

Blackmer Lodge

Bulletin



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

October, 2003

Volume XC, Number 10

TRAVELING IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES



"For we know, that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens"
2 Cor.5.1

Masonry may be viewed as a succession of allegories, the mere vehicles for lessons in morality and life. It speaks in symbols and sheds light upon secrets no living Mason can yet discern: future life after earthly death. Our Craft seeks to give us the necessary working tools for use in our daily lives so that we may be prepared to eventually welcome death, not as a grim tyrant who forever casts us into lifeless darkness, but as a kind messenger sent to translate us to that celestial Lodge above where the Supreme Architect of the Universe forever presides.

The sublime degree of Master Mason explains to the candidate that the lessons taught him are intended to enable him to "obtain wages when traveling in foreign countries." Masonic writers have often explained this symbolism to mean that we are to conduct our lives in the world as men of character, integrity, and piety. While the truth of that explanation cannot be denied, it is incomplete. "Man who is born of woman is of few days. He cometh forth like a flower and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not." Yet, the soul of man will continue a journey through a land that we can neither presently know, nor fully appreciate.

It is that journey that leads each Mason to the "foreign country" identified so clearly in the Craft's teaching. The celestial land from whose bourn no traveler returns.

Thus, the term "foreign country" has a profound spiritual meaning to be weighed and considered as deeply as the lessons about how we should live our earthly lives.

In the work of the Craft, the symbolism of this life terminates with the Master Mason's Degree, where physical life ends and the resurrection to a future life begins. As Masons, we interpret that as a commitment to living a newer and better life by extending charity to all mankind. As spiritual beings also, we should anticipate the fullness of a new life as the just reward for our faithfulness where times will be spent in the eternal presence of Truth.

Masonry is not a religion. However, it does offer a road map for the religious to follow. From sacred scripture we learn that: "Pure religion and undefiled before God is this; to visit the orphans and widows in their time of affliction, and to keep ourselves spotless before the world." (Jas. 1:27). Many will recognize this passage as the very foundation for Masonic charity. As such, we may, each one of us, be assured that if during our physical life we extend love and kindness to others and remain upright in our dealings with all men, we will be deemed "faithful" and worthy when called to become travelers in that "foreign country" so often acknowledged by our Masonic symbolism.

May the Great Architect of the Universe Bless You.

John R. Heisner

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contact us

Lodge Office

619-291-0465

FAX

619-291-1364

2003 LEGISLATION

GRAND MASTER HOLSINGER'S DECISIONS

1. Advertising and Public Relations by Lodges

GRAND MASTER HOLSINGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. One Day Conferrals
2. Flexible Dates for Annual Communication
3. Finance Committee Duties
4. CMMT Restructure

CARRY-OVERS FROM 2002 (GRAND MASTER WHITAKER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Safeguards for Lodge Finances and Investments
4. Changing Name of California Masonic Memorial Temple to California Masonic Memorial Center

2002 CARRY-OVER RESOLUTIONS

- 02-01 Alternative Dues Structure
- 02-06 Changes Name of Grand Lodge Temple Properties and Taxation Committee
- 02-07 Requires Temple Associations for Real Property

2003 RESOLUTIONS

- 03-01 Allows Lodges and Masonic organizations to participate in gambling activities permitted under California State law.
- 03-02 Reduces Stated Meeting quorum from seven to five.
- 03-03 allows Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts to withdraw and modifies the procedure for them to transfer to another Lodge.
- 03-04 Allows Lodge members to nominate candidates for membership.
- 03-05 Makes affiliated Past Masters from other jurisdictions members of Grand Lodge.
- 03-06 Changes ballot on affiliations to a simple majority voice vote.
- 03-07 Changes instructions before the Obligations to "Your full name".
- 03-08 Adds an instruction to the newly obligated Brother on his return to the Lodge in the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Degrees.
- 03-09 Authorizes one day classes.
- 03-10 Establishes a Masonic Apron for 50 and 75 year members.
- 03-11 Allows California Masons to belong to the Tall Cedars of Lebanon.
- 03-12 Limits Admission to the Masonic Home for Children at Covina to the sons and daughters of Master Masons.

Copies of the legislation are available on the California Grand Lodge website at

www.freemason.org

Here you will find complete text of all the decisions, recommendations and resolutions in Acrobat format.



Blackmer Lodge Bulletin

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, PM³
Printing: PIP Press 619-283-8888
Distribution: Galen Niedenfuehr
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

E-mail: ctandrews@comcast.net

Web Site: 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 except August with a circulation of about 500 copies. Please note that errors and omissions occasionally occur and for which we sincerely apologize. Please submit articles to the editor by e-mail, US Mail or at the lodge by the 15th of the month for publication.



FROM THE SECRETARY

Soon it will be Grand Lodge. Your officers will be attending and will bring the full report back to you.

