



Culver City-Foshay # 467 F. & A. M.

TRESTLEBOARD

MARCH 2011



FROM THE EAST

March Opportunities to Inform and Learn

This month will give the brethren three chances to participate in interesting and informative events involving Freemasonry. All Culver City-Foshay members are encouraged, if possible, to attend and participate in the following occasions:

March 12th: Masonic and Youth Order Information Night

On this night, we are inviting potential Masons to share a meal with us, listen to information about our society, ask questions, and speak with us. Several presentations will be made by members of the lodge, as well as the Job's Daughters and the DeMolay, including a brief dramatic performance of Plato's "Allegory of the Cave" which succinctly explores ideas and values important to Freemasonry.

Our secretary has sent out invitations to a number of men who have inquired about Freemasonry, but all of our brethren can do their part by inviting friends, neighbors, and co-workers who may be interested. Encourage them to bring their families since this night's activities aim to enlighten our audience to the opportunities for young people in our youth orders. The dinner, with a tasty brisket for the main course, is free to everyone. The night's schedule is as follows:

Saturday, 6:30 p.m. March 12, 2011

6:30: downstairs welcoming and dinner

7:15: gathering in the lodge room, overview of Masonry, including brief dramatic presentation, "Myth of the Cave"

7:40: "How to Become a Mason": summary of requirements and application process

7:50: Overview of Job's Daughters / DeMolay

8:00: Individual questions and discussion with guests and membership

8:15: Bethel dance

March 9th and 10th: Masonic Home Tour in Covina

This is a good chance to see firsthand one of our core charities—the care and support of our older brethren and widows. Newer Masons and their life partners especially are encouraged to see how we care for our own later in life. This is also an opportunity to have your view heard on what needs our Masonic homes will face in the future and how we can fulfill those needs. As Grand Secretary Allan Casalou states, "A key objective in our plan is to extend Masonic relief and significantly advance the field of care giving provided by

Masonic Homes, the segment of the fraternity that has always provided care and services for the fraternal family.” The address and schedule are as follows:

Masonic Home, 1650 East Old Badillo St., Covina, CA 91724
March 9th and 10th
5:45-6:25 p.m: Optional tour
6:30-7:30 p.m.: Forum
7:30 p.m.: Sample Dining Services specialties

Note: RSVPs are requested by Friday, March 4th.

March 27th: Annual Service Bureau Grand Master Breakfast

At 8:00 a.m. on this Sunday, the 79th Annual Breakfast will be served at the Hilton LAX Airport Hotel. The event will feature an address from this year’s California Grand Master, the Most Worshipful William J. Bray III. Our lodge has purchased a table at the breakfast, and lodge members are invited to sit at it for free, on a first-come-first-serve basis. If interested, please contact our Chaplin Ed Calzaretto as soon as you can for more information. This is another chance to learn about our Service Bureau and its activities. Recently, the Service Bureau held its annual elections. This year’s officers are as follows:

President: Bob Beeson
Vice President: our own inspector Michael Bear
Secretary: Victor Lerma
Treasurer: Fred Votto
General Members: Rick Baca, Vernon Dandridge, Ralf Dash, Chuck Hollingsworth, Vic Majarian, Rio Santonil, and Jeff Yates.

1st and 3rd Mondays of each month: DeMolay

Our recently initiated class of DeMolay has begun its regular meetings at 6:30 on these evenings. Lodge members are free to attend and impart wisdom and encouragement to our younger counterparts, as well as to learn more about the great traditions of the DeMolay order. The same goes for the Job’s Daughters, who meet likewise on the 2nd and 4th Monday evenings. Our orders can learn much from each other.

Fraternally,

Curtis Scott Shumaker
Master



FROM THE WEST

Greetings Brethren!

In February we held our first Stated Meeting since the Installation of Officers in January. I found the environment impressive, for with the first sound of the gavel, all non-serious talk quickly ceased and the officers donned their white gloves and assumed their stations. Our Worshipful Master is seeking a traditional appearance and the gloves add formality and elegance. Although with the summer days ahead, we may sweat more, but the addition will improve our image, which I appreciate.

Last month, I listed some of the duties I would be performing this year. Among those duties, was the overseeing the coaching of candidates. This month, I shall shed more light on that duty.

Firstly, I would like to draw attention to the proper environment and tools available to candidates learning their work. We shall continue with the “Candidates Schools of Instruction (CSI),” a program that had begun two years ago and which had been held on Saturday evenings. To improve attendance, we have moved the days of instruction to Sundays, as this seems accessible to more candidates. The schedules, as well as other supporting information are posted on our web-site, which any member of the lodge may access.

Secondly, it is my pleasure to announce the names of those who will be assisting me with the coaching duties. They are Worshipful Merrick Hamer, Past Master, Worshipful, Clarence Kussner, Past Master, Brother Edward Calzaretto and Worshipful Brother Curtis Shumaker, Master. I believe that these brothers are energetic and highly informed. Worshipful Hamer (whom I call “Dr. Mason”), eats, sleeps and lives Masonry all his life. If you have attended our lodge, you will understand why my selection of him needs no further explanation. Worshipful Kussner was my personal coach and guided me through the learning of each of my degrees. I enjoyed his many jokes, making the learning process comfortable. Brother Calzaretto spent many years seeking qualification to become a capable coach. Since he had struggled, he serves as a good example and incentive for others who find the learning process difficult. Finally, Worshipful Shumaker is a University Professor. His skills at writing and teaching will add important elements to the instructional program since it involves partly memorizing, interpreting and writing.

In fine, I invite all candidates of this lodge to take advantage of opportunities designed for their benefit. I also invite any member of this lodge to visit and notice the progress that is being made and to observe that our lodge has been moving forward.

Fraternally,

Masato Francis Taguchi
Senior Warden



FROM THE SOUTH

Masonry Unites Men Together

At our degree on Wednesday February 9th we witnessed a sad moment for our lodge. We had to bid farewell to one of our brothers who was moving back to his hometown to pursue bigger and better opportunities. This type of shift brings about two profound impacts to any lodge. First and foremost, a line position becomes vacant and the lodge has to scramble to find a replacement for this brother, and secondly, perhaps more importantly, it leaves a void in the hearts of all who have become attached to and fond of that brother. I felt this jolt of emptiness as I realized I am losing someone who has been a part of my life for so many years. It made me realize how much our connections with our lodge are profound and what is meant by the phrase “on this principle Masonry Unites men of every country sect and opinion and causes true friendship to remain among those who might have otherwise remained at a perpetual distance. “

Indeed we become much closer and our bonds much stronger as we journey through our Masonic life. The most important fruit of labor on this journey is the lifelong friendships we establish. I don't think the mere moving of a brother from a lodge to another jurisdiction would ever sever this bond, but it would most certainly create a void like when we hear “In the beginning god created the heaven and the earth, and the earth was without form and void.” So do we feel this void, but the spirit of god will once again bring back the light of brotherly love and friendship into our lives. As one brother leaves our midst, but our hearts, we gain many more who will come into our lodges, embrace our craft and strive to make better inhabitants of the same planet out of themselves. It will be our indispensable duties to embrace them, nurture them and ensure that they, like us, will become upstanding and productive members of our communalities and this great society of ours.

Fraternally,

Mahmoud Ghaffari, P.M.,
Junior Warden

CULVER CITY-FOSHAY LODGE INSTALLS THE OFFICERS FOR 2011

On January 9th, the members of Culver City-Foshay Lodge assembled around the checkered pavement of their impressive lodge room for the 90th installation of their officers. The Worshipful Curtis Scott Shumaker was invested with the responsibilities of leadership and was seated in the Oriental Chair. Those who were installed with him to serve the lodge were: Masato Francis Taguchi, Senior Warden; Mahmoud Ghaffari, PM, Junior Warden; Douglas Scott Warner, Treasurer; Clarence David Kussner, PM, Secretary; Edward Calzaretto, Chapalain; Curtis James Falzoi, Senior Deacon; Snohomish Kevin Brown, Junior Deacon; Kenneth Leonell Burgess, II, Marshal; Sam House, Senior Steward; Brian Engelman, Junior Steward; Merrick Rees Hamer, PM, Organist; and George Joseph Wollin, Tyler.

After the retiring Master, Jonathan Paul Dilley, offered his remarks, summarizing the previous year and bidding propitious days to his successor, the evening began with the officers, attired in the white gloves and aprons, making their stately entrance, accompanied by the music of Brahms, led by the Master of Ceremonies, Christopher R. Sanders, PM. An invocation of God was sounded by the voice of Carroll Robins Runyon,

serving as the Installing Chaplain, and the national emblem was conducted into the room by members of Bethel No. 2, International Order of Job's Daughters, for the pledge of allegiance. Each officer was enjoined with the important duties of his office by the Right Worshipful John L. Cooper, III, PM, Junior Grand Warden and Past Master of the present lodge, and was conducted to his proper place or station. The last officer installed was the Master who gave his assent to the ancient charges of the craft. He was presented with the sacred symbols of Geometry and Architecture and the Charter of the Lodge. Thence, he was conducted to the oriental seat and was invested with the traditional gavel.

Worshipful Shumaker introduced poet Brother Bryan D. Dietrich who recited several selections from his vast reservoir of original verse. Brother Dietrich is nationally recognized for his achievement in literature and has been hailed by many scholarly journals for his contribution to poetry. Recently raised a Master Mason in Oklahoma, his selections included thematic material on the "Lost Word," making a memorable impression upon the brethren. Several presentations were made, including the traditional apron to the Retired Master who pledged his continued support for the lodge. After the formal benediction, accompanied by the musical strains of "Dona Nobis Pacem," the assemblage reconvened downstairs for a gourmet meal prepared by chef George Wollin.

There is anticipation that the ensuing year will include many endeavours to stimulate the intellection and learning abilities of the brethren. Worshipful Shumaker, a professor of English has already established a sequence of book discussion groups that inspire Masonic, intellectual thought. His hope is to reintroduce the traditional "Saints John Day," and add to the enviable and massive library of the lodge, including the acquisition of a complete set of the Oxford English Dictionary. A perusal of the lodge's Trestleboards will reveal Worshipful Shumaker's aspiration to develop a "book of Hours," similar to an almanac designed for daily encouragement of Masonic thought and actions. Please join me in bidding success to our new Master.

Fraternally,
Merrick Rees Hamer, PM



CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER

The Great Artificer of the Universe brings us winds of change.
May the brethren embrace that change.
May we open our hearts and minds to what it may reveal.
And I pray that wisdom prevails over all that we do.
Let us move forward, and reach a common goal.
For all who have gone before us, and all who will be.

Amen

Ed Calzaretto
Chaplain

| MARCH 2011 | | | | | | |
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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | 1 | 2 Dinner 6:30 pm Stated Meeting 7:30pm | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 Meet the Masters 10am-12pm Candidates School 9am-2pm | 7 | 8 | 9 7:30 pm 2 nd Degree | 10 | 11 | 12 Masonic Information Night 6:30 pm |
| 13 Meet the Masters 10am-12pm Candidates School 9am-2pm | 14 | 15 | 16 ° 7:30 pm Degree/ Practice | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 Meet the Masters 10am-12pm Candidates School 9am-2pm | 21 | 22 | 23 ° 7:30 pm Degree/ Practice | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 Meet the Masters 10am-12pm Candidates School 9am-2pm | 28 | 29 | 30 7:30 pm Degree/ Practice | 31 | | |



Chef's MENU:
Stated Meeting Dinner

Chicken Milanese
Vegetable Medley
Baked Haddock "Gloucester Style"
Mixed Green Salad
Dessert

George Wollin
Chef