## **TRESTLEBOARD**

Culver City Foshay Lodge No. 467 F. & A. M. http://calodges.org/no467/

December 2007

Culver City-Foshay Lodge, No. 467 Free and Accepted Masons of California Invites you, your family and friends to attend its Annual Installation of Officers to be holden the evening of 22 December, 2007 at 7:00 o' clock.

Christopher Randolph Sanders as Worshipful Master
James Pickard Blumenthal as Senior Warden
Jonnathan Paul Dilley as Junior Warden
Todd Franklyn Langworthy, retiring Master

A Social Hour, beginning at 6:00 o' clock will precede the ceremonies.

A Reception and Holiday Party will follow.

### FROM THE EAST



Greetings from the East, as I write this article I can't help but feel a little sad. Those of you who know me might remember that I have spent 5 Years in positions or offices where I write articles for the Trestleboard,(three years as Jr Warden as our lodge had lost its Charter, one year as Sr Warden and this year as Master).

I regret that I will be handing over the reigns and letting other officers keep you abreast of the goings on at Culver City Foshay.

Happily, I must say that I am pleased with the progress made by Chris Sanders, Jim Blumenthal and Jonathan Dilly as well as the rest of the new team; and I am looking forward to seeing them installed on December 22nd. Still I personally will miss writing these monthly installments.

What should be my final word of information or encouragement? Culver City Foshay Lodge has a beautiful Lodge Room, anyone who has seen it can witness a sense of belonging. However, still others have mentioned that they have felt a certain spirit about the lodge, there is something that remains after the members leave.

One member has told me that after he had finished his work and was turning off the lights. He turned around having the feeling that all of our stations were filled.

Of course nobody was there but still I understand what he means. Our Culver City lodge was built in 1928, and it was built as a Masonic Lodge (we have the original blueprints upstairs if you would like to see them).

Our lodge has been through a lot of history and tradition, one that I am proud to be a part of.

Still I wonder what words of wisdom or counsel would our former brothers have for us in our world today. What would our fallen brother in WW1 or WW11 have to say to our brothers today in Iraq? What would our early brothers at MGM have to say to our brothers in the Entertainment Industry today? What would our early Culver City Leaders have to say to our members today who are involved in Civic Projects or our Chamber of Commerce? What Masonic teachings transcend time and are relevant in all times and generations. I am often inspired by our lectures; however this last Wednesday the 21st was a third Degree for Lee Gaucher our officers did a fine job in their new stations and Merrick gave a full form lecture. I myself had not yet written this article (even though it was due yesterday), words in the Third Degree Lecture inspired me.

"The Beehive is an emblem of industry, and recommends the practice of this virtue to all created beings from the highest Seraph in heaven to the lowest insect in the dust. It teaches us that we came into this as world rational and intelligent beings. So we should be industrious ones: never sitting down contented while our fellow creatures around us are in want. Especially if is in our power to prevent it."

Subsequently even though last night was a special night for Lee Gaucher, we did not forget to remind our brothers present that our Secretary Clarence Kussner is organizing a Turkey Dinner for "One Incredible Family" again this year and many of the brothers present are helping to cook those birds this Friday, even though many of us are working. Also the excess money not needed to buy Turkeys will go to the Midnight Mission in Downtown Los Angeles. Thank You Clarence, this project was indeed a success. Thank You also to Francis Taguchi for assisting Clarence in this project.

### FROM THE WEST



Greetings from the West,

Given that this shall be my last article as Senior Warden, I would first like to thank the Great Architect of the Universe for granting me the Strength to make it on my Masonic journey to the East thus far. I would next like to thank the brethren of Culver City-Foshay Lodge for all the strength and support they have shown me through the years. I am honored and proud to have been elected as the Worshipful Master for 2008, and I pray that I am able to provide the proper guidance and Wisdom due to such an outstanding lodge.

Many thanks in particular to the officers who are progressing, to the newer members who are getting involved and learning the ritual with skill and enthusiasm, to the teachers and the seasoned members of the ritual teams who are assisting in educating the brethren and maintaining our high standards, and to the brethren and friends and family who help in all aspects of running the lodge. You are truly the strength the Great Architect has given me to put the craft to work. I have much to say and many things to share, but I will save most of that for my Installation and the upcoming year. For now, I would simply like to sign of as Senior Warden expressing my gratitude and wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season. Please note the information within the important announcements in this issue of the Trestleboard, indicating that the Installation of the 2008 officers will be held on December 22nd, and that the first stated meeting of 2008 will be held on the 9th of January, the second Wednesday of the year.

