

TRESTLEBOARD

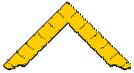


Culver City – Foshay Lodge No. 467, F. & A. M.

<http://home.earthlink.net/~ccf467>

September 2006

FROM THE EAST



The Renaissance is here!

Brethren, I have the honor to report to you that there is a true *renaissance* happening in California Freemasonry! In the past 30 days, I have attended two meetings of the Masonic Formation Task Force *Introduction to Masonic Formation* in Anaheim and in San Francisco, and by the end of September; I will have been part of the other two introductory classes in Fresno and Sacramento and *we will have certified about 200 California Master Masons as Masonic Formation Leaders!*

WHAT IS MASONIC FORMATION? – Simply stated, *Masonic Formation* is a term coined by Very Worshipful John Cooper III, our Grand Secretary and a former Past Master of our Lodge, and since adopted by the *California Masonic Formation Task Force* to identify a new concept in California Freemasonry. A new concept in which we will be attempting to bring Masonry back from the brink of possible extinction to enjoy a rebirth of traditional Masonic values and to take the practice of Masonry out of the closed environs of our various Lodge rooms and exemplify Masonic philosophy, morality and virtues *publicly* in our daily living – in short a real renaissance of Masonic thought, education, ideals and behavior – taken public to the benefit of all, Mason and non-Mason alike.



Some eighteen months ago, with the blessing and financial support of Grand Lodge, a task force was formed by order of our then Grand Master of some twenty one Brothers representing a wide spectrum of Masonic age and experience, from several relatively new Master Masons to Past Masters, some with over 50 years experience in the Craft. The young and the old (guys like me), the North and the South, big cities and small hamlets, big Lodges as well as the smaller ones were represented. We were a true cross-section of California's Masonic population. Our stated mission was to analyze the current state of our Fraternity and its relevance in modern society and to recommend ways of insuring not just the survival but the very regeneration of the Craft in the future. We asked ourselves many questions and looked for answers both inside and outside the Fraternity. We analyzed our current and past membership and its habits of participation in Masonic life both in and out of the Lodge. We determined that currently, fully 30% of our newly initiated Brothers never advance beyond the First Degree. We asked why this might be so, and what, if anything, could be done to reduce that percentage and continue to provide our Lodges with high quality, informed and committed Masonic cadre necessary to take the Craft into the new millennium strong, responsible, appealing and most importantly, *viable* to the new generation of men from whom the next generation of Masons will be drawn.

The Task Force determined that a fourfold approach was needed to accomplish this noble (and frankly) essential goal. We believe that the very future of Freemasonry is at stake and that we have been given a great opportunity to serve the Craft and the World – an opportunity which, if not taken now, may not come this way again in our lifetimes.

With the blessing of Grand Lodge officials, includ-

ing the entire Grand Line (past, current and future), we recommended a new approach to Masonic membership, Masonic Education and Masonic Behavior or Emulation. What resulted was the concept of Masonic FORMATION – a long term view of what makes a man a true Mason and when viewed in that context, the term *formation* is most apt. The earth was *formed*, the mountains, valleys, canyons, lakes and oceans were *formed* – over time in all their glorious perfection; and because of that very perfection, have survived in their magnificence for all these many millennia (in spite of human stupidity, greed and ineptitude calculated to destroy them).

Likewise, we believe that if a Mason is properly *formed* – he too will be better equipped to survive and prosper, and in his survival and moral prosperity, in turn, insure the continuing survival and prosperity of the Craft.

The Masonic formation *process*, like its namesake, is not a rapid or necessarily easy process. Like its geologic namesake, the same *time, heat, pressure and patience* that built earth's mountains, valleys, oceans, deserts and the continents themselves, are necessary to make a man a Mason and then temper and try him, over time to purify his intentions and take his rough ashlar from its original "as quarried" state of imperfect potential to the beautifully squared, polished and perfect ashlar of a true Master Mason.

