

MAY 2009

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3 Rainbow Pancake Breakfast
4 Rainbow	5	6	7 Stated Meeting Dinner 6:30	8	9	10 Mothers Day
11	12 DeMolay	13	14	15	16 Golf Tournament	17
18 Rainbow	19	20	21	22	23 Dining Room Cleanup day	24 Pancake Breakfast
25	26 DeMolay	27	28	29	30	31 DeMolay Breakfast

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Worshipful Masters Word



In the month of April we have witnessed some notable advancements. Miss Ayla Fleming was honored with a Grand Office at Rainbow's Grand Assembly on April 6th... Assistant Grand Editor. Congratulations Ayla. Our Senior Warden, Ed McLean and I received our 32nd degrees in Scottish Rite Masonry on April 4th. Hastings Schmidt completed his 1st degree proficiency on April 16 and Jonathan Schmidt received his third degree on April 30th. I would say Alex Schmidt is one proud father.

Public Schools Night was postponed until sometime in June. We met with the Director of Elementary Education and the Elementary School Principals, discussed Child I.D. and already have two Back to School Nights scheduled for our Child I.D..

May's stated meeting dinner is POT LUCK; the \$7.00 donation per person will go to the Hall Association to help offset some of our bills. Please call Mary Monroe for dish suggestions, if you haven't already. Speaking of the Hall Association we have trimmed our expenses back to help with these tough times. We no longer have a janitorial service, so it will be up to each Masonic Group to clean up after themselves, or be assessed the cost to have the hall and kitchen cleaned and mopped. Brothers John Shaughnessy and Jim Garvine will have more details for your group shortly. In the interim please leave our facilities cleaner than you found them.

Our Pancake Breakfast is being well received. Please support this monthly effort on the fourth Sunday of each month at 8:00am to 11:00am.

I am sending out a Summons to all Tyrian Brothers for the June Stated meeting.

Please remember our Mothers on their special day May 10th.

Fraternally,
 Bob Monroe
 Worshipful Master, Tyrian Lodge #439

Officers of the Lodge

Worshipful Master Bob Monroe (Mary)
cmbobo@aol.com

Senior Warden Ed McLean (Dorrance)
edmcln@verizon.net

Junior Warden John Shaughnessy (Stacy)
shagy05@msn.com

Treasurer Pat Mullin
pat@mullinre.com

Secretary Dave Bricknell (Michele)
Senior Deacon Glen Pearson (Jill)

glen_pearson@comcast.net
Junior Deacon Stephen Pearson
tyrian439@hotmail.com

Senior Steward Alex Schmidt (Charlene)

Junior Steward Johnny Grizzle
b_grizzle@hotmail.com

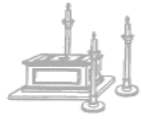
Chaplain David Vest (Monette)
Marshall Tim DeCarie (Kathryn)
mtdecarie@comcast.net

Tiler Rex Walraven
District Inspector Clive Moss



Tyrian Lodge #439
 212 N Powers Ave
 Manteca CA 95336

Faith Hope Charity



Masonic Formation Committee

Something to Consider

Twenty years ago, I drove a cab for a living. It was a cowboy's life, a life for someone who wanted no boss. What I didn't realize was that it was also a ministry.

Because I drove the night shift, my cab became a moving confessional. Passengers climbed in, sat behind me in total anonymity, and told me about their lives. I encountered people whose lives amazed me, ennobled me, and made me laugh and weep. But none touched me more than a woman I picked up late one August night. I was responding to a call from a small brick fourplex in a quiet part of town. I assumed I was being sent to pick up some partyers, or someone who had just had a fight with a lover, or a worker heading to an early shift at some factory for the industrial part of town. When I arrived at 2:30 a.m., the building was dark except for a single light in a ground floor window. Under these circumstances, many drivers would just honk once or twice, wait a minute, then drive away. But I had seen too many impoverished people who depended on taxis as their only means of transportation. Unless a situation smelled of danger, I always went to the door. This passenger might be someone who needs my assistance, I reasoned to myself. So I walked to the door and knocked. "Just a minute", answered a frail, elderly voice. I could hear something being dragged across the floor.

