

# 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

May, 2007

Volume XCIV, Number 5

## THE ANCHOR AND ARK

*"Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and that entereth into that within the veil."*

Heb. 6:19

In the third degree of Freemasonry where the ceremonies relate largely to life and death, man's journey over the sea of life is symbolized by *Noah's Ark*, and his hope of immortality and a safe landing in the haven of eternal security is symbolized by the anchor. Considered together, the *anchor and ark* are emblems of hope grounded in a well-spent life. As such, those symbols are a part of the many different symbols Masonry employs to teach the importance of structuring human life upon principles of morality and virtue.

Masonry interprets the *anchor* to mean the force of morality – not merely the idea of morality. As a force, it is the magnetic attraction of the heart toward truth and virtue in a manner similar to the directional pointing of the needle on a compass. Just as a true compass will lead a wayward mariner from rough seas to a hospitable harbor, so too may morality guide us throughout life from darkness to light. We are assured of being well-grounded in our daily activities when we patiently assess the choices each day offers us and wisely select the choice that is the more moral.

The Masonic *ark*, or vessel that carries us along throughout our lifetimes, is constructed of honor and duty, not wood. By never losing sight of those essential virtues, we may avoid a disastrous shipwreck. A Mason who does lose sight risks sinking and forever disappearing without ever being honored for his goodness of heart and deed. Should the Supreme Architect then demand an accounting from such a Mason for what

he has done with his life, regret and shame are likely to sweep over him like a drowning sea.

It is said with ample authority that all of the forces of Nature are, or may some come under man's control. Similarly, the book of Ecclesiastes from the Old Testament teaches us that there is nothing new under the sun. Considered together, the two thoughts suggest that mankind is in the process of rediscovering what was once known – rediscovering that which was lost. The lessons of the *anchor and ark* are intended to spiritually equip us to make those discoveries – to please God so that He will not withhold from us the opportunity to learn wisely and then apply that which we have learned so that yet more wise truths may be rediscovered.

The manner in which the Dead Sea Scrolls have been revealed to the average person is an example of what is meant here. Those priceless documents from ages past were first discovered in the 1940's. Excerpts were not made publicly available for years after that and many of the documents making up this treasure trove of knowledge have never been made publicly available. The answer to the question "Why?" aids us in learning how one becomes "worthy" to know such things.

Merely desiring to know something is not always enough. Knowing how to learn a lesson does not always mean that lesson will be learned. The truth behind these statements is not intended in any manner to be mystical, or metaphysical. Simply stated, sometimes there are real live forces working against you in your endeavors – forces that intend to keep you from  
[continued on page 2](#)

## Contents for May, 2007

### Two

*From the Secretary  
Anchor (continued)  
Consolidation News*

### Three

*Birthdays  
From the East  
Ladies Luncheon  
Page 5 notice*

### Four

*Blackmer Lodge Officers  
Lodge Events Calendar*

### Five

*Freemasons and World  
Takeover  
Symbols of Freemasonry  
Pot of Incense  
Beehive  
Plumb*



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

# FROM THE SECRETARY

This being the month of May and Memorial Day, I would ask all of us to take a moment and say a prayer and thank you to all of the MEN and WOMEN who have served or now serving in our Armed Services. These brave people are protecting our freedom so that we may live in a great society. You may want to come to a special dinner planned by Scottish Rite to honor our Military as one way of saying THANK YOU. The date is Wednesday, May 23, at 6:00 pm. You can make reservations by calling the Scottish Rite at 619-293-4888.

We are mailing to all the members of BLACKMER LODGE a copy of the resolution of consolidation with East San Diego Lodge and/or Crossroads Lodge. Please look it over and feel free to call any member of the committee with any question. I hope that all members will carefully review any of the information that will be put out and feel free to ask any questions.

I would hope that as we put on more Degrees we will have more sideliners to watch the work of officers who really do a great job. I will be out of town from May 7<sup>th</sup> thru May 11<sup>th</sup> attending Western Shrine Association in Reno.

Fraternally  
Arnold L. Korey, Secretary

continued from page 1

accomplishing your goal. In the case of the Dead Sea Scrolls, various researchers, theologians and politicians have determined that, for whatever reason known only to them, the general population is not capable of handling the knowledge those unrevealed scrolls possess. That determination has been made most likely because systems, institutions and doctrines of religion are at stake. Unless those who have control over the missing knowledge change their minds, years from now that knowledge will still be a mystery to all but those in control.

It is correct to ask what all of this has to do with the Masonic *anchor and ark*. The answer to that question is based upon the extent of a Mason's obligation to others. Morality, honor and duty are fundamentals which if put into practice will eventually change men. Not merely some men, but all men. For, if Masons practice their Craft effectively they also teach others, by example and deed, how man was intended by the Creator to live his life.