Congratulations to Dudley Chambers. He has received his SEVENTY-FIVE YEAR DIAMOND JUBILEE AWARD! The Grand Lodge of New York has presented Brother Chambers with his Award. On behalf of all his Brethren at Blackmer Lodge #442, congratulations and we salute you!

We are trying to contact the Brothers that would like to attend Lodge meetings but cannot drive at night. We are trying to make arrangements to have one of our brothers pick you up and bring you to the meeting. If you would like to attend Lodge but cannot drive at night Please give us a call (619)291-0465 and we will do our best to get you to Lodge.

If you know of a Brother or his lady that are not feeling in the best of health, please let us know. It is almost impossible to call all of the Brothers to find out if they are OK. Call us at 619-291-0465.

PLEASE, if you move, let the Lodge know. We need to update records at the Lodge and with Grand Lodge with your new address and phone number.

In the next month we will be sending out Dues notices, and there are still a couple of Brothers that have not paid their 2003 dues, Please do so now.

Fraternally, Johnny Johnson, Secretary



MASONIC HOMES ENDOWMENT FUND

As mentioned in a previous Bulletin, the Lodge will accept your contribution to the FUND, when you send your Dues Check. When we receive a contribution, we log it into the report we send to Grand Lodge. When you write a check for The Masonic Homes Endowment Fund, be sure to include FUND after Masonic Homes Endowment. If you don't your contribution could be deposited in the Homes operating account. Hopefully, Grand Lodge will be forthcoming with a report of contributions!

REMEMBERING EDDIE

Let us remember our Brother Edgar "Eddie" Gumpel, P.M. who passed away August 8, 2003. We have a committee that will be accepting donations, (no amount is too small) to have a tile plaque with his name on it, added to the front wall of the Scottish Rite Center. Please make check payable to our committee Chairman (Harry Besnoy) and mail the check (or better yet, bring it to our October Stated Meeting) to Blackmer Lodge.

PIZZA KNIGHT

Building on the success of past Pizza KNights, Mike and his pizza people will meet for another Monday evening get-together with salads, sodas, pizzas, October 6th at 6:30 p.m. at Tierrasanta Roundtable, 10415 Tierrasanta Blvd. Hungry Blackmer pizza lovers and their friends are all invited to join in good food and fellowship for the evening.

We will share the cost of salads, sodas and pizzas.

BIRTHDAYS

Ralph Avalos	10/16
S. Terry Block	10/08
Charles Boatman	10/26
Robert Booth, Jr.	10/02
Leslie Boring	10/11
William Bradford	10/03
Fred Chabot, Jr.	10/16
Jeffrey Cronk	10/21
William Evenson	10/22
David Gibson	10/10
James Harmon	10/31
Percy Hart	10/04
Marty Hull	10/26
Michael Kaufman	10/23
Edward Kotler	10/22
Arthur Lewis	10/14
David Lewis	10/05
Bijan Massrouf	10/19
Robert Melson, Jr.	10/08
Ernesto Miller, Jr.	10/17
Schuyler Palmer	10/06
Gary Prodanovich, PM	10/18
Harry Rachman	10/20
Chris Reedy	10/28
James Seeto	10/26
John Townsend	10/09
Keith Webb	10/04
Robert Welk	10/11

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY.



**SUPPORT YOUR
LODGE AND ITS
PROGRAMS .
YOUR
ATTENDANCE IS
NEEDED AND
ENCOURAGED !**

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.

Upon checking, the Secretary finds there are several members who have STILL not paid their 2002 dues. Please do so as soon as possible and include the amount of your 2003 dues which are also due.

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BLACKMER LODGE NO. 442, F&AM
Scottish Rite Center
1895 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



*Freemasonry seeks good men and
makes them better. Tell a friend!*

BLACKMER LODGE OFFICERS

- Worshipful Master zdralemi@aol.com
MIKE ZDRAVKOVIC 619-691-9516
- Senior Warden jheisner@san.rr.com
JOHN HEISNER (Margo) 619-437-8119
- Junior Warden ctandrews@comcast.net
COREN ANDREWS, PM (acting) 909-698-9924
- Treasurer
HAROLD WEISS (Audrey) 858-278-7036
- Secretary lejent@sbcglobal.net
JOHNNY JOHNSON (Joyce) 619-239-1900
- Chaplain gmaizli1@san.rr.com
GREG MAIZLISH (Gretchen) 858-277-0240
- Senior Deacon
SCOTT GOULD (Karen) 858-566-6954
- Junior Deacon
PERRY HOOPER (Gloria) 619-448-8752
- Marshal
RICHARD CARLSON (Paula) 858-635-6565
- Senior Steward
MATTHEW FOULGER cell 858-349-9596
- Junior Steward
GARY HASLIP
Organist
BILL TRIMBLE (Theresa) 619-582-6070
- Tiler
DUANE ELY, PM 619-448-7873
- Officers' Coach ctandrews@attbