedule

*December 2: Stated Meeting*

*6:00 pm Dinner*

*December 4: 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Bros. Basham and Bro. Lacoy*

*9:00am 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Bro. Basham*

*11:30 pm Lunch*

*12:15 pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Bro. Lacoy*

*December 9: Installation Practice*

*7:00 pm Installation Practice*

*December 12: Officers Installation*

*2:00pm Installation, 4:00pm Reception*