Masonry teaches that truth is a Divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue. The power of kings, monarchs and governments around the world is not comparable to the almighty force and the importance of truth. Our reality here on earth, as well as in heaven above rests in the unerring truth that is never subject to the variations and vicissitudes of time and fortune. Burning all of the publications deposited in the library at Alexandria did not make those publications untrue. Determining that one religious doctrine is paramount to any other does not change the truth that all doctrines are worthy of consideration and reflection. Deciding that the world requires one form of government over any other form will never alter the truth that all forms of government have, at one time or another in the history of mankind, proven efficient, fair and just.

It is these truths that Masons must not only adopt, but must live for the world to see, learn and change. When Masonic values eventually change the world, men will no longer hide important knowledge to protect personal interests. But, it is only when such change is actually effected that men will truly become "worthy" of knowing all that is hidden. That is the natural state of being the

Creator has provided us. As a part of Natural law, it cannot and will not deviate.

Either change is made, or truth will remain stifled. The outcome is in your hands. As your *ark* travels through this vale of tears will it leave behind lessons in morality, honor and duty for others to learn? Will the *anchor* of hope for all Masons, as well as all mankind, be dropped from your vessel? My brother, you have an important work yet to accomplish. Consult the Holy Writings, learn the lessons of Masonic symbolism, live those lessons for your circle of friends and family to see and commit yourself to being for change – for change that removes barriers to knowledge – for change that eliminates fear as a motive for concealing the rediscovery of all that we once knew.

John Heisner, PM

## CONSOLIDATION NEWS

The Consolidation Committees for Blackmer, East San Diego, and Crossroads Lodges met on Saturday, April 7, to begin formal discussions for consolidation. Thursday evening, April 5, each Lodge passed an identical resolution to formalize the negotiations. Our Saturday meeting was open, honest, and very cordial. Initial concerns were addressed and frankly discussed. The results were positive and all agreed that further discussions are in order. We will be encouraging our Brothers to visit each other over the next few months to get to know one another better. Officers of each Lodge will be working together on degrees. Formal visits will be arranged and combined events planned. There are, of course, a number of issues to be addressed but with the spirit of Brotherly Love and compromise exhibited in the initial meeting prevailing through our talks over the next months we can emerge as a strong, vibrant new Lodge. This is the goal of all the Consolidation Committees and with the help of the Great Architect we will accomplish our task to the satisfaction of all our members.

## 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)

Subscription is free and all material is copyright by Blackmer Lodge #442 or other sources and may be reprinted with proper credit given. The Blackmer Lodge Bulletin is published monthly with a circulation of about 300 copies.



# FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

Many times we talk about Master Masons Wages but one of better explanation, for me is what Brother C.H. Cloudy wrote in 1924:

When Masonry was operative, the Fellow of the Craft labored long and earnestly to fit himself to produce his Master's piece, by which he would be enabled to prove himself fit to receive the Mason word, what we know as "the Secret Word of a Master Mason," that he might go where he would, prove himself a Master and receive a Master's wages.

Now that Masonry is speculative only we should ever remember that it was not the word, but "the fitness to receive it" which qualified ancient operative brethren for a Master's wages.

A Master's wages are paid in the knowledge of the human heart; its dependence upon love and friendship, its eagerness to give for the love of giving, its humble hope of receiving love for the simple human joy of being beloved. They are paid in friends of the heart; friends who make life rich with its fairest treasures. A common

past is a foundation on which many a friendship is based. Freemasonry supplies such a past. Men linked in the Mystic Tie can think, symbolically, of their friendship beginning thousands of years ago! The friends made in Masonry are of tested steel; there are none better. A Master's wages are paid in the knowledge of closeness to and communion with the Great Architect of the Universe. In the practice of Freemasonry a Master Mason draws close to God. The All Seeing Eye to him is a friendly one. No man spends time in a lodge without having his faith strengthened; in days when mental confusion, doubt, debate and argument undermine beliefs less solidly founded, the firm foundation for simple belief which comes from Freemasonry is surely not the least of the coins in which a Master receives his wages.

And a Master's wages are paid in strength to endure, in courage to proceed, in hope of the future and in joy in the present.

These are wages worth working for! These are coins beside which those of minted gold show themselves to be the dross they are! For these are the wages given to character.

Mihailo O'Zdravkovic, Master

## BIRTHDAYS

Coren Andrews, PM	5/12
Robert Balingier	5/26
Martin Berg	5/18
Joe Brennan	5/05
William Brown	5/25
Shaun Case	5/20
Benjamin Grossman	5/26
John Heisner, PM	5/11
Ellsworth Henderson	5/21
Ronald Krasner	5/09
Ronald Newell, PM	5/18
Daniel Ober, Sr.	5/14
Scott Raab	5/11
Madison Rogers, PM	5/06
Donald Wenzel	5/08
W. Shannon Williams	5/19
Mihailo Zdravkovic, PM	5/13

Five of our 25 living PMs were born this month and this list is the same as last year with one addition and no subtractions.  
Average age = 60.65 years old  
Oldest = 82 years old  
Youngest = 24 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.