Fraternally, Bro. Christopher Sanders, Master-Elect

## FROM THE EAST (Cont.)



God created us in our infancy dependant on others for our own survival, eventually learning to fend for ourselves and even prosper. Even though, we should not forget that our creator has but us on this planet for a reason and that is to provide for others dependant on protection and security. Thus was man formed for a social and active life, the noblest part of our work for God, he will so demean himself as not to be endeavoring to add to the common stock for knowledge and understanding; may be deemed as a drone to the hive in nature, a useless member of society, and unworthy of our protections as Masons.

Finally, I did give the Masters congratulation to the candidate. To convince the world by your acts that on becoming a Master Mason you have become a better man. In circumspect, perhaps that might be the word of good counsel that we would here if we could listen to our past brothers.

BE A BETTER MAN. Happy Holidays Todd Franklyn Langworthy Worshipful Master

## LODGE CALENDAR



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 5 7:30pm Stated Meeting (6:30pm Dinner)

TUESDAY DECEMBER 11 7:30pm Building Association Meeting

SATURDAY DECEMBER 22 6:00pm Social Hour 7:00pm INSTALLATION

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 9 7:30pm Stated Meeting (6:30pm Dinner)

# BOOK REPORT: BORN IN BLOOD THE LOST SECRETS OF FREEMASONRY JOHN J.ROBINSON

Author John J Robinson, a non Mason, writes a fascinating account on the Origins of Freemasonry from the time of the Peasants Rebellion in England in 1381 led by the historical figure of Walter the Tyler, all the way to 1717 when Masonry made itself known to the world in London with the establishment of the 4 Lodges. With the Jacobite Rebellion put down two years before, and the struggle to return England to the Pope and the Roman Catholic Church broken forever, the need for secrecy against the establishment was no longer necessary, as according to the author, Freemasonry had become the establishment. The book is a fascinating account of the author's theory that Freemasonry came about as a society of mutual protection that began when scattered members of the Knights Templar escaping the persecution from Philip the Fair of France and Pope Clement V, came to England and Scotland. The English monarch, King Edward II, was in disbelief at the charges against the Templars of whom he had grown up with all his life, and their loyalty to the Crown without question as several had died in battle against William Wallace and Robert the Bruce in the Scottish Battles of independence. The battles are well documented along with the military strategies.

Hence, Edward III postphoned the arrest of the Templars until January 7 of 1308. The Templars had time to prepare escape routes and safehouses, so when the arrests finally arrived, only a handful were picked up, and the English Grand Master, William de la Morte, was even given comfortable quarters in the Cantenbury prison. Thus, the beginnings of Freemasonry started as a secret society where men had to trust each other with their lives. Many of the escaping Templars were welcomed mercenaries in the armies of William Wallace,

Robert the Bruce as well as their English adversaries. The oaths of secrecy in those days were taken literally, and it was a certain death for those who betrayed the trust of the society. The author goes into detail over the historical significance of the Templars and early Masonic clothing, the Old Charges, and noting that initially there were only two degrees in a Blue Lodge. The Master Mason degree being added. One entered Masonry an Entered Apprentice, and was considered a full member as a Fellowcraft. Out of the Fellowcrafts, a Master of the Lodge was elected. The book goes into the fascinating conflicts between Philip of France and Pope Boniface VIII, whose papal bulls excommunicated Phillip and threatened the bishops under Philip's of France's control if they did not attend the council.

When Boniface proclaimed the Anathema, it aroused the sympathy of the French People towards Philip, but when the Pope intended to put the entire country under an ecclesiastical censure, whereby he could preclude every Christian from baptism, communion, absolution and burial, Philip acted. He had the old pope prisoner in the city of Anagni, where the abuse the pope endured during his captivity led to his death a few weeks later after his release. Finally, Philip cut a deal with Bernard de Goth, who lusted after the papacy. In a deal whereby the French Cardinals would elect a successor of one of 3 candidates chosen by their opponents, de Goth swore a solemn oath on the Host to co-operate in the suppression of the Knights Templar. The intrigue as to the political machinations of the period is listed in detail. I find the book a must read for those Masons interested in knowing more about the origins of the Fraternity, and the political manifestations that brought Masonry into the light. The author however, perhaps crosses the line when he suggests the Masonic oaths be re-written to tone down the penalties of our obligations, relating them to historical significance. It is an honest book, and should be included in the Lodge Library.

Fraternally, Brother Rick Gorton





Todd F.Langworthy Master Senior Warden **Christopher Sanders** James Blumenthal Junior Warden Treasurer Douglas Warner Clarence Kussner, P.M. Secretary Senior Deacon Nikolaus Filip, P.M. Junior Deacon Dahlan Netsch

Chaplain **Edward Calzaretto** 

Brian Redfern Marshal Senior Steward William Williams Junior Steward Masato Francis Taguchi

George Wollin Tiler Organist Merrick Rees Hamer, P.M.

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