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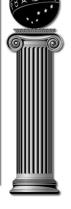
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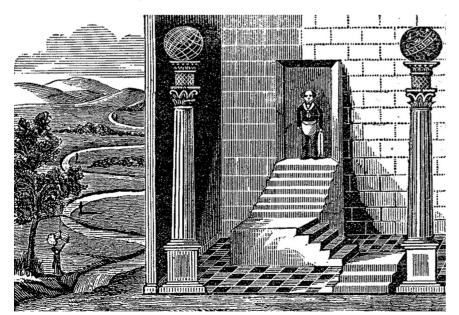
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The last visible grouping consists of seven steps, identified with the seven Liberal Arts and Sciences. These, of course, are skills necessary to direct the working tools as aforementioned. The manual part of man which holds the tools is impotent without communication with the higher vehicles; and in physical terms these are the cerebral aspects, and in spiritual, the inspirational. Here the tools of the Architect and Geometrician, which relate to the heavens and the spheres, give impetus to the tools of the hands. Conversancy with things spiritual and an affinity with Deity are indispensible as inspirational sources, for without them, no work is ever complete. Consummation, therefore, is the dignity of this later stage in life; for seven are the days of the week, the days of Creation, the planets among the ancients, and the final number of steps the worker must ascend to complete his work.

Now, in this we have observed the three-fold groupings of three, five and seven as philosophical areas of human achievement. It may seem an oversight that the numbers four and six have been omitted, but truly they have not been. The divisions are made perceptible by means of stair landings, which, although not explained in the modern lectures, are nevertheless present, and on them candidates rest to contemplate what lie before them. There is no landing before the set of three, since the porch of the temple is an extension of the concept of three, with the two mighty pillars standing there and the candidate betwixt them. The landing between the groups of three and five would be the place for the number four, the number necessary for the formation of the rectangle which is the same as foundation. It is upon such a foundation that the builder must erect the columns that will give character to his life. As he stands upon the landing before the group of seven steps and following the group of five, he may reflect upon ideas that are both celestial and earthly, sometimes represented by overlapping and interlacing triangles, or in lodges by the relative positions of the extended compasses, or three points denoting things spiritual and celestial, and the interlaced square, similarly denoting things temporal or terrestrial. There is no numeration before the staircase, since this area would be in reference to pre-existence and there is neither a landing nor porch after the staircase, since the space there is purely interior, representing the crowning effect of consummated work.

Fraternally, Merrick Rees Hamer, P.M.,



From the Kast



Once in a Lifetime

The Grand Lodge is upon us and we are once again on our way to this auspicious event, this year more so than prior ones, as the incoming Grand Master one of our own, R.W. John Cooper. This year, a very large contingent of your brethren is travelling up to San Francisco to share this event with John and his family. We plan to be raucous and make sure that the presence of Culver City is heard once the new Grand Master is installed. There is not an honor higher than having one of your own elected and then installed as the Grand Master. A lodge may have this chance once in a lifetime.

The Grand lodge is not only a few days of fun and camaraderie, but is also a venue where ideas are exchanged, legislation is passed and in which a path is defined for the next Masonic Year. Therefore to be able to represent the lodge at such an event is historic in if of itself. At these events we renew friendships, make new ones and come back with memories which should last a long time. We also learn new "tricks of the trade", perhaps a new software that was recently purchased, or a new way of vetting candidates, or we at times are enlightened by the Grand Lecturer as to the new ways of the rituals. All in all the trips are informative and memorable. I urge all Masons to make this trip at least once if they can.

I wished many of you could go with us and we embarked on a publicity campaign to ensure that the maximum number of brethren who were willing and able to take the trip were given that chance. The lodge agreed with me to pay for rental vans so those who wished to attend had an enticement to do so and we were able to gather a good sized group to take with us. We shall report back next month as to the success of the event, the legislations, Grand Masters initiatives and all other activities that would guide our craft for the next masonic year.

Fraternally; Mahmoud Ghaffari, PM, Master





From the Mest



Working Tools in the Season of Harvest

e've come again upon the Season of All Hallows' Eve (October 31st), which is also a traditional time of harvest. This gives the opportunity to reap the fruits of labor that have been sown and to prepare for the transition into the winter months. But harvest time also encourages the principle of cutting away that which is useless, rotten or not consumable and separating it from the fruitful bounty. This very principle is reflected in the lesson behind one of the Working Tools of the Entered Apprentice Degree: The Common Gavel.