Under the concept of Masonic Formation, this process begins long before a man ever becomes a formal candidate. Like Michelangelo, we too must test the rough stone *before* beginning to carve it – to check for uncorrectable flaws, hidden inclusions and voids in the basic fabric of the stone itself which no amount of artistic skill could correct. The artist did this by methodically and carefully "Ringing" the stone with his hammer and listening for the sound - was it pure and true? or flat and dead? We need to do the same in selecting men who seek the honor and the *responsibility* of joining our Fraternity. We must take the trouble to see if the basic fabric of the applicant is true to the hammers tap and not flawed to the point where no amount of carving or Masonic edification can eliminate the flaws in his character. Remember we are charged with *making "good men better"*, not with salvation of the badly flawed and the undeserving among us. We want only men

"under the tongue of good report and coming well recommended". An applicant for the Craft must meet OUR standards, not we his!

Assuming our applicant "rings true" and we have examined and *approved* his motives for seeking admission to our antient and Honorable Fraternity, and if our investigator's have done their job correctly with workmanlike dedication, we proceed with step two in the formation process – we begin his education in the Craft *before* he ever sets his one shod foot into the Lodge room. We, as Master Masons must undertake the responsibility to *prepare* him to receive and understand the real meaning of his upcoming degrees by way of friendly guidance, elucidation of our expectations of him at this stage in his Masonic Life, and general guidance to the initiate – for that is what he is at this point – *worthy and pure but ignorant and unschooled*. He will remain so if, as is currently the custom in some Lodges, of handing the newly initiated Mason, that portion of the cipher appertaining to the 1st degree and telling him "we'll be in touch, in the meantime, don't forget to come to the Stated Meeting Dinner." – Welcome to Freemasonry! This practice must cease! ***Master Masons are Made, not Born!***

I will be continuing this topic in the next Trestleboard and explain the final two steps in the Masonic Formation process along with its many potential benefits and occasional pitfalls and misconceptions.

In the meantime, don't forget September is when I read and explain the various and sundry resolutions before us at Grand Lodge this year (which can also be found on the Grand Lodge Web Site). October is Grand Lodge of course, and November is our annual lodge elections. All of these things are major Masonic responsibilities. ***Remember that the rules are always decided by the guys who show up!***

Finally, I encourage all our Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Brothers to come upstairs after the Stated Meeting Dinner in September, where one of the Master Masons will share with you the resolutions before Grand Lodge, and get *your* opinions and comments which he will pass on to me and which I will take into consideration when casting my vote in October.

Fraternally and respectfully,
Dick Pierce
Master

Greetings From the West



In a review, August was dark fro the most part with the exception of the 11th and the 26th. On the 11th, we had the Los Angeles Scottish Rite Table Lodge for 2006. It was a marvelous event with a great dinner (really I mean great), and a good time.

On the 26th was the Fiesta La Ballona at the Veterans Park. As usual we had our Child ID booth and Brother Douglas Warner was in charge of organizing the event.

In September we will have our Stated Meeting Dinner on the 6th. I hope that you will all be there. I do not know at this time of any degrees scheduled for September, however I will know by the Stated Meeting. On the 28th we will have the Sept. OSI, the first OSI presided over by our new inspector Doug Eichen.

(Therefore, it would be best if all officers and those who want to be officers would be there to support Culver City Foshay and to support our new Inspector).

Thirdly, I would like to take this time to speak to all those planning to attend **Grand Lodge** in October (October 8th though the 11th). Worshipful Clarence Kussner and Douglas Warner are making arrangements for renting a van to get to and from Grand Lodge. Please contact either Clarence or Doug if you are interested in riding up in the group and if you are attending.

Fraternally,
Todd F. Langworthy
Senior Warden



At the pot luck dinner prior to the August stated meeting, Masons from various Lodges in our district gathered for a farewell to our District Inspector Douglas Calhoun PM, and his wife Sharon. The Calhouns will be residing in Henderson, Nevada.

Wor. Richard Pierce (r) presented Wor. Calhoun a plaque as a token of appreciation for all of his hard work over the years. Wor. Calhoun worked tirelessly between Grand Lodge and Culver City Foshay Lodge during the period when our Charter was suspended.

George Washington's Masonic Life

A Chronology



Many legends circulate about the Masonic activities of George Washington. Below is a list of documentable Masonic occurrences within the lifetime of George Washington. Indeed, some lore about the various lodges that he may have visited are surely true, but without written contemporary proof, do not appear in this list. In addition to these Masonic lodges, ceremonies and celebrations, at least fourteen letters survive written by Washington to various Masonic lodges and grand lodges expressing his esteem for the fraternity. He owned at least two Masonic aprons, three Masonic constitutions and a Masonic jewel, as seen in his estate papers at the time of his death in 1799.