**SUPPORT YOUR LODGE AND ITS PROGRAMS.**

**YOUR ATTENDANCE IS NEEDED AND ENCOURAGED!**



**PAGE 5**

**for email subscribers**

**additional articles and information**

*Honored Ladies Luncheon*

*May 17, 2007*  
*NOON*  
*Scottish Rite Center*

**Call Arnie Korey to make your reservation**  
**619-291-0465**

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR DUES CARD. IT SHOULD SAY "PAID THROUGH DECEMBER, 2007."**

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**

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 129  
San Diego, CA

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



We want YOU.

To begin receiving your bulletin by email, send a note saying  
"I'm in!" to Coren Andrews at [ctandrews@ca.rr.com](mailto:ctandrews@ca.rr.com)

## 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 .....
- 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

## MAY 2007 CALENDAR

### May

- Thurs 3rd** **STATED MEETING** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.  
Reservations must call 619-291-0465. Business casual.
- Mon 7th** Proficiency Night, 7:15 p.m. - Practice after
- Thurs 10th** **SECOND DEGREE - Nobles and LaValle - 7:15 p.m.**
- Mon 14th** **SECOND DEGREE - Dux - 7:15 p.m.**
- Thurs 17th** HONORED LADIES LUNCHEON - NOON at Scottish Rite
- Mon 21st** Dark
- Thurs 24th** Dark
- Mon 28th** Dark - Observed Memorial Day
- Thurs 31st** Dark

### June

- Mon 4th** Family Dine Out - Great Moon Buffet in Pacific Beach
- Thurs 7th** **Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.  
Reservations please call 619-291-0465.

### MAY STATED MEETING DINNER MENU

- Chicken Enchiladas and Baked Snapper
- Spanish Rice or White Rice, Grilled Mixed Vegetables
- Caesar Salad and Tortillas
- Cobbler and Beverages



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



## THE FREEMASONS AND WORLD TAKEOVER

The actor Howard Da Silva often told a story about a friend who was called before the House Un-American Activities Committee during the very nervous 1950s Cold War. When Da Silva's friend was asked if he was a communist, his snappy comeback was, "We're not allowed to tell." Most people figure that Freemasonry is the same way.

Masons are forbidden to discuss politics in the lodge. Finalizing world-takeover plans is tough if you have to disguise it as discussion about Saturday's fish fry or who's supposed to cut the lodge lawn. Lodge rituals differ from one jurisdiction to another. Grand Lodges disagree on a wide variety of issues. And there is no cohesive, international governing body of Freemasons. For a bunch of guys who are taking over the world, we're mighty incompetent.

Regular, recognized, mainstream Freemasonry does not now, nor has it ever, aspired to be a world-dominating, secret empire. Nor does it aspire to be the controlling gray eminences behind the thrones, another common charge. Freemasonry is a fraternal organization that simply seeks to improve men so that they may, in turn, improve society around them. It doesn't tell them how to do that, nor does it give them political, commercial, or religious marching orders. Some 18th- and 19th-century kings and religious leaders distrusted Freemasonry because it encouraged freedom of thought, freedom of religion, and freedom of expression, the very antithesis of what most conspiracy theorists accuse it of.

Have some Freemasons, or men who called themselves Freemasons, used the basic organization and ceremonies of the Craft to create their own secret societies with less-than-virtuous goals? Certainly - and they were driven from the ranks of the fraternity when their activities were discovered. Moreover, the Grand Master, the leading officer in a Grand Lodge, has the supreme power during his term of office to

suspend Masons accused of wrong doing, and even to suspend entire lodges if their membership engages in un-Masonic or illegal conduct.

Still, this idea that Masons want to rule the world remains one of the most common misconceptions about the Craft. Yes, I know, if I were involved in a secret, worldwide conspiracy, of course I'd tell you it didn't exist. That's just what you'd expect me to say, right?

## SYMBOLS OF FREEMASONRY

**Pot of Incense** - Incense is not typically burned in a Masonic lodge, but the symbol of a pot of incense is used as an allegory for a pure heart (the pot or censer) and the prayers that arise from it to heaven, symbolized by the clouds of rising smoke.

**Beehive** - Bees never quit, as anyone who has ever been chased around his yard after trying to knock a hive out of his garage's eaves will tell you. As a result, bees have long been a symbol of hard work and teamwork. To the Mason, the beehive is especially fascinating, because the honeycomb is a perfect geometric structure. One bee can do nothing; working together, they can achieve a great deal. Men are much the same.

**Plumb** - The plumb is a device with a string and a weight at the bottom (called a plumb bob) to help a workman determine if a vertical wall or surface is level. Speculative Masons make use of the plumb to remind them to behave in an upright manner in their duty to God and their dealings with their fellow man. The plumb line always points to both the center of the Earth and to the heavens. It is a symbol of justice, rectitude, uprightness, equality, and truth, and in many ways it is similar to the scales of justice, because it must be kept in balance. In the lodge, it is the officer's badge of the Junior Warden.

Four excerpts from *Freemasons for Dummies* by Christopher Hodapp.

An interesting volume to add to your library.

