

Trestleboard

May 2009

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

*A year dedicated in Loving Memory to
Gaylord "Pops" V. Roten
Outstanding Masonic Youth Leader &
Past Master of Liberal Arts Lodge No. 677*



FROM THE EAST

As we enter the month of May, there are a couple of events that I would like to briefly mention. First, at our Stated Meeting and Dinner on Wednesday, May 6th, we will be honoring the Past Masters of Culver City Foshay Lodge. The men who have been and in some cases are, responsible for the long existence and future of Culver City Foshay Lodge. Next, on Wednesday, May 27th, we will be holding an open Table Lodge for Masons and their male friends, especially those who are not Masons. There is room for only 50 men, so if you would like to attend, please make your reservations as soon as you can. There is a flyer in this Trestleboard regarding the Table Lodge with the information. Lastly, since the Installation in January we taken in 5 candidates and they will all have received their 2nd Degrees by the end of the month and I am proud to say that your Lodge Officers have done an excellent job performing the degrees for the candidates.

If you have a computer, like I do, you probably have email and get bombarded with all kinds of solicitations, forwards and just plain old "junk" mail, as I do, both on my computer and fax. I usually delete most of this stuff without evening looking at it. However, one article caught my eye which was a forward from one of our past Grand Masters of California. It speaks to not only all Americans, but the world in general, especially those who dislike Americans. And given what's been happening in the world, the threats against our Countrymen, wherever they may be, I felt this article was still as relevant as it was when I first used it six years ago. Below is the article:

"What Is An American? You probably missed it in the rush of the news last week, but there was actually a report that someone in Pakistan had published in a newspaper an offer or a reward to anyone who killed an American, any American. So an Australian dentist wrote the following to let everyone know what an American is, so they would know one when they found one. An American is English, or French, or Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek."

"An American may also be Canadian, Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Australian, Iranian, Asian, or Arab, or Pakistani, or Afghan. An American may also be a Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navaho, Apache, or one of the many other tribes known as native Americans."

"An American is Christian, or he could be Jewish, or Buddhist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in America than in Afghanistan. The only difference is that in America they are free to worship as each of them chooses. An American is also free to believe in no religion. For that he will answer only to God, not to the government, or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the government and for God."

"An American is from the most prosperous land in the history of the world. The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence, which recognizes the God given right of each man and woman to the pursuit of happiness. An American is generous. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their time of need. When Afghanistan was overrun by the Soviet army 20 years ago, Americans came with arms and supplies to enable the people to win back their country. As of the morning of September 11th, Americans had given more than any other nation to the poor of Afghanistan. Americans welcome the best, the best products, the best books, the best music, the best food, the best athletes.

But they also welcome the least. The national symbol of America, The Statue of Liberty, welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, the homeless, tempest tossed. These in fact are the people who built America."

“Some of them were working in the Twin Towers the morning of September 11th, earning a better life for their families. I’ve been told that the World Trade Center victims were from at least 30 other countries, cultures, and first languages, including those that aided and abetted the terrorists.”

“So you can try to kill an American if you must. Hitler did. So did General Tojo, and Stalin, and Mao Tse-Tung, and every bloodthirsty tyrant in the history of the world. But, in doing so you would just be killing yourself.” Because Americans are not a particular people from a particular place. They are the embodiment of the human Spirit of Freedom. Everyone who holds to that Spirit, everywhere, is an American.”

God Bless Us All
Fraternally,
David Francis Philips, Master



FROM THE WEST

This month’s article from the West will focus on only one thing, our upcoming Table Lodge. Last year, we had a very successful Table Lodge thanks to the support of many of our members. It provided an opportunity for those who have never, prior to the event, had the chance to see or participate in a Table Lodge, access into a new and wonderful world of fraternal exchange unique to what only a Table Lodge can provide. What made this event unique was the fact that Non-Masons were invited to peek into a traditional event that in the past has only been open to the brethren of a Lodge.

Once again, this opportunity will present itself as we hold our Table Lodge for the year 2009. Also, as a special bonus, the Worshipful Master of our Lodge has pledged to cover the cost of the event for any of our progressing candidates. What this means is this...if you have been initiated as an Entered Apprentice or as a Fellow Craft in our Lodge, you are welcome to attend, **FREE OF CHARGE!!!** There is only one requirement, you **MUST RSVP** in order to receive this FREE OF CHARGE offer.

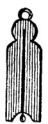
There will only be **50 spots available** for our Table Lodge and so the sooner you RSVP the better your chance of having a place to sit at our event. In order to RSVP as a FREE OF CHARGE attendee, you must contact me and make your reservation. My information is as follows:

Jonathan Dilley
(310) 920-3510
TrojanKnight@gmail.com

If I do not hear from you, you WILL NOT received the FREE OF CHARGE offer **generously provided OUT OF POCKET by our Worshipful Master, David Philips**. This only confirms the dedication our Worshipful Master has in the advancement and fellowship of and with our Candidates!

To the other brethren, please see the flyer printed within this Trestleboard on further information for Table Lodge as well as how you can also RSVP for the event. Remember, there are only 50 spots available so RSVP NOW!

