

TRESTLEBOARD



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

<http://www.calodges.org/no467/>

March 2007

FROM THE EAST



Greetings from the East, I hope that I see all of you for our March 7th Stated Meeting Dinner because we will be honoring one of our Brothers with a Golden Veteran Pin. This honor is also known as the Fifty Year Pin and is one of three such honors we have scheduled for this Year.

The award and dinner on the 7th will be honoring Ron Chandler, our inspector Fred Davis will be there as will be many of Ron's friends, I hope to see you there.

Later in the Year we will also be honoring Luis Vignoli and Howard E Mitchell who also will be receiving Fifty Year Pins, More information about subsequent Dinners is forthcoming.

When I was receiving my degrees, I can remember on the North wall of the Tyler's Room there was a framed document with the two Pillars situated on the Tree Steps with the All Seeing Eye between the Pillars.

The document was entitled "What is a Mason";

A MASON is a MAN and a BROTHER whose TRUST is in GOD.

He meets you on the LEVEL and acts upon the SQUARE Truth is his COMPASS and is ever PLUMB. He has a true GRIP on all that is RITE.

He is loyal to his ORDER- and whatever his DEGREE he is MASTER of himself.

In his LODGE of life he wears unstained the white LAMB SKIN of innocence from his INITIATION an an ENTERED APPRENTICE he travels ever EAST toward the LIGHT of WISDOM until he receives the final--the DIVINE PASSWORD that admits him into the INEFFABLE PRESENCE OF THE ETERNAL SUPREME GRAND MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE--GOD toward the LIGHT of WISDOM until he receives the final--the DIVINE PASSWORD that admits him into the INEFFABLE PRESENCE OF THE ETERNAL SUPREME GRAND MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE--GOD

As long as I am a member of this fraternity, it is not likely that I will ever be honored with a Golden Veteran Award, as I joined Masonry in 1998 and was 41 at his time.

But it is my hope that at least I will come close to approaching the perfection emulated in those words. Let us not forget what brought us here, a chance to make a good man better.

Fraternally,
Todd Franklyn Langworthy
Worshipful Master



FROM THE WEST



Greetings from the West,

Attention all Entered Apprentices!
On March 28th we shall be holding a night of Second Degrees with the intention to pass a number of E.A.'s to the Fellow Craft degree.

As many of you have been working on your E.A. material for some time and have expressed an interest in advancing to the Second Degree, this would be an ideal opportunity for such, and essentially gives all potential candidates for passing a month to prepare their proficiencies.

Please contact me as soon as possible if you wish to part of this grand night, and also let me know if you are able to arrive earlier than the standard 7 o'clock, as we may begin early for officers and candidates who are available.

My sincere hope is that this night of Second Degrees will generate a number of enthused Fellow Crafts with their sights set on being raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by the end of the year. As always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

fraternally,
Christopher Sanders, Senior Warden

EDITOR'S CORNER



Greetings Brothers,
You can contact me at brianwredfern@gmail.com to send me submissions, questions or comments.

The submission deadline is the 18th of every month.

Fraternally,
Brian Redfern, Trestleboard Editor

FROM THE SOUTH



Greetings Brethren,

This is the first of what will be several columns from the South this year. In each column, you can expect to find a variety of topics including Lodge issues and business, menus for the upcoming Stated Meetings, thanks to Renee Kussner's generosity, and some items of Masonic Education We have a lot going on at each level of our Lodge from initiation of the youngest Entered Apprentice Masons and their advancement through Master Mason proficiencies, to the business end of things including our newly installed Secretary and the essential activities of our Building Association Board.

Culver City Foshay prides itself on being not the largest but the most interesting Masonic Lodge in our District and perhaps in Southern California and we are happily growing with the addition of many fine men coming up through our ranks. At the same time, running a Lodge takes a bit of work. Not really a LOT of work, but sustained attention to the details that make our Lodge such a special place and that also keeps our doors open as a viable entity. As your newly installed Junior Warden, I am becoming more aware of these duties on a daily and weekly basis. Mostly it's a lot of simple things. Making sure the tables are set up for dinner, which George Wollin has graciously been helping me with. Making sure we keep the place "up to snuff", a job which Rod Wollin has agreed to take on as our new Building Manager.

Another pivotal role is that of the Rental Manager. He is responsible for keeping revenues flowing in so we can keep our beautiful building open. With Bill Williams' recent resignation, Clarence Kussner has again stepped in to save the day as our Interim Rental Manager. You can always find W. Kussner, Pierce, Hamer, Revel, and Filip stepping up to the myriad tasks involved in ritual, fellowship, building management, our obligations to Grand Lodge, and so forth. Interesting how so many of

LODGE CALENDAR



March 7TH

7:30pm Stated Meeting (6:30pm Dinner)

The award and dinner on the 7th will be honoring Ron Chandler, our inspector Fred Davis will be there as will be many of Ron's friends, we hope to see you there.