As I had mentioned last October, the message of "momento mori" is in much of Masonic symbolism. Even while exposed to the Scythe, Skull & Crossbones in The Chamber of Reflection, directly before taking the First Degree, we are reminded that the duration of our incarnate life is currently limited and we are encouraged to not dwell in morbidity but to use our acknowledgement as inspiration to make the most of our lives while we can.

The actual Degree ceremonies then go further to give instruction and suggestions as to how we can go about doing this and gives us specific "Working Tools" in a very deliberate sequence that, should we choose to apply them, can help us actualize some of our highest aspirations.

The Common Gavel empowers us in the process of "divesting our hearts and consciences of all the vices and superfluities of life, thereby fitting our minds...for that spiritual building". This harvest season is a perfect time to return to and review our personal use of this very tool. What disempowering habits; patterns; and people are superfluities to be divested from our own hearts? Going through this process will assist us in separating the wheat from the chaff and to cut and clear away the unfruitful stock from our blessed bounty.

May you have a Happy and Blessed All Hallows' this Harvest Season!!!

Fraternally,

K.L. Burgess II, Senior Warden



From the Lamp of Knowledge

The Majestic Staircase Merrick Rees Hamer, PM

The winding staircase, by which candidates for the mysteries of Freemasonry ascend during their advancement as Fellowcrafts, is one of the principle figures of the Fellowcraft Degree. This particular rite of passage has been perpetuated in imitation of our ancient brethren who wrought upon the Temple of Solomon and who during their times of repose, ascended from the nethermost floor of the Temple to the median, in the Middle Chamber, to receive their well earned wages. By tradition, representations of the staircase that led thither are twice divided into sections of three, five and seven steps; and the steps are depicted with images or references to knowledge indispensible to aspiring candidates. Reflexion upon the staircase and its several divisions may produce in the minds of Masonic novitiates (even so in the minds of ripened brethren) concepts that evolve beyond what are merely explained in the modern forms of the Middle Chamber Lecture.

The first grouping of steps consists of three steps which, without the stating of any particular order amongst them, are said to refer the Three Degrees, the Three Great Lights and the Three Supports in Masonry. Triads appear frequently Masonic rituals, even tautologically to reinforce important notions. Yet the number three is significant, not only because it numerates certain principles, but because of its potency as a quantity itself and because of its relationship with other numbers or quantities. Three denotes propagation. It cannot exist without one and two preceding it. Even as one (or the unit) establishes existence, and two, co-existence, three is the inevitable offspring between them. It yields birth as a reality, like the infant emerging from the womb into the light of the world. As a product of its parents and as a precedent to an endless succession of numbers, it promises perpetuity, "even life for evermore." Notwithstanding its own rightful place in succession, it is but a babe in the woods, a progeny unifying the traits of those which gave it birth, but undifferentiated or unaware of its own unique potential. This set of stairs may be regarded as representing the first stage of life.

The next set of steps is five steps, and is given attention due to its correspondences with the Five Orders in Architecture and the five senses of human nature. Magnificent edifices among the ancients were give distinction through ornamentation and artistic renderings developed in Rome and several parts of Greece. Thus, the human vehicle has been capable of expressing distinction in art and its relationship with nature as these have been exemplified in the columns that supported the loftiest structures of ancient societies. Likewise distinctions already possessed of the environment have been interpreted by the same vehicle by means of its five senses: hearing, seeing, feeling, smelling and tasting. The underlying meaning here is differentiation. The babe in the woods has become of age and discovers his identity. The working tools of the Fellowcraft that give shape to columns point to the stage in life when one becomes more than the product of his parents, but also the progeny of his discoveries.

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From the South



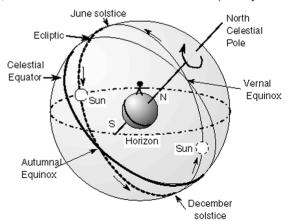
The Plumb and the Equinox

Whith the plumb being the jewel of my office, I gave some thought to how this instrument relates to the world in which we live. The autumnal equinox has just passed and it is a time when an interesting thing happens. At the point of the equinox, the planet becomes suspended in place, so to speak. At this moment, the tilt of the earth is neither away from nor toward the sun, but perfectly centered in the middle where the celestial and terrestrial equators seem to intersect.

The equinox is the point when the Sun passes over the celestial equator to the other realm, when the Sun appears to be at the true meridian position or at the height of the sky. The Celestial equator is an imaginary line through the sky, and appears directly above the equator, the imaginary line that divides the earth into the northern and southern hemispheres. When this occurs, the length of the day and the night are approximately equal at every place on earth. While the earth orbits around the sun, the position of the sun changes in relation to the equator. We notice this occurrence twice per annum, at the autumnal and spring equinoxes (The latter is also known as the vernal equinox).

