

# TRESTLEBOARD

## Blackmer Lodge #442

A monthly bulletin of information for the members, families and friends of  
Blackmer Lodge #442, Free and Accepted Masons, California, USA

January, 2007

Volume XCIV, Number 1

## STRENGTH

*"So Hiram gave Solomon cedar trees  
and fir trees according to all his desire."*

1 Kings 5:10

The banner that hangs from the pillar of the senior warden situated in the west in a Masonic lodge room contains the word "strength." Symbolically, it stands between the banner of "wisdom" on the master's pillar in the east, and the banner of "beauty" on the junior warden's pillar in the south. "Strength," then, represents one of the three principle supports of a lodge of Freemasons. Indeed, it is the duty of every senior warden in every Masonic lodge to strengthen and support the authority of the master.

The senior warden also symbolizes Hiram, King of Tyre, who aided Solomon, King of Israel, to build the holy house of the Temple. Together, the two kings are also said to represent power and wisdom in harmonious combination. Of the orders of architecture esteemed by Masons, the Doric column symbolizes "strength," because of all the orders it is the most massive. Hiram stands as the figure of strength, because his supply of material and workmen strengthened and supported Solomon in the building of the Temple. Other layers of esoteric meaning lay beneath the surface of this symbolism and await discovery by the Mason who is willing to search for more *light*.

Drawing from its rich association with the ancient Egyptian mysteries, as well as our brother Pythagoras and his followers, Freemasonry encourages man to explore God's revelations in natural religion - the religion of humanity that stems from what the philosophers and theologians refer to as *non-fallen Nature*. By a disciplined study of the symbol of strength we may also discover two essential principles: *opposition*, which flows from friction and produces energy; and, *concordance*, which delivers fusion and also produces energy. These two opposing forces, or strength, are well-known in the scientific community, although oddly

fusion has proven to be more scientifically theoretical than real.

The history of man reveals that enormous energies of a psychic nature are released into the world through warfare, which are directly associated with behavioral conflicts of interests and rude pretensions. Energies of an intellectual nature pass from a virtual state to reality when there is controversy. All "truth" that is discovered from *oppositional* force springs forth from a clash of opinions. In actual effect the result is not "truth," but simply the result of combative intellectual energy. Unvarnished "truth" is revealed through a *fusion* of opinions, not through clashes of opinion.

For example, during warfare men, women and children die because of human conflict. Once the will to continue warfare expires, peace prevails. Several historians who have witnessed and read about such things have concluded that for peace to reign men, women and children must die. Yet that is so only because mankind has not learned how best to employ the energies of *fusion* any more than has the scientist working in the laboratory. Consequently, it may be accurately stated that mankind has not fully comprehended the lessons taught in Freemasonry.

Quarrelling will never lead to truth. It may eventually subside, but the negative energies released are wholly non-conductive synthesis. As long as one does not make peace the primary objective, everything accomplished by the subsiding of quarreling is tenuous and fragile. Freemasonry's message that mankind should embrace diversity represents its greatest strength, for the lesson learned is that polemic conflicts are nonproductive and when discovered to exist, should be immediately eliminated from every Masonic lodge.

It is from the *fusion* of opinions that truth flows. *Conversation* is the opposite of *controversy* and is the essence of *fusion* and synthesis. All real conversation calls upon God, the Supreme Architect and transcendent center of all existence and, hence, is based upon the underlying principle: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there also am I in their

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**contact us**  
**Lodge Office**  
**619-291-0465**  
**FAX**  
**619-291-1364**

# FROM THE SECRETARY

I wish to thank the Brethren for electing me to serve as Secretary of Blackmer Lodge. I am looking forward to serving the Lodge and maintaining the high standards that were established by our Brother Johnny Johnson.

In an attempt maintain to an orderly office, I will be in the Lodge office on Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays. If you have any questions, you may reach me at the office number (619) 291-0465, or at my home number (619) 582-1468. I will return your phone calls as soon as possible.

In trying to keep an accurate count for our Stated Meeting Dinner please call for your reservations. I am looking forward to sitting in Lodge with our Members.

If you haven't sent in your dues for 2007, please take a moment and send them as soon as possible.

Fraternally,  
Arnold Korey



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midst." Freemasonry encourages the personal study of the Kabbalah to better understand the creative role that conversation and *strength* can play.

