



TRESTLEBOARD

CULVER CITY FOSHAY LODGE

NO.467

APRIL 2015

AL 2015 OFFICERS AD 2015



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Justin Daza-Ritchie, PM (310) 985-0230	709inspector@gmail.com	Inspector of the 709th Masonic District



FROM THE EAST

"First Quarter Recap"

Greetings, Brethren! We have started off to a very exciting first quarter with several raisings in the month of January alone. The new brothers have already proven to be active in our fraternity and I think we will see more than a few them joining our officer line. We have also had several brothers affiliate with Culver City-Foshay Lodge.

In mid-February, we were very fortunate to have a most enlightening visit by the Worshipful Timothy Hogan, who presented the topic of Alchemy and Freemasonry. This event, although not officially part of the Esoterica Group, was a great way to introduce many curious brothers into what the group touches upon during their monthly Sunday meetings. The Esoterica Group, in February, had a screening of the film "The Nature of Existence" followed by a Q & A session, led by the film's director, Roger Nygard.

Both the wardens of our lodge, Brother Miller and Brother House sat in the East, recently, and did wonderful jobs conferring the first and second degrees. In the month of March we were graced with a visit by Most Worshipful John L. Cooper, III who gave a brilliant lecture on the concept of traditional observance lodges. It is wonderful to hear from brothers of other lodges that our lodge has an energy and feeling that is not found in other lodges and that they rarely see attendance at degrees that they have seen in our lodge and that the compelling programs we offer are first rate. Soon after reading this we will be holding our table lodge, which should prove to be another great program of the year. Of this event, I am hopeful that we will be extremely proud.

Fraternally,
Adam Wolf,
Master





FROM THE WEST



"Nostalgic Masonic Poetry"

Brethren: Here are a couple of Masonic Poems that I wanted to share with you.

The Past Master
author unknown

"Who's the stranger, Mother, dear?
Look, he knows us - ain't that queer?"

"Hush, my son, don't talk so wild -
"He's your father, dearest child."

"He's my father? It's not so!
Father died six years ago."

"Dad didn't die, Oh love of mine,
He's been going through the line.
But he's been Master now so he
Has no place to go you see -
No place left for him to roam.
That is why he is coming home.
Kiss him, he won't bite you child.
All Past Masters are quite mild."

Let's Go To Lodge Tonight
author unknown

My brother, let's go to Lodge tonight;
You haven't been for years.
Let's don our Lambskin Apron white
And sit among our peers.

I feel a kind of longing, see,
to climb those creaky stairs;
I know it'll be a thrill for me
to lay aside my cares.

We'll meet the Tyler at the door
and though he'll hesitate,
we'll hear him say just as before,
"Come in or you'll be late."

I'd like to get out on the floor--
Come on, let's get in line;
I want to face the East once more
And give the same old sign.

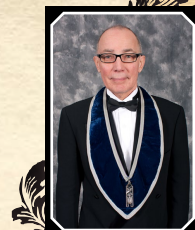
I want to hear the gavel rap
the Craftsmen to attention
and see the Master don his cap;
a night without dissention.

So come! Pass up that picture show,
or your wrestling bout or fight;
Switch off that TV set! Let's go!
Let's go to Lodge tonight.

Fraternally,
Sam House, Senior Warden



FROM THE SOUTH



"The All-Seeing Eye"

A Christmas gift, a 6" x 8" memory block of the All-Seeing Eye, was recently delivered to my home. It arrived in March because the production was limited to a small edition that would only be crafted for a few months. My wife ordered this particular gift because of my interest in Masonry and it now rests in my man cave where it functions as a type of finished ashlar memento. We all recognize this symbol also known as "Eye of Providence;" it's on every dollar bill as a part of the Great Seal of the United States. Many people, Masons and non-Masons alike, also identify the Eye with the early traditions of Masonry.



The first written Masonic reference to the Eye appeared in 1797 in Thomas Smith Webb's Freemasons Monitor. It represented the all-seeing eye of God and reminds us that our thoughts and deeds are always observed by him. The eye of God reference was adopted from Christian symbolism and appears in religious depictions as early as the sixteenth century. A prominent Italian painting by Pontormo entitled Supper in Emmaus dated 1520 shows the same modern depiction of the eye surrounded by a triangle and rays of light. It has been suggested that the triangle denoting the holy trinity was added to the painting and incorporated into other religious art after the Council of Trent 1545-1563, in order to conform to its canons and decrees.

Many other religions that predate Christianity also use the eye of God as part of their iconographies. The oldest are written Sanskrit references over 3,000 years old. The Hindu God Shiva has three eyes; the brow eye or Chakra is usually depicted as closed. This eye symbolizes knowledge and if opened it will destroy any evil or ignorance that it sees. The Egyptian eye of Horus was a symbol of protection, healing and restoration. Various Middle East cultures use a hand-eye symbol called variously a Hamsa or Nazar as a symbol of peace and to ward off evil.

