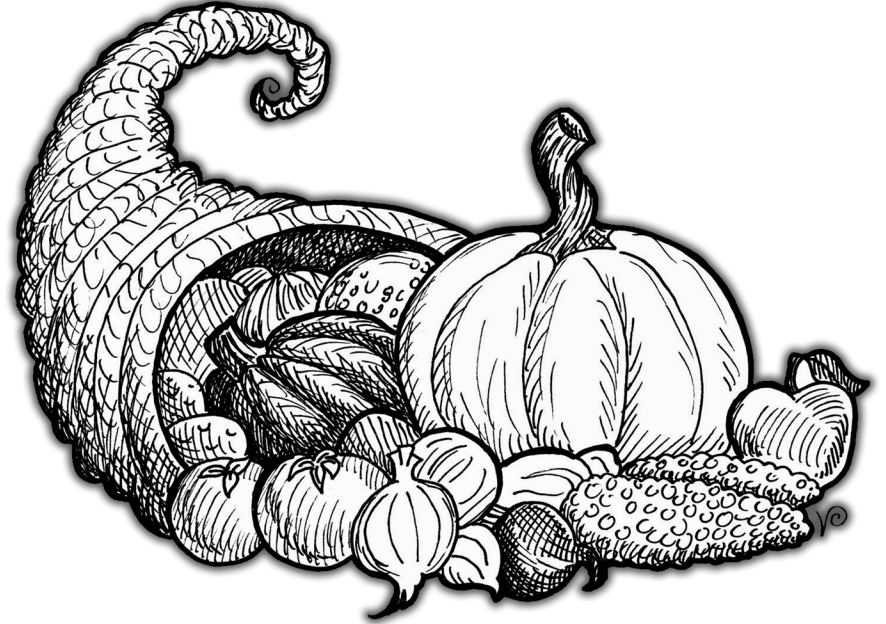


Culver City Foshay Lodge No 467
Free & Accepted Masons
9635 Venice Boulevard
Culver City, CA 90232



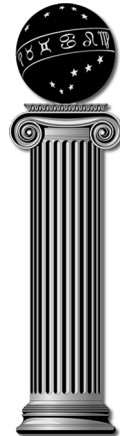
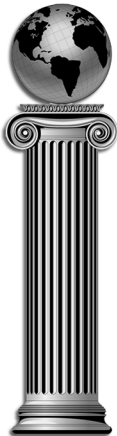
Culver City Foshay Lodge No 467
Free & Accepted Masons



November
2014

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From a Brother



The Door, The Floor and the Trinity of All Things. Part II

Life is a series of chapters that have adventures and undertakings, that can excite, teach and even cause one to be unreasonable, but each move on the board is still governed by situation, circumstance and condition. How can a “rock star” (I really dislike this term but, for general meaning sake, I will use it) go from being one of the founding members of Steely Dan, to being a top guitarist for the Doobie brothers and to being one of the highest desired contractors for missile defense systems in the Defense Contracting community? Answer that! How can one seriously go from Christianity to Islam and to practicing a pre Wiccan form of spirituality? Answer that too!

Life is beautiful, beautiful upon seeing the changes of the seasons in nature and in man, upon seeing one blossom, and one going from a “flat line” to being perpendicular and, finally, on being raised to an upright level standing on his own foundation. This beautiful perspective I personally have been fortunate to receive; and I credit this fortune to Masonry. For me, Masonry has illuminated the beauty of life and brought to me a clearer understanding of situation, circumstance and condition, truly an illumination. But at the end of the day, it is one of the admirable effects that the spirit of Freemasonry has on an earnest student and practitioner of the Craft. It illuminates the room when he enters the door and, while he beholds the floor, it gives him the sense of the Trinity of all Things.

Simbawani Anad,
Provisional Tyler



From the East



Monthly Retrospective

Last month we saw the Installation of our new 2014-2015 Grand Master, Most Worshipful Russ Charvonja, along with his Grand Officer Line, at Grand Lodge's Annual Communication in San Francisco. Many of us also attended the Grand Master's Banquet hosted by John L. Cooper III, PGM on the night prior to the Grand Installation. Most Worshipful Cooper's Banquet emphasized my personal favorite of the seven Liberal Arts & Sciences: Music. He even had a three-movement musical piece (corresponding to the three Degrees of Masonry) commissioned to be composed and arranged for the Grand Lodge of California, named “Fiat Lux”. Those in attendance heard the live performance debut of this work, which was a truly amazing treat.

In October, we also had our very first Prince Hall Day of Honor event with the collaborative assistance of Western Knights Lodge, No. 56 (Prince Hall). It was a very successful and well-attended event marked by an amazing guest speaker; great food and entertainment; and great fellowship. I hope this will launch the beginning of this as an annual program at our Lodge, and I thank Worshipful Deryl Walker II and the Brethren of Western Knights in helping to make the first one such a success.