The *Zohar*, the definitive work on Kabbalah, was written centuries ago to explore the deeper meaning of the *Torah* and man's relationship to the Supreme Architect of the Universe. Some authors attribute the source of Kabbalah to the ancient Egyptians and assert that it is this that constitutes what is known as the "Egyptian Mysteries." The guiding organizational symbolism of that material is referred to as *the tree of life*. The complex study includes, but is not limited to the consideration of philosophy, theosophy, theurgy (oftentimes also referred to as "divine magic") and numerology. With respect to Freemasonry use of *strength* as a part of its symbolism, the Kabbalah's numerology offers additional insight into its intended meaning.

In Kabbalah the number five is labeled *Gevurah* – "might" – which several ancients have identified as the symbol of creative power. Here, the relationship to Freemasonry's allegory about Hiram, King of Tyre, lending his support and materials to Solomon for the purpose of constructing the Temple is most remarkable. *Gevurah* is regarded as a formative force, just as was Hiram of Tyre's power. Had he not aided Solomon by rendering his power to be used in harmonious combination with Solomon's wisdom, it is not likely the Temple would have been built.

Thus, the symbolism essential to Masons that can best be gleaned from *strength* is something far different from raw physical power. Rather it consists of an advanced spiritual power that understands the importance of *fusion*, or the assimilation of diverse ideas into a positive creative force within a Masonic lodge. As such, the Mason elected who is elected to serve as senior warden in a Masonic lodge is expected to conduct himself in such a manner that arguments are quelled at his instruction, harmony reigns where controversy once held sway, and ideas are put into action so that by aid of the *wisdom*, or authority of the master they become reality.

Look to the west, my brethren in Masonry. Strength, harmony and powerful support for peaceful projects begin there with the senior warden and are sent up to the east through the deacons only. Without *strength* wisdom is ineffective. Both must coexist before a Masonic lodge can become a creative force to the benefit of its members and the community it serves.

May the Great Architect of the Universe Bless You,

John R. Heisner, PM

# GRAND MASTER'S EMBLEM 2006-2007

The Grand Master's emblem for 2006-2007 has substantial significance to our Craft. Freemasonry recognizes as its first priority that each man has a responsibility of devotion to his family, flag and fraternity; and in that sequence of importance. The emphasis of these three words is displayed in the emblem by the silhouette of the family with a background of red, white and blue denoting patriotism to the Flag of our Country with the symbol of Masonry in its traditional blue background.



There is additional meaning to this emblem. It is in the form of a shield which represents confidence, boldness and protection; while the laurel wreath symbolizes honor, success and achievement.

In California we use the letter "G" within the square and compass to signify our faith in a Supreme Architect and the importance of geometry in teaching the principals to which all men should ascribe.

The term "family" is used not only to refer to wives, widows and children of Freemasons, it also denotes the "Family of Freemasonry" through its appendant and concordant organizations and Youth Orders which should cooperate, enhance and extend the hand of fraternalism to each other.



## TRESTLEBOARD Blackmer Lodge

A monthly bulletin of information for the members, families and friends of Blackmer Lodge #442, Free and Accepted Masons, California, USA. Our objective is to disseminate information of interest to the members, families and friends of Blackmer Lodge #442, F&AM of San Diego, California, USA.

Editor: Coren Andrews, PM<sup>4</sup>  
Printing: PIP Printing 619-528-8000  
Distribution: Harry Besnoy  
Contributors: Every now and then!  
Address: Blackmer Lodge  
Scottish Rite Center  
1895 Camino del Rio South, San Diego, CA 92108



Lodge phone: 619-291-0465

Email: [ctandrews@ca.rr.com](mailto:ctandrews@ca.rr.com)

Web Site: [www.calodges.org/no442](http://www.calodges.org/no442)

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## FREE STATED MEETING DINNERS

Richard Markson, our Stated Meeting Dinner winner will be sharing his good fortune. He will give you a second chance to win. A drawing will be held at the Stated Meeting and the winner of a FREE Stated Meeting Dinner will be announced at the following dinner. Must be present with your ticket to win. Good Luck!