Here's where the plumb comes in. We are taught that the plumb measures the vertical and keeps us upright. In the autumnal (fall) equinox we are in the middle point between the summer and winter solstices. For us as Masons, we can look at the equinox as a measuring of our point within a circle, the plumb line achieving that zero center point in its swing up to its furthest reaches. When given motion, even by something as slight as the earth's rotation, the plumb can also demonstrate the path of our circumference, our diameter, and our rotational motion around our axis (as may be

compared with a pendulum). As the plumb traces its circumference, in the space of the sphere, the plumb also orients back through the center of the circumference, when marking the furthest points of our radius. As Freemasons, we may compare this midpoint of a seeming suspension as a meridian of the symbolical day, when we rest from our labors. contemplating the work that has been accomplished and that, of course, which remains to be done.



Fraternally, Adam Wolf, Junior Warden

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Special Announcment

Brethren,

Consequential to his election as Grand Master of California at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge held in October of this year, a reception honoring John L. Cooper, III, will be holden by the members of Culver City-Foshay Lodge, No. 467, Free and Accepted Masons.

This event recognizing the first Grand Master from Culver City-Foshay Lodge will be held November 16th in the evening and, consequently, we are asking that the brethren give special regard to the importance of it. Seating will be limited and we are urging the brethren Culver City-Foshay Lodge to make early reservations to assure their ability to attend.

Reservations may be made by Pay Pal, accessible on the lodge website http://culvercitymasons.org/lodge/dues-donations/ or by contacting the Lodge Secretary, Clarence Kussner, PM. Any brother who cannot attend is urged to donate the reservation cost of \$20.00. In so doing, his name will be registered as a donator.

Remember Brethren, this will be the first time in history that our lodge will have seen one of its own Past Masters to become Grand Master. Let us not pass an opportunity to witness a truly rare event!

Fraternally, Francis Taguchi, PM



Committees

Audit:		Membership Retention:		
Sam House Edward Calzaretto	(310) 948-2999 (310) 398-4507	Clarence D. Kussner-PM	(310) 398-7683	
Kenneth L. Burgess II	(323) 527-7147	Refreshments (Dinner & JW Acct.)		
Charity:		George J. Wollin Adam Wolf	(310) 694-4886 (310) 927-8776	
Mahmoud Ghaffari Kenneth L. Burgess II Adam Wolf	(310) 800-4182 (323) 527-7147 (310) 927-8776	Saints John Feast:	, ,	
Child I.D.:		Curtis S. Shumaker, PM Carroll R. Runyon	(626) 388-6563 (714) 649-0651	
Edward Calzaretto Clive S. Revill-PM	(310) 398-4507 (818) 995-8320	Sickness & Visitation:		
Douglas S. Warner	(213) 999-7475	Mahmoud Ghaffari Clarence D. Kussner, PM	(310) 800-4182 (310) 398-7683	
Community Outreach	<u>:</u>	Strategic Planning:	(5.5) 525 7 555	
Robert Leggio	(310) 245-2566	Michael P. Hartman	(917) 207-8003	
Finance:		Jason L. Berry	(323) 418-0758	
Clarence D. Kussner, PN Douglas S. Warner	(213) 999-7475	Table Lodge:		
Thomas O. Fleming, Jr. Michael Spreier		Richard Pierce, PM Ricky Sullivan	(310) 839-8853 (562) 347-9914	
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Funeral:	(323) 374-3741	Curtis S. Shumaker, PM Merrick R. Hamer, PM	(626) 388-6563 (310) 480-0478	
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Worshipful Ghaffari was born in 1962, in Iran where his father practiced freemasonry and where he himself had joined the craft. Like many other Iranian Freemasons whose devotion to the fraternity met opposition by the prevailing powers after the revolution in that country, and after witnessing the persecution of his father due to Masonic ties, he discovered that "Freemasonry in exile is a sanctum sanctorum of purity and the means by which we distance ourselves from all things evil," and consequently found that sanctum sanctorum in the United States. He served as Master of Molawi Lodge, No. 2, under the Grand Lodge of Iran in Exile.

Brother Ghaffari has been prominent in American Freemasonry, particularly in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and became affiliated with Culver City-Foshay Lodge in 2008, increase the dynamic of diversity for which the lodge has become well known. He is presently serving as its Master and was appointed to assist the Grand Master as Grand Standard Bearer. Three of his sons have joined the Order of DeMolay, two of them in the local chapter.