Fraternally,
Jonathan Dilley
Senior Warden



FROM THE SOUTH

Greetings Brethren!

Here now my words for reflexion, as they pertain to thoughts on secrecy:

The emphasis to maintain secrecy, both in the charges of our obligations and by iterated inculcations in our rituals, is likely to produce attitudes on the parts of those who embrace the call to conceal and of those who view us from

the outer ports our spiritual community. Lest the true purpose be misunderstood, we should eschew the idea that secrecy, as we practice it, is an outgrowth of oppression, even though the penalty for negligence is great. Neither should we be disturbed by others who would claim that it is rooted in a disposition for superiority. Consider the words of the Master when lecturing to the newly created Master Mason, and when referring to the Book of Constitutions, guarded by the Tyler's Sword:

"The Book of Constitutions, guarded by the Tyler's Sword, reminds us that we should be ever watchful and guarded in our thoughts, words and actions, particularly when before the enemies of freemasonry [or the uninitiated], ever bearing in remembrance those truly Masonic virtues, Silence and Circumspection."

Certainly, we recognize the right of members of our order to practice their work in privacy, and we carefully preserve that right. Yet this is still secondary to the pursuit of discovery in a world not detectable to the ordinary senses: Brightness out of darkness and the tenor of a silent world; for these are sublime conditions that would be rendered impotent to the mind if polluted by anticipation.

The words of the Master must be contrasted with the words of Thomas Gray who in a Churchyard Elegy wrote:

*"Full many a flower is born to blush unseen
And waste its sweetness on the desert air."
"Full many a gem of purest ray serene,
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear."*

The overt meaning of these lines would suggest that many have been neglected who might contribute to humanity and to the world. This is, of course, sadly true and is probably what Gray had in mind when he penned them. Yet such an interpretation does not consider that pollination, not requiring human scrutiny, leads to perpetuated life and that transpollination leads to new forms. Like the gems under the shadow of our own death, their time will come, if not during our possible return to earth, for the benefit of our posterity who may one day realize their potency.

Fraternally,
Merrick Rees Hamer, PM, Junior Warden



FROM THE BETHEL

First off, I would like to give a heartfelt "THANK YOU!" to the gentlemen from our Lodge. Your monetary gift to our girls is very much appreciated and will go a long way in helping defray the costs of Grand Bethel this year.

This is a very special Grand Bethel year for us. Sarai, one of our very dedicated Daughters will be a Grand Bethel Girl for the 2009 - 2010 session. She will travel all over the state of California and represent the girls in not only our own Bethel but all of Job's Daughters at various functions and activities. We are very proud of her and know she will represent us and the Masons well.

Our regular Stated Meetings are every second and fourth Monday at 7:00 pm. Any Master Mason is welcome to join us, and we appreciate seeing you at our meetings.

Along with our regular meetings this spring, we are having practices for our Grand Bethel variety show. If you would like to see our variety show act, we will be practicing every Monday of our meetings, from 6:00 until 6:45 pm. Come see our show, and stay for the meeting.

May Stated meetings: Monday, May 11th
Our Bethel's fun activities coming up in May are:

From Saturday evening May 2nd through Sunday morning May 3rd.

We will be having a LazerTag Lock-in party. At the time of this writing the location has not been finalized, but it may be at a LazerTag in Bellflower. For more information on this activity, contact one of the Bethel council members.

On Monday, May 25th is our annual Memorial Day BBQ.

Come have some BBQ with us. Prospective members are more than welcome!

On Friday, May 29th is our Bethel's 85th Birthday Bash.

We will be hosting a 20s themed Birthday Party for our Bethel, which was chartered in 1924. Bethel 2 is the oldest

Bethel that is still in its original location. Come celebrate with us.

For more information on these and other activities visit our website: www.bethel2.org

FROM THE BEE HIVE

We would like to welcome our newest Bees, Kennedy and Georgia.

Our Bee Hive meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, from 6:30 until 7:30 pm. These meetings are for the young girls who are 9 years old. They participate in crafts and games and begin to learn what it means to be a Job's Daughter.


The International Order of Job's Daughters is an order for the young daughters, granddaughters, sisters and nieces of Master Masons. Just like you, we need new members to grow, thrive and continue. All of our activities are perfect opportunities for any and all prospective members to get to know us and have to a good time together.

Joyce Strader, Bethel SecretaryWebmistress, www.bethel2.org jdstrader@msn.com

Culver City-Foshay Lodge, No. 467, Free and Accepted Masons

Ye Olde Lodge

The Worshipful Master and Brethren
announce that a Table Lodge will be holden,
honouring all Freemasons, whithersoever dispersed.



Ye are invited to sup with them
on Wednesday Evening, the Twenty-seventh Day of May
at Seven-thirty of the Clock.
9635 Venice Boulevard, Culver City, California.
(Open to Masons and their male guests)

A modest amount of \$20.00
will cover the cost of all removes and rounds
and make delightful and ample, the repasts and libations!
(Non-alcoholic beverages will be served on request or when appropriate)

R.S.V.P. with Worshipful David Francis Philips
dfpdfp@sbcglobal.net or call (213) 389-4567