## INSTALLATION HELD

The annual Installation of Officers was a happening on Monday, December 11th. The Installing Officers, Richard Saldano, John Heisner and Dusan Martin, all Past Masters of Blackmer Lodge did a wonderful job of installing our new officers who will do the work for 2007. We are looking forward to a great year with Worshipful Brother Mike and his line of Officers leading us in the new year.

## FEEL THE JOY OF GIVING

"And do not forget to do good, and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." Hebrews 13:16

Mother Teresa once said, "We cannot do great things on this earth. We can only do little things with great love."

Sometimes our grandiose plans to do great things at some later time interfere with our chances to do loving little things right now. Just after passing his bar exam, a friend of mine told me, "I want my life to be about service, but I can't do anything yet. Someday, when I'm really successful, I'll do lots of things for others."

Truly kind Masons, by contrast, do not delay or deny service to distressed brothers or others in need. They give it often. They give it quickly. They give it lovingly: caring Masons visit elderly or ailing brothers in need of company. They give time; they give rides; they give blood. At lodge, they paint, grounds keep, and do repairs. They shelter and protect our widows and orphans. They support our schools, transport crippled children. They aid in disaster. They bury our brothers.

Out of kindness, then, loving Masons do the caring things that need doing, and they do them now. Mother Teresa was right. We can't change the world, but to make the world a better place, we don't need to. Personal helping rituals,

random acts of kindness - these are almost always little things that give good Masons enormous satisfaction and peace of mind. Often the million dollar grants from great corporations are not nearly as meaningful as a five dollar gift from someone who can't afford anything at all.

If we focus on how little difference our acts of kindness really make in the scheme of things, surely we will end up frustrated. We may even use our hopelessness as an excuse to do nothing. If, however, we take great care in doing something, anything caring and kind, we will feel the joy of giving and will help to make our world a bit brighter.

Scott Pearce, PM

## FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

As we sometimes ponder of the ways how to proceed, I find these words by Frank Harwell Jr. Grand Master 1953 interesting (published in California Encompasser Dec 2006) :

—"To Believe... I wish that I were gifted with foresight and wisdom to look ahead on the road we shall follow in the years immediately before us and tell you how we can plan to avoid those pitfalls and bypaths which would make our progress a difficult one.

However, I can say to you with the utmost confidence that with these lamps to guide our feet, and with these landmarks to point the way we shall not stray too far or fall too hard.

To believe that to make innovations in the body of Masonry is to turn our back to the wisdom of the past and pursue a dangerous course.

To believe in and to submit to patiently and carefully taken decisions of the majority.

To believe that we are our brother's keeper — not only because moral law and fraternal precept say so, but because it is the dictate of our conscience....

Thus, my brethren, I believe that our great fraternity will move calmly and successfully on into an unending future.

Mihailo O'Zdravkovic



## BIRTHDAYS

William Anderson	1/02
Harry Arnoff	1/02
James Barker	1/08
Donald Callard	1/06
Duane Ely, PM	1/07
Jonas Feurzeig	1/11
Henry Horton III	1/12
Thomas Jewell	1/19
Kevin Jones	1/06
Harry Kessler	1/26
Robert Lewis	1/03
Willard Ohland	1/22
Roger Parker, PM	1/31
Gary Parks, PM	1/21
Robert Reuillard	1/07
John Ridgway, Jr.	1/15
John Simzisko	1/07
Harold Thurber, Jr.	1/08

Average age = 71.4 years old  
Oldest = 99 years old  
Youngest = 48 years old  
Happy Birthday to these Brethren!  
We would like to wish you a happy birthday in person at the Stated Meeting dinner of your birth month. Please do join us and remember that your dinner is on the Lodge.

## BULLETIN BY EMAIL

We want YOU.  
To begin receiving your bulletin by email, send a note saying "I'm in!" to  
Coren Andrews at  
[ctandrews@comcast.net](mailto:ctandrews@comcast.net)

TELL YOUR  
BRETHREN

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for email  
subscribers

-  
additional  
articles and  
information

PLEASE CHECK YOUR DUES CARD. IT SHOULD SAY "PAID THROUGH DECEMBER, 2006."

Please be considerate and make your dinner reservations early. If you are going to come to one of our dinners, make reservations. Two days in advance is sufficient, but please reserve.