Source: <http://www.gwmemorial.org/Chronology.htm>

1752	November 4	Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, Initiated as Entered Apprentice
1753	March 3	Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, Passed to Fellow Craft
	August 4	Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, Raised to Master Mason
1778	December 28	St. John the Evangelist celebration, marched in masonic procession
1779	June 24	St. John the Baptist celebration, marked with American Union Military Lodge at West Point, NY.
	December 20	Proposed by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania as General Grand Master of the United States, however never enacted.
	December 27	St. John the Evangelist celebration, celebrated with American Union Military Lodge at Morristown, NJ
1781	October	Reportedly visited Lodge No. 9 at Yorktown, VA with General Lafayette after defeat of British General Cornwallis
1782		Brothers Watson and Cassoul of Nantes, France, present Washington with exquisite silk masonic apron, acknowledged by letter August 10
	June 24	St. John the Baptist celebration, marked with American Union Military Lodge at West Point, NY.
	December 27	St. John the Evangelist celebration, marked with Solomon's Lodge No. 1, Poughkeepsie, NY

Washington's Masonic Life continued

1784	June 24	St. John the Baptist celebration, marked with Alexandria Lodge, Alexandria, VA
	June 24	Made and honorary member of Alexandria Lodge No. 39 (Now Alexandria-Washington Lodge, No. 22) Alexandria, VA
	August	Presented a masonic apron made by Madame de Lafayette by General and Bro. de Lafayette
1785	February 12	Walked in masonic funeral procession for Bro. William Ramsay at Alexandria, VA
1788	April 28	Named charter Worshipful Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22 when a new charter from the Grand Lodge of Virginia was issued. Unanimously re-elected Master December 20, 1788 for one year.
1789		Elected honorary member of Holland Lodge No. 8, New York, NY
	April 30	Inaugurated President of the United States using Bible from St. John's Lodge No. 1, New York, NY
1791	April 15	Welcomed by members of St. John's Lodge No. 2, New Bern, NC
	May	Received the greetings of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina by General Mordecai Gist, Grand Master, Charleston, SC
1793	September 18	Acting Grand Master, laid the cornerstone for the United States Capitol, Washington, DC
1794		Sat for William Williams, portraitist, in Masonic regalia at the request of Alexandria Lodge
1797	March 28	Received a masonic delegation from Alexandria Lodge

Culver City Expo 2006

My Brothers as you are aware there is mounting interest in Freemasonry and we have an opportunity this month to plant a seed of Masonic curiosity to the men of the greater Culver City area.

The way we can do this is by presenting ourselves as Masons at the Culver City Expo 2006 which is being held Sept 7, 2006 from 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm. We have permission to wear our regalia and our Shriner Brothers will also be present.

Don Hunziker, John Exline and Bill Williams are the primary responsible Brothers for this event. We will meet this Sunday at the Lodge (9:00 am - 11:00 am) and come up with a flexible plan for the presentation. We will be able to give information on becoming a Mason, the qualifications, the first steps, and explain some of the Degree process with in limits. This will only be a small but important first introduction to: (1) inform curious participants to what Mason do and a sample of what we are about and (2) invite the participants to a Breakfast (Upon approval at the Sept. Stated Meeting) similar to the one we recently had. Hopefully we will have a Breakfast by end of September so there will be no loss of interest. We will not be handing out applications but will have on hand some of our Literature.

The Shriners will also be present and they will bring a computer/DVD with information as to what they do (Children Hospitals). They too will be in their regalia.

So my Brothers, you are encourage to attend the Sunday (Aug 27th) kick-off meeting and help in the establishment of first Community Exposure.

Bro. Bill Williams, MM

Officers School Of Instruction

The Officers School of Instruction will be at on Thursday, September 28th at 7:00pm at Southern California Lodge No. 529, in Westchester.

Temple Association Meeting

The Temple Association meeting for July will be held on Tuesday September 26th at 7:00 pm. All Masons including Entered Apprentices and Fellow-crafts are welcome.