Brother Ron Balin and his wife Dolly are the new Worthy Patron and Worthy Matron of Ocean Park Chapter # 245, Order of the Eastern Star, in Santa Monica. They invite all of you to come to one of the dinners and see what O. E. S. is all about, and maybe you would like to join. Contact Ron or Dolly for our calendar at (310) 839-7162.

They are waiting for your call.

Fraternally,
Ron and Dolly



Past Master Merrick Hamer with Muhammad Faisal Ashfaque, just after receiving his First Degree on 2/21/07

the tasks of our Lodge seem to fall so often on the same small group of stalwart shoulders. Which brings me to the point of this column. Being a member of any Masonic Lodge, but particularly of this one, offers you opportunities and responsibilities. We speak much of the opportunities of fellowship and self-improvement. There are also great opportunities for training in leadership. Some of us have led and managed before. Many more of us have probably not. If you want to learn how to be a leader, the most immediate opportunity open to you is to become one here in the Lodge.

Take on a task or an event. You won't have to do it all alone. The PM's, those of us currently in the line, and so many others are here to back you up. I know this first hand from all the help I've received as Senior Deacon and now as Junior Warden. You can make this feel so much more like YOUR LODGE just by doing something for or with it. We are looking for brothers who would like to become officers of the Lodge. We are looking for brothers who would like to serve on the Building Association Board. We are looking for a brother who would like to become our permanent Rental Manager. We are looking for brothers who would like to help Brother Wollin set-up before Stated Meetings and/or for refreshment at the end of degree nights. We are looking for brothers who can help our Senior Warden, Chris Sanders, by coaching and mentoring newer brethren as they study for their proficiencies and make their way through the degrees. The list goes on, but you get the idea that, if you would like to become more involved in making Culver City Foshay YOUR LODGE, there are lots of ways to help out and get more involved.

Just call me and let me know how you would like to get involved and we'll make it happen. If you have an idea that we haven't already thought of, that's great too. My office phone number is (310) 445-3350 and my home number is (310) 649-6661. Okay, now for a fun one: Who among my brother Master Masons can tell me the martial origins of the foot positions in the due guards of the three degrees? I'll have a prize for the first one to call or email me with the right answer.

Lux, Veritas, Fraternity
Jim Blumenthal, Junior Warden

PAST MASTER'S COLUMN



Tim Veneck, P.M.

Greetings, from Antioch CA. I must say this year for me has been a year of renaissance. First off let me say Colleen and I miss all of you and my brothers at Culver City Foshay are always in our hearts.

I would like to share this article with my brothers at Culver City Foshay. I came across it on the internet and I thought you would also like to read it. ENJOY

Illustrious Carl Harry Claudy, 33*, Past Grand Master, 1943, Grand Lodge, District of Columbia

"I have been a Mason for a year now," remarked the Young Brother to the Old Past Master. "While I find a great deal in Masonry to enjoy and like the fellows and all that, I am more or less in the dark as to what good Masonry really is in the world. I don't mean I can't appreciate its charity or its fellowship, but it seems to me that I don't get much out of it. I can't really see why it has any function outside of the relationship we enjoy in the Lodge and the? charitable acts we do."

"I think I could win an argument about you," smiled the Past Master.

"An argument about me?"

"Yes. You say you have been a Master Mason for a year. I think I could prove to the satisfaction of a jury of your peers, who would not need to be Master Masons, that while you are a Lodge member in good standing, you are not a Master Mason."

"I don't think I quite understand," puzzled the Young Mason. "I was quite surely initiated, passed, and raised. I have my certificate and my good standing card. I attend Lodge regularly. I do what work I am assigned. If that isn't being a Master Mason, what is?"

"You have the body but not the spirit," retorted the Old Past Master. "You eat the husks and disregard the kernel. You know the ritual and fail to understand its meaning. You carry the documents,

but for you they attest but an empty form. You do not understand the first underlying principle, which makes Masonry the great force she is. And yet, in spite of it, you enjoy her blessings, which is one of her miracles. A man may love and profit by what he does not comprehend."

"I just don't understand you at all. I am sure I am a good Mason."

"No man is a good Mason who thinks the Fraternity has no function beyond pleasant association in the Lodge and charity. There are thousands of Masons who seldom see the inside of a Lodge and, therefore, miss the fellowship. There are thousands who never need or support her charity and so never come in contact with one of its many features. Yet these may take freely and largely from the treasure house which is Masonry.

"Masonry, my young friend, is an opportunity. It gives a man a chance to do and to be, among the world of men, something he otherwise could not attain. No man kneels at the altar of Masonry and rises again the same man. At the altar something is taken from him never to return--his feelings of living for himself alone. Be he ever so selfish, ever so self-centered, ever so much an individualist, at the altar he leaves behind him some of the dross of his purely profane make-up.