Worshipful Ghaffari hold the Masonic idea of freedom close at heart. He is devoted to America and embraced its fabric of freedom and justice. Although his return to Iran would bring injury to him, he hopes for the day when Freemasonry will return to his native land.

2014 is expected be an exciting year for Culver City-Foshay Lodge, under the combined leaderships of Kenneth Burgess, II, who is an inspired brother with a creative intellect, serving as it Master and Most Worshipful John Cooper and Worshipful Mahmoud Ghaffari serving the Grand Lodge.

Merrick Rees Hamer, PM

October Birthdays



	Activities and the second
Randolph T. Kellems	2nd
Ronald J. Weimer	5th
Mark D. Bland	9th
Andrew R. Pedersen, PM	12th
Robert C. Bright, Jr.	31st
Joshua J. Kutner	31st
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If you would like to contact one of these Brothers to wish them a Happy Birthday, you may retrieve their contact information from www.freemason.org

Chaplain's Prayer



Faith, Hope, Charity Merciful god of the universe: Faith, Hope, and Charity.

These words ring out to Masons everywhere.

Each in his own way lives life according to these tenets.

Yet, how much Faith can one have,

How much Hope and how much Charity?

Truly, these are limitless vehicles,

For as masons we try to make life better for others.

Through good works we gain a sense of serenity.

May we seek to continue what has already been established!

May each year bring a new way to benefit the world!

And let us always be humble and unassuming!

Amen

Ed Calzaretto, Chaplain



Thef's Menu



Stated Meeting Dinner Menu

Smothered Pork Loin

Baked Sea Bass

Garden Salad

Steamed Vegetables

Coconut Cake

-Buffet \$15-

The Stated Meeting Dinner is always at 6:30 PM, one hour before the Stated Meeting of the Lodge, which is the First Wednesday of each Month.



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.

October

2nd	Dinner & Stated meeting	6:30 PM
3rd	Temple Board meeting	7:30 PM
9th	Second Degree	7:00 PM
16th	Third Degree	7:00 PM
23rd	Second Degree	7:00 PM
30th	OSI 3rd Degree	7:30 PM @ Oasis
31st	Halloween Social Night	7:00 PM

November

6th	Dinner & Stated meeting	6:30 PM
7th	Temple Board meeting	7:30 PM
13th	Practice for Grand Master's Reception	7:30 PM
16th	Grand Master's Reception	4:00 PM
20th	First Degree	7:00 PM
26th	OSI Q & A	7:30 PM @ Ionic
27th	Second Degree	7:00 PM
28th	Social Night	7:00 PM

October

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November

Reports & Announcements



John Lilburn Cooper, III Installed Grand Master of Masons in California Mahmoud Ghaffari Installed Grand Standard Bearer

Culver City-Foshay Lodge, No. 467, Free and Accepted Masons saw a swell in its rich history during the recent Grand Communication when two of its members were installed together as parts of the grand corps of officers. John Lilburn Cooper, III who served as Master of Culver City-Foshay Lodge, No. 467 (at the time known as James A. Foshay Lodge, No. 641) in 1969 was installed as Grand Master and Mahmoud Ghaffari who is presently serving as its Master was installed as Grand Standard Bearer. This is the first time in its history when a member of Culver City-Fohay Lodge has ascended tothe high office of Grand Master.



John Lilburn Cooper, III, was born in Torrance, California, in 1942, but soon settled on a farm in Missouri, where his family pursued food production for the Second World War. Returning with his family to California in 1952, he attended public schools in Orange County, and graduated, second in his class, from Buena Park High School. He attended Fullerton Community College, and the University of California, Los Angeles, earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science, and a Master's Degree in Political Science in 1965. He later received a Ph.D. in Education from Claremont Graduate School. His educational background led him to a teaching career, culminating in an administrative position as Superintendent of the Escondido Union High School District in San Diego County. This continued until his professional employment began with California Freemasonry.

Brother Cooper received the Degrees of Masonry in Azure Lodge, No. 533, at Fullerton, California, preceded by membership in the Order of DeMolay, encouraged by the prevalent of Masons in his lineage. Later studies led him to the proximity of James A. Foshay Lodge No. 641, where of course he served as its Master and which he considers his mother lodge. John was elected Grand Secretary of California in 1991 and served in that distinguished position for fourteen years. He is known for his Masonic erudition and for his scholarly papers and lectures. John, and his wife Heather, make their home in Daly City, near San Francisco. They have a combined family of five children and seven grandchildren.

Most Worshipful Cooper has had an extensive career in public education and has made the support of accessible education and the advancement of masonic philosophy and the promotion of the Masonic intellect priorities during his service.