# TRESTLEBOARD

Blackmer Lodge

A monthly bulletin of information for the members, families and friends of Blackmer Lodge  
#442, Free and Accepted Masons, California, USA

## BLACKMER LODGE NO. 442, F&AM

Scottish Rite Center  
1895 Camino del Rio South  
San Diego, CA 92108

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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**SUPPORT YOUR  
LODGE AND ITS  
PROGRAMS.**

**YOUR  
ATTENDANCE IS  
NEEDED AND  
ENCOURAGED!**



## BLACKMER LODGE OFFICERS

Master .....	zdralemi@sbcglobal.net
MIKE ZDRAVKOVIC, PM .....	619-691-9516
Senior Warden .....	dell1@nethere.com
HAROLD THURBER (Patricia) .....	619-669-4731
Junior Warden .....	chrispq@hotmail.com
CHRIS QUIMPO .....	858-560-8024
Treasurer .....	none
HAROLD WEISS (Audrey) .....	858-278-7036
Secretary .....	pote1995@pacbell.net
ARNOLD KOREY (Marlene) .....	619-582-1468
Chaplain .....	none
DUANE ELY, PM .....	619-448-7873
Senior Deacon .....	mkaufman4@sanrr.com
MARK KAUFMAN (Karen) .....	858-248-1502
Junior Deacon .....	paulfathy@yahoo.com
PAUL ATHY (Amy) .....	619-337-9454
Marshal .....	EMAIL PENDING
RICK CARLSON (Paula) .....	858-635-6565
Senior Steward .....	sgould1@san.rr.com
SCOTT GOULD (Karen) .....	858-566-6954
Junior Steward .....	EMAIL PENDING
LARRY GERTSER (Elaine) .....	619-582-8055
Organist .....	.....
VACANT .....	.....
Tiler .....	hbesnoy@hotmail.com
HARRY BESNOY (Gaye) .....	619-562-7465
Officers' Coach .....	jheisner@san.rr.com
JOHN HEISNER, PM (Margo) .....	619-437-8119
Head Candidates' Coach .....	dell1@nethere.com
HAROLD THURBER (Patricia) .....	619-669-4731
Inspector .....	fkleyn@cox.net
FRED KLEYN, PM .....	619-461-5724
Immediate Past Master .....	zdralemi@sbcglobal.net
MIKE ZDRAVKOVIC, PM .....	619-691-9516

## JANUARY 2007 CALENDAR

### January

**Mon 1st** **HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
**Thurs 4th** **STATED MEETING** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.  
 Reservations must call 619-291-0465. Business casual.  
 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS  
**Mon 8th** Family Dine Out-To Be Announced - Contact Lodge Office  
**Thurs 11th** First Degree Practice - 6:45 p.m.  
**Mon 15th** **First Degree - 7:15 p.m.**  
**Thurs 18th** **First Degree - 7:15 p.m.**  
**Mon 22nd** ISI - All Officers to attend - Blackmer works Stated Meeting, Receiving GL Officer and Funeral Service  
**Thurs 25th** Third Degree Practice - 6:45 p.m.  
**Mon 29th** Third Degree Practice - 6:45 p.m.

### February

**Thurs 1st** **Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.  
 Reservations please call 619-291-0465.  
**Mon 5th** Family Dine Out

### JANUARY STATED MEETING DINNER MENU

Sliced Roast Beef and Baked Mahi Mahi  
 Scalloped Potatoes and Grilled Mixed Vegetables  
 Tossed Greens and Assorted Rolls  
 Apple Crunch Cake  
 Beverages



**You must call your reservations to Arnie at 619-291-0465**



Do you know these men? Hint, they were Officers of Blackmer Lodge. Your duty, if you accept it, is to email the editor at ctandrews@ca.rr.com with their names, the year, and where the picture was taken. Hopefully, this bulletin will not self destruct before you have time to do your research.