"No man kneels at the altar of Masonry and rises the same man because, in the place where the dross and selfish were, is put a little of the most Divine spark which men may see. Where was the self-interest is put an interest in others. Where was the egotism is put love for one's fellow man. You say that the 'Fraternity has no function.' Man, the Fraternity performs the greatest function of any institution at work among men in that it provides a common meeting ground where all of us--be our creed, our social position, our wealth, our ideas, our station in life what they may?may meet and understand one another.

"What caused the Civil War? Failure of one people to understand another and an inequality of men which this country could not endure. What caused the Great War? Class hatred. What is the greatest leveler of class in the world? Masonry. Where is the only place in which a capitalist and laborer, socialist and democrat, fundamentalist and modernist, Jew and Gentile, sophisticated and simple alike meet and forget their differences? In a Masonic Lodge, through the influence of Masonry. "Masonry, which opens her portals to men because they are men, not because they are wealthy or wise or foolish or great or small but because they seek the brotherhood which only she can give.

"Masonry has no function? Why, son, the function of charity, great as it is, is the least of the things Masonry does. The fellowship in the Lodge, beautiful as it is, is at best not much more than one can get in any good club, association, or organization. These are the beauties of Masonry, but they are also beauties of other organizations. The great fundamental beauty of Masonry is all her own. She, and only she, stretches a kindly and loving hand around the world, uniting millions in a bond too strong for breaking. Time has demonstrated that Masonry is too strong for war, too strong for hate, too strong for jealousy and fear. The worst of men have used the strongest of means and have but pushed Masonry to one side for the moment; not all their efforts have broken her, or ever will!

"Masonry gives us all a chance to do and to be; to do a little, however humble the part, in making the world better; to be a little larger, a little fuller in our lives, a little nearer to the G.A.O.T.U. And unless a man understands this, believes it, takes it to his heart, and lives it in his daily life, and strives to show it forth to others in his every act--unless he live and love and labor in his Masonry--I say he is no Master Mason; aye, though he belong to all Rites and carry all cards, though he be hung as a Christmas tree with jewels and pins, though he be an officer in all Bodies. But the man who has it in his heart and sees in Masonry the chance to be in reality what he has sworn he would be, a brother to his fellow Masons, is a Master Mason though he be raised but tonight, belongs to no body but his Blue Lodge, and be too poor to buy and wear a single pin."

The Young Brother, looking down, unfastened the emblem from his coat lapel and handed it to the Old Past Master. "Of course, you are right," he said, lowly. "Here is my pin. Don't give it back to me until you think I am worthy to wear it."

The Old Past Master smiled. "I think you would better put it back now," he answered gently. "None are more fit to wear the Square and Compasses than those who know themselves unworthy, for they are those who strive to be real Masons."?

Ill. Carl H. Claudy, P.G.M., 33?, wrote the above essay in 1924.

One of America's most noteworthy Masonic authors, Most Worshipful Claudy was the Executive Secretary of the Masonic Service Association from 1929 to 1957.

He was raised in Harmony Lodge No. 17, Washington, D.C., in 1908, serving as Master in 1932 and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia in 1943.

Before his passing on May 27, 1957, he wrote many "Short Talk Bulletins", essays, and plays, among them The Lion's Paw, The Master's Book, and The Rose Upon the Altar.



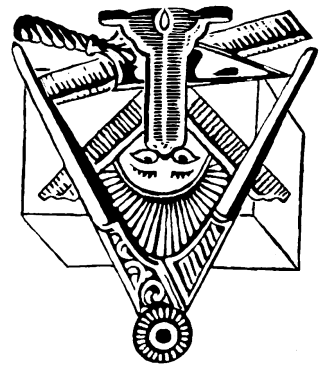
OFFICERS 2007



Master	Todd F.Langworthy	Marshal	Brian Redfern
Senior Warden	Christopher Sanders	Senior Steward	William Williams
Junior Warden	James Blumenthal	Junior Steward	Masato Francis Taguchi
Treasurer	Douglas Warner	Tiler	George Wollin
Secretary	Clarence Kussner, P.M.	Organist	Merrick Rees Hamer, P.M.
Senior Deacon	Nikolaus Filip, P.M.	Inspector,	
Junior Deacon	Dahlan Netsch	366th Masonic District	Fred Davis
Chaplain	Edward Calzaretto	Trestleboard Editor	Brian Redfern

Culver City Foshay No. 467 F. & A. M.
Clarence Kussner, Secretary
4259 Sawtelle Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90066-6017
clarencek@ca.rr.com

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The TRESTLEBOARD

Culver City Foshay, Lodge No. 467
9635 Venice Blvd.
Culver City, CA 90232