After a long pause, the door opened. A small woman in her 80's stood before me. She was wearing a print dress and a pillbox hat with a veil pinned on it, like somebody out of a 1940s movie. By her side was a small nylon suitcase. The apartment looked as if no one had lived in it for years. All the furniture was covered with sheets. There were no clocks on the walls, no knick-knacks or utensils on the counters. In the corner was a cardboard box filled with photos and glassware.

"Would you carry my bag out to the car?" she said. I took the suitcase to the cab, then returned to assist the woman. She took my arm and we walked slowly toward the curb. She kept thanking me for my kindness.

"It's nothing", I told her. "I just try to treat my passengers the way I would want my mother treated."

"Oh, you're such a good boy", she said. When we got in the cab, she gave me an address, then asked, "Could you drive through downtown?"

"It's not the shortest way," I answered quickly.

"Oh, I don't mind," she said. "I'm in no hurry. I'm on my way to a hospice." I looked in the rear view mirror. Her eyes were glistening.

"I don't have any family left," she continued. "The doctor says I don't have very long."

I quietly reached over and shut off the meter. "What route would you like me to take?" I asked. For the next two hours, we drove through the city. She showed me the building where she had once worked as an elevator operator. We drove through the neighborhood where she and her husband had lived when they were newlyweds. She had me pull up in front of a furniture warehouse that had once been a ballroom where she had gone dancing as a girl. Sometimes she'd ask me to slow in front of a particular building or corner and would sit staring into the darkness, saying nothing. As the first hint of sun was creasing the horizon, she suddenly said, "I'm tired. Let's go now."

We drove in silence to the address she had given me. It was a low building, like a small convalescent home, with a driveway that passed under a portico. Two orderlies came out to the cab as soon as we pulled up. They were solicitous and intent, watching her every move. They must have been expecting her. I opened the trunk and took the small suitcase to the door. The woman was already seated in a wheelchair.

"How much do I owe you?" she asked, reaching into her purse

"Nothing," I said.

"You have to make a living," she answered.

"There are other passengers". Almost without thinking, I bent and gave her a hug. She held onto me tightly.

"You gave an old woman a little moment of joy," she said. "Thank you." I squeezed her hand, then walked into the dim morning light. Behind me, a door shut. It was the sound of the closing of a life.

I didn't pick up any more passengers that shift. I drove aimlessly, lost in thought. For the rest of that day, I could hardly talk. What if that woman had gotten an angry driver, or one who was impatient to end his shift? What if I had refused to take the run, or had honked once, then driven away? On a quick review, I don't think that I have done anything more important in my life.

We're conditioned to think that our lives revolve around great moments. But great moments often catch us unaware - beautifully wrapped in what others may consider a small one.

Cheers

Brother Griffin

This month the Trestle Board is in a new format. In addition to asking every person who receives this publication to submit email information and receive this via email, I am also looking for ways to lower the costs of the printing of this each month. So rather than the old version in two front and back pages, I went for this brochure style. Please let me know how you like this format as I will try to continue publishing this as I can in this format. As always you can find the Trestle Board online at www.calodges.org/no439

During the Month of May, we have two upcoming degrees. The Masonic Formation Committee would like to invite all Master Masons to both degrees.

On May 14th, William (Bill) Hutchings will be raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. This will start at 7pm, and all Masters are encouraged to attend.

On My 21st Hastings Schmidt will be passed to the degree of Fellowcraft, this will also start at 7 pm. All Masters, and Fellow Craft are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Committee would like to congratulate Jonathan Schmidt on being raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

On May 25th, the Masonic Formation will be conducting a clean up of the Dining Room area. Please contact Alex Schmidt for more details, and to help out with cleaning up our Lodge building.

Dear Tyrian Lodge,

My name is Kathy DeCarie and I am the Worthy Matron of Pentalpha Chapter #339. I have talked to Bill Eychaner and asked if he perform a Walk About at our Chapter on June the 8th, for Brother's night and invite a Mason night. We would love it if you could please come join us and show us what a Masonic Meeting is all about. We will have an Anti room meeting then have the Walk about followed by refreshments that our Mason's will be putting together. If you could please let me know before 5/11/09 so I could let our members know. Everyone is invited.

Thank you,

Kathy DeCarie WM
Tim DeCarie WP