Many modern sources associate the All-Seeing Eye exclusively with Masonry but as we can see its origins are varied and ancient. The next time you hear one of those popular conspiracy theories, remember that the Eye was adopted for religious and government uses long before becoming a Masonic symbol.

Fraternally,
Mike Miller, Junior Warden



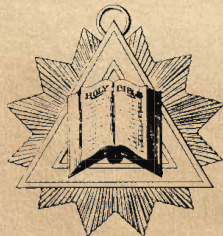
FROM THE CHAPLAIN



"Faith, Hope and Charity"

Great Architect of the Universe;
 Faith, Hope, and Charity, but the greatest of these is charity.
 As Masons this is what we are taught.
 It is better to give than to receive, to lend a helping hand to those in need.
 We do this for peace of mind, and for the betterment of society.
 May those who give of themselves be blessed!
 May we always live with hope!
 May we always have faith in God and in ourselves!
 And may God always be a part of our lives while here on earth.
 Amen.

--Edward Calzaretto,
 Chaplain



FROM THE ESOTERICA GROUP

"Spring, Easter, and Wishful Thinking"

A common condition the student of the esoteric faces in their search for truth is misleading corollary, speculation, or wishful thinking presented as "fact." Often "facts" are presented with little research or historical accuracy to support a claim. This has become more of an issue with the pervasiveness of the internet and frequently forwarded emails making spurious claims as to the origins of holidays, traditions and "secrets."

This month we have transitioned into spring; a time of renewal, warmth and the Christian holiday of Easter. As Easter approaches, a "fact" linking the titular holiday with the Goddess "Ishtar" often circulates through our inboxes and social media. While it's a fun linguistic and historical exercise to link the phonetic pronunciation of "Ishtar" to "Easter," it has no basis in historical fact.

Historically, we can trace the origins of Easter to the old english word "Ēostre or Ostarā," a pagan Goddess of the dawn. Ēostre represents new beginnings, the change of seasons and the warm light of spring. Saint Bede, in his c. 731 "Historia ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum," states that the festival of Easter was named after the 'old observance' of Ēostre's feasts during the month of Eosturmonath. He does not claim that anything survived of these feasts except the name. Even this "fact" is not without debate. Some scholars say the Goddess Ēostre was a fabrication of Bede's imagination. However we can find further confirmation through historian Jacob Grimm in his 1835 "Deutsche Mythologie." Grimm directly addresses the suggestion that Bede invented Ēostre, stated as follows:

"Germans to this day call April ostermonat. The great Christian festival, which usually falls in April or the end of March, contains, in the oldest of Old High German, the remains of the name ôstarâ. This Ostarâ, like the [Anglo-Saxon] Eāstre, must in pagan religion have denoted a higher being, whose worship was so firmly rooted, that the Christian teachers tolerated the name, and applied it to one of their own grandest anniversaries."

While the origins of "Easter" are still in question, they are likely Anglo Saxon or Germanic in origin and not based on the eastern traditions of Ishtar or Astarte.

As Esotericists, we bear the burden of relying on research and record to substantiate the deeper truths we seek. What is certain, is that the changing of seasons is celebrated by many cultures through symbolism and marked by festivals. As winter gives way to the warm light of spring, there is a natural connection to the resurrection of nature and a time of fertility as plants and animals begin to emerge from their winter slumber. Let us all move forward to the spring and its associated holidays with wishful thinking, and enjoy the new light that this season brings to us all.

Fraternally,
 Bryan Godwin



FROM A BROTHER

"Where to Draw the Line"

Spring is here! How better to celebrate than with our Table Lodge? Well, and perhaps a few harmless pranks in the meantime. Actually, how does one define harmless?

Before I petitioned to become a Mason, one of my sponsors explained his thoughts on a distinguishing trait of a Freemason: that our commitment to truth means we don't lead people on in our dealings. For me, the tenet of brotherly love directs me to promote harmony and comfort for all humankind; relief, to provide aid to those unable to stand for themselves; and truth, to be direct and forthright in all affairs. This appears to present a dilemma once April 1 rolls around.

Suppose that the subject of a practical joke becomes upset. If we perpetrated the joke in the first place, we failed to apply brotherly love (or at the very least, due diligence). If instead we are simply innocent bystanders, we cannot provide relief unless we defend the subject and provide a shoulder to lean on right then and there. Finally, if we know of a joke in the making, where do we draw the line when someone asks us to "just play along"?

Freemasonry also informs us that we are but imperfect ashlarers ever in pursuit of self-chiseling. Taking the commitment to truth literally and always assuming the worst possible response would stifle many possible surprises—birthday parties, gifts, and even proposals—and discourage acting, novel-writing, and the practice of stage magic. On the rare occasions I have to eat something that doesn't taste good, I'd have to be brutally honest to people who might not like a brutally honest critique.

As humans we each draw a line somewhere. Where it is depends on the human! We have our own unique ways to balance tact with candor and risk with payoff. Use context and your own good judgment to keep everyone happy. Don't be afraid to stand up for an upset friend or colleague. Remember the laws of physics before engaging in anything dangerous.