## OUR CALIFORNIA MASONIC CODE

### §25140 Duties of Master.

It shall be the duty of the Master to:

- A. Preside at all meetings of the Lodge;
- B. Confer or have conferred all degrees in strict accordance with the ritual which has been, or may hereafter be, approved by Grand Lodge;
- C. Give, or have given, in full, the lectures appertaining to each degree, at the time it is conferred, in accordance with the ritual;
- D. Appoint those officers as provided for in the By-laws;
- E. Appoint an Auditing Committee and a Committee on Delinquent Members at the Stated Meeting next succeeding his installation;
- F. Appoint a chairman to coordinate with the Grand Lodge Committees on Lodge Support and Fraternal Support Services and any Grand Lodge program charged with Masonic education;
- G. Attest at each Stated Meeting of his Lodge all minutes or records of proceedings as approved at such meetings by the Lodge;
- H. Superintend the official acts of all the officers of his Lodge and to see that their respective duties are properly discharged;
- I. Carefully guard against any infraction, by the members of his Lodge, of its own By-laws, of the Constitution or Ordinances of Grand Lodge, or of the General Regulations of Masonry; and
- J. Provide for the installation of his successor. (10/03)

### §25150 Decision of Master.

There shall be no appeal to the Lodge from the decisions of the Master. Objections to such decisions may be presented to the Grand Master and dealt with by him.

### §25160 Master's Deciding Vote.

The Master shall have a regular vote in all matters before the Lodge. In case of a tie vote, he may also cast the deciding vote.

## WORDS OF WISDOM FROM DALE CARNEGIE

1. Don't criticize, condemn, or complain.
2. Give honest, sincere appreciation.
3. Arouse in the other person an eager want.
4. Become genuinely interested in other people.
5. Smile.
6. Remember that a person's name is to that person the sweetest sound in any language.
7. Be a good listener. Encourage others to talk about themselves.
8. Talk in terms of the other person's interests.
9. Make the other person feel important and do it sincerely.
10. The only way to get the best of an argument is to avoid it.
11. Show respect for the other person's opinion. Never say "you're wrong".



Do you know the name of this Lodge?  
Los Altos Lodge #712  
on the San Francisco Peninsula



The trouble with a man who talks too fast is that he often says something he hasn't thought of yet.

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## Parliamentary Procedures

The rights of others must be respected to have a free society including the rights of the majority, minority, individuals and absentees. There can be no orderly meetings unless members agree to follow certain rules. Parliamentary procedures generally in use today follow the guidelines that have been used in England for more than 650 years. Many scholars consider England's greatest contribution to the world as her system of legislative control which was a forerunner of the Constitution of the United States. Where there is no law in society, it is a matter of mob rule. Where there is too much law invested in one person, it is a dictatorship.

Remember that parliamentary procedures do not fully apply to any Masonic organization. Masonic law vests in the Master the responsibility for deciding what comes before a Lodge and what does not. At any time the Master of a Lodge may refuse to allow a subject to come before the Lodge, may refer a matter to a committee, or may postpone consideration of a matter. This is the inherent right of any Masonic presiding officer.

This suggested procedure will probably be enough to handle most situations in a Lodge.

### Handling a motion:

A motion may be made by any member except the Master

A motion may be seconded by any member except the Master

The motion is restated by the Master

The motion is discussed by the Lodge.

The motion is acted upon by the Lodge.

The motion may be passed by a majority vote.

The motion may be rejected by a majority vote.

The motion may be withdrawn by the one who made it.

The motion may be amended by a majority vote.

### There are eight steps in taking action on a main motion four for the member and four for the Master:

1. A member arises and addresses the Master
2. The Master recognizes the member who arose.
3. The member makes the motion: "I move that....."
4. Another member seconds the motion (**it is not necessary to rise**)
5. The Master states (repeats) the motion so that all can hear.
6. The Master asks: "Is there discussion?" (This indicates that debate or discussion is in order.)
7. When discussion is complete (or none appears) the Master puts the question to the vote.
8. The Master announces the results of the vote and states whether the motion is carried or lost.

### The four basic principles of parliamentary law:

Courtesy and justice to all.

Consider one thing at a time.

The minority must be heard.

The majority must rule

Do not get into the habit of "...calling for the question..." as soon as a motion is made and seconded. This is undemocratic and not proper Masonic conduct. The Brothers have a right to the opportunity for discussion. After the Master restates and asks if there is discussion he should wait a few seconds; and if no discussion is forthcoming he should say words to the effect of: "Hearing no discussion, those in favor of the motion will say aye. Those against, nay. The (ayes)(nays) have it and the motion is (carried)(lost)."