Hiriam Award Recieptents

1979 *Norm Cool
1980 *Ronald H. Burlin
1980 *Westel R. Reed
1981 William Rogister, Jr., P.M.
1982 *Edwin D. Cooke, P.M.
1983 Merrick Rees Hamer, P.M.
1983 *Leon H. Stewart, P.M.
1984 Andrew R. Pedersen, P.M.
1985 *Lewis Turner, P.M.
1986 Robert L. Exline
1987 *Herbert Hargrave Jr., P.M.
1987 E. Dale Peck, P.M.
1988 *George Bozeman
1989 Kenneth McCubbins, P.M.
1992 John L. Cooper III, P.M.
1992 David R. Stoy, P.M.
1994 Douglas K. Calhoun, P.M.
1997 Philip L. Clarke
1998 Clarence D. Kussner, P.M.
1999 Nikolaus Filip, P.M.
2000 John E. Riordan
2001 Douglas S. Warner
2002 Ronald M. Balin
2005 Thomas O. Fleming

*Deceased °Withdrawn

Congratulations

You have been Accepted to
Hogwarts School
of Witchcraft and Wizardary
Please use Muggle Transportation
to join us on
Friday, September 22, 2006

For Our
Start of Term Feast
At Hogwarts
aka Culver City Masonic Lodge
9635 Venice Blvd.
6:00 to 9:00 pm
Tuition \$10 Gallions

School Robes Optional &c

Bethel No. 2 Culver City
Jobs Daughters International



September 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6:30 Dinner 7:30 Stated Meeting	6	7	8
10	11	12	13 Practice or Degree	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Practice or Degree	21	22	23 Jewish New Year 1st day
24 Jewish New Year 2nd day	25	26 Building Assn Mtg. 7pm	27 Practice or Degree	28 OSI - 7 pm So. Calif Lodge	29	30

Dates to Keep in Mind

Sunday, 9/17—Pasadena Scottish Rite, R. Stephen Doan will be going over Grand Lodge Resolutions.

10/8 through 10/11—Grand Lodge Annual Communication - Clarence Kussner and Douglas Warner are arranging to obtain van for transporting up to San Francisco. If you are interested, contact either of them. Clarence's email address is: clarencek@comcast.net phone: 310-398-7683

Doug Warner's email address is: dougie03@sbcglobal.net phone: 310-202-6747

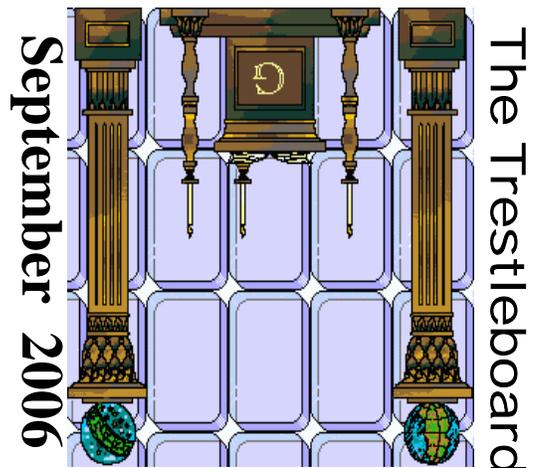
If anyone is aware of any group which would be interested in renting the Lodge for a function, contact the Temple Association. Ask for Bill Williams.

Anyone who would like to place an article or photo in the Trestleboard, please contact Alan Ackereisen. The email address is: alacker@dslextreme.com

OFFICERS 2006

Richard K. Pierce (June)	Master	John J. Bournazos (Megan)	Sr. Steward
Todd F. Langworthy	Sr. Warden	William T. Williams	Jr. Steward
Christopher Sanders	Jr. Warden	Merrick Rees Hamer, ^{PM,HA}	Organist & Asst. Officer's Coach
Douglas S. Warner, ^{HA} (Amy)	Treasurer	Donald C. Hunziker	Tiler
Andrew R. Pedersen, ^{PM,HA} (Donna Lee)	Secretary	Clarence D. Kussner, ^{PM,HA} (Renee)	Officer's Coach
Edward Calzaretto	Chaplain	Douglas Eichen, ^{PM} (Dianna)	Interim District Inspector 366 th Masonic District
James P. Blumenthal (Linda)	Sr. Deacon	Alan Ackereisen	Trestleboard Editor
Dahlan L. Netsch	Jr. Deacon		
George Wollin (Lynne)	Marshal		

Culver City Foshay Lodge No. 467
 Andrew R. Pedersen, Secretary
 22428 Napa St.
 West Hills, CA 91304



Culver City Masonic Temple
 9635 Venice Blvd.
 Culver City, CA 90232