Those who were at this event witnessed my performance of the Tamshi La Tambiko (Traditional African Libation Statement). A friend in attendance mentioned to me that she was aware of the multidimensional layers of what was being done during the Libation Statement. This, indeed, confirmed my intention and reminded me of what I encourage all candidates to acknowledge. That the outer form of our ceremonial acts is but one layer of Truth, but there are others that run parallel and operate on other aspects of our being and experiences. This is the entrance into what “Esoterica” is all about and I'll speak in more detail on this in my final article from the East in the December Trestleboard next month.

Meanwhile, congratulations, once again, to Most Worshipful Charvonja and his Grand Officer Line! Be sure to visit and watch the first episode of the new video series, “On the Level,” from which our Grand Master gives some welcoming remarks and inspiring words from the Grand East.

Fraternally,
K.L. Burgess, II,
Master





From the West



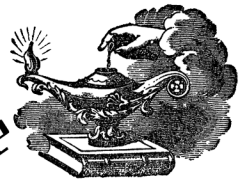
The Two Lilies

In Masonic philosophy, the Lily is an emblem of peace and purity. It is displayed prominently on the chapters atop the pillars in every lodge. As with the description of any plant, when the common rather than the botanical name is referenced, it can be quite confusing. The plant so frequently mentioned in the Old Testament as "lily," was the lotus of Egypt and India known as Nymphaea, a water plant species. The plant was especially sacred to the Egyptians and was used to symbolize the River Nile. The lotus bears a flower similar to that of the water lily, while its large, tongue-shaped leaves float upon the surface of the water. As the Egyptians had observed that the plant expands when the sun rises, and closes when it sets, they adopted it as a symbol of the sun; and as that luminary was the principal object of the popular worship, the lotus became in all their sacred rites a consecrated and mystical plant. The lily mentioned in the New Testament is an entirely different flower, evidently a species of the lilium, which is often white in color. This latter flower appears in our degrees of Masonry as an emblem of divinity, of purity, of charity, and of abundance. It is severally referenced in the scripture as "The lily work of the Temple..." (1 Kings 7:22), and "The lily of beauty and glory..." (Matthew 6:29). We also mention "the retired situation of its growth," which I believe depicts a lilium species rather than a lotus. This is the same species of plant that that is referenced to when acknowledging the Easter lily. I think that, as Freemasons, we have somehow taken elements from both plants and utilized them for our temples and in the symbolism of our rituals.

Fraternally,
Adam Wolf, Senior Warden



From the Lamp of Knowledge



A Meditation for Thanksgiving

Casting mine eyes upward, I find that the great, blazing disc hath abated. Its effulgence hath reverted and it hath met at last the Western horizon of the solar year. Its glow is that of a soft, amber colour behind the silhouetted foliage between my gladdened face on which their shadows have been cast and its own radiant beams. What had parched me before is now greeted cheerfully for its life sustaining candescence. From it, every creature will sup its remaining essence, ere the long eclipse of winter setteth in. NAUGHT ELSE IS THERE TO CAST LIGHT UPON WHAT REMAINETH OF OUR WORK, BUT TO PREPARE FOR THE GREAT FEAST! There is a strange coincidence between this creature called man and Mother Nature, for when the latter bringeth about her leaves of autumn, it is the time when pensive thoughts take root within the human, melancholic psyche; when one's sanguinity is but a distant memory and one prepareth for a rigid slumber in the icy arms of winter. YET, BEFORE I SHALL SET MYSELF AT PALLET FOR THE SEASON, I MUST NOT FORGET THAT A FEAST SHALL BE HAD! Not all shall be seated at a table set for the descendants of the Father's likeness; yet others will in their own right and delight reap the gifts of earth. Know ye not that that which ye have strewn and sown will in plenitude and return to the earth in time enough? Even as the lily faileth to spin and the faunae emerge numb in their faith, yet the rains of heaven sprinkle ever upon them. Dearly beloved, the All-Father embraceth even the least of His children. Dearth waneth and famine dieth! THOU ART BEWILDERED, OH CHILD OF MAN, FOR THE FEAST OF NATURE IS BUT A MYSTERY UNTO THEE. How majestic are colours that line the paths beneath the trees where my fellow creatures have lately trodden! How brilliantly doth the ruddy ember of each leaf gleam, burning it way into the nugget within the cranium! There each burrows deeply to sustain the earthly child during his lengthy hibernation, when he shall be visited by visions divine, and when he shall formulate his days ahead. LEST THE VISION BE PALLID, HOWEVER, REMEMBER WELL THE GREAT MYSTICAL FEAST AND THE KINSHIP OF HUMANKIND, FOR ALL OUR HOPES DEPEND UPON THE THANKFUL HEART. Hear, therefore, our prayer, which we offer:

Hearken unto the yearnings of the heart, O LORD of the Universe, as we prepare for the day of thankful children! Let the fruits of our labours be amply provided and prepared for the great feast when all shall be filled! May the settings be manifold and the table of celebration spacious! Blessed be the assemblage that shall meet in Thy Name! All who now praise Thee, O LORD, have wrought assiduously in the fields of sowing, resting only at the noonday sun to pay homage unto Thee. We who are weary from our labours are soon to prepare for the lengthy slumber, during which our strength shall be renewed and whence it may come to pass that our dreams shall awaken us to latent aspirations. Yet, O LORD, let not this day pass from the company of the blessed, ere we prepare the pillows of our lofty estate! Be they family or friends, renewed or restored, let all come together in the spirit of that which bindeth us, Thine immanent and transeunt love! In honour of Thy merciful ways, let us also practice forbearance with those who have erred and gone astray, and let us rejoice upon their reawakening! Let this day be but a moment's rest from the lengthy sojourn before our return home, when we shall see but a glimpse of the glory lost, and nourish our dreams for the hope of the brighter morrow! At last, O LORD, let us continue to sow; and again and again, therefore, reap, until the day shall come when we shall set a table so glorious that, in the humbleness of our sitting, we shall know Thy presence! Amen.

Merrick Rees Hamer, PM
Autumn, 2014



Chaplain's Prayer



Let Us Clear the Road!

Ruler of the Heavens:

While we travel a road at times with cowans and bequilers,

*We know that we must keep our focus
and not be fooled by those who would harm us.*

*When the road is clear, and we see our path ahead,
let great things will happen, we beseech Thee.*

May Thy blessings be with us!

May evil in the world turn to goodness!

May hope prevail throughout our lives!

And may peace be forever with us.

Amen.

*Edward Calzaretto,
Chaplain*



From the South



A Thanksgiving Proclamation

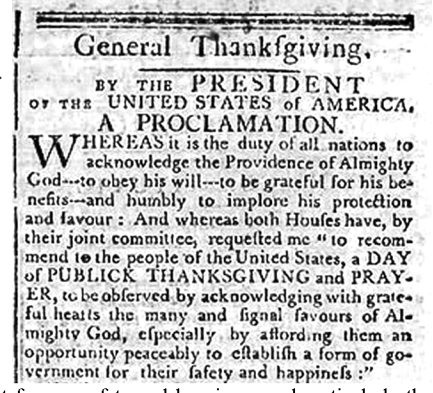
Brethren: I found this appropriate article when searching Freemasonry and Thanksgiving:

Written by George Washington in 1789, this was the first official Presidential Proclamation made in the United States. Shortly after the Thanksgiving Proclamation was written, it was lost for 130 years. It was probably misplaced when the US Capitol moved from New York to Washington, D.C. It now resides in the Library of Congress. And it reads:

"Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me to "recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:"

Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been able to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us. And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best. Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the 3d day of October, A.D. 1789.

-George Washington"



May the Brethren of our lodge and throughout the fraternity have with their families and friends a happy and inspiring Thanksgiving!

Fraternally,
Sam House,
Junior Warden



Calendar

Meet the Masters & Candidate Education every Sunday 9AM - 2PM
The lodge is open to guests and men inquiring about Freemasonry.
Candidates may receive assistance with their Masonic Education.

November:

Wednesday 5th	Stated Meeting & Dinner	6:30pm
Thursday 6th	Building Assoc. Meeting	7:30pm
Sunday 9th	Esoteric Group (Book Study for Masons Only)	1-3pm
Tues 11th	Degree Practice (for Officers and Degree Participants)	7pm
Wednesday 12th	Third Degree	7pm
Sunday 16th	L.A. Masonic Service Bureau's Clothes Drive for Midnight Mission (clothes collected at the Pasadena Scottish Rite Temple)	10am
Tuesday 18th	OSI at Beverly Hills Lodge (2015 Officer Q & A/Installations)	7pm
Wednesday 19th	First Degrees	
Thursday 20th	Field Trip Visit to Prince Hall Third Degree at Western Knights #56: 9027 South Figueroa Street, L.A. 90003 (Master Masons only/rsvp at)	6:30pm
Wednesday 26th	Second Degree	7pm

December:

Wednesday 3rd	Stated Meeting & Dinner	6:30pm
Thursday 4th	Building Assoc. Meeting	7:30pm
Saturday 6th	Midnight Mission Rededication Ceremony: 601 S San Pedro St, Los Angeles, CA 90014	8am
Wednesday 10th	Third Degree	7pm
Friday 12th	Esoterica Group Lecture by Special Guest (tentative...details to be announced)	7pm
Sunday 14th	Esoterica Group Lecture by Merrick R. Hamer, PM: "Holy Kabbalistic Tree of Life" followed by a screening of the movie "Baraka"; open to all (Masons; non-Masons; Ladies and friends). Light refreshments.	1-3:30pm
Wednesday 17th	Second Degree	7pm
Wednesday 24th	Lodge is Dark	
Wednesday 31st	Lodge is Dark	

Occasionally, information on the calendar changes after the trestleboard is printed.
Make sure to check the website www.CulverCityMasons.org for any changes.



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Thomas O. Fleming, Jr.	(310) 337-7601

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Douglas Calhoun, PM	(310) 866-3934
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Michael Spreier	(626) 799-6304
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