April 10 at the Table Lodge, then, rest easy as magician Rob Zabrecky woos the crowd with his sleight-of-hand. Even if it doesn't bend the laws of physics, why not have a good time?

April is coming—and that's no joke!

Brother,
Andrew Merenbach



FROM THE YOUTH GROUPS

"Job's Daughters"

With Grand Bethel approaching quickly, the Bethel has made a GoFundMe page for anyone who would like to make a personal donation. You can find the page by going to www.gofundme.com/bethelno2. A thank you card will be sent to anyone who donates and e-mails the bethel guardian their address. You can e-mail the address to heather-goodrich@gmail.com. The Bethel will also be having an Iron Chef dinner on May 9th from 5 to 9 pm and will be competing against a team from the lodge. Tickets are \$10 pre-sale or \$15 at the door. The secret ingredient will be announced to both teams at the May stated dinner. Bethel No. 2 of Culver City meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday's at 7:30 pm. Visitors are always welcome.

"DeMolay"

Theodore Roosevelt Chapter of DeMolay is back!!! We are currently in the process of reaching out to members to get the chapter up and going again. If you know of a young man who is interested in DeMolay or know of someone who is a member of the chapter and would like to get re-involved, please e-mail the information to theodorerooseveltdemolay@gmail.com. The next council meeting will be held at the lodge on Monday April 20th at 8pm. All are welcome to attend.

Both Job's Daughters and DeMolay are always looking for new council members. Please contact either organization to find out how you can help the youth orders and become a council member.

Heather Goodrich,
Bethel Guardian



COMMITTEES

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Jesse L. Sugarman (415) 336-6174

K.L. Burgess II, PM (323) 527-7147
Andreas Farmakalidis (818) 450-6014
Jason L. Berry (323) 418-0758

Prince Hall Day of Honor:

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Sam House (310) 948-2999
Jason L. Berry (323) 418-0758
Angel B. Salazar (323) 590-8826

Refreshment:

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Sean C. Fernald (213) 280-4223
Michael Spreier (626) 799-6304

Saint John's Day Feast:

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Carroll R. Runyon (714) 649-0651

Sickness & Visitation:

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UGLE Tricentennial Visitation 2017:

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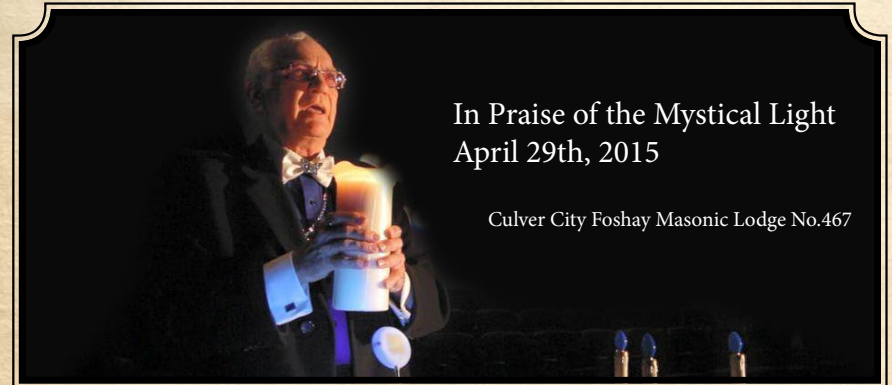
Website & Social Media:

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Alfonso Mujica (310) 853-2069
Andrew Merenbach (707) 292-9374

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Benjamin A. Villanueva (310) 654-4038
Simbawani Anad (818) 439-4509

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Wednesday, April 1:
Dinner & Stated Meeting
Foshay Masonic Lodge
6:30pm - 11:30pm

Degree Practice
Foshay Masonic Lodge
7pm - 11:30pm

Thursday, April 2:
Temple Board
Foshay Masonic Lodge
7:30pm - 9:30pm

Sunday, April 5:
Meet The Masters
Foshay Masonic Lodge
9:00am - 12:00pm

Wednesday, April 8:
Degree Practice
Foshay Masonic Lodge
7:00pm - 11:30pm

Friday, April 10:
Table Lodge Event
Foshay Masonic Lodge
7:00pm - 10:00pm

Sunday, April 12:
Meet The Masters
Foshay Masonic Lodge
9:00am - 12:00pm

Esoterica Group
Foshay Masonic Lodge
1:00am - 3:00pm

Wednesday, April 15:
Degree Practice
Foshay Masonic Lodge
7:00pm - 11:30pm

Sunday, April 19:
Meet The Masters
Foshay Masonic Lodge
9:00am - 12:00pm

Wednesday, April 22:
Degree Practice
Foshay Masonic Lodge
7pm - 11:30pm

Sunday, April 26:
Meet The Masters
Foshay Masonic Lodge
9:00am - 12:00pm

Wednesday, April 29:
Special Event
In Praise Of
The Mystical Light
Foshay Masonic Lodge
7pm - 11:30pm

Thursday, April 30:
Social Night
Foshay Masonic Lodge
7pm - 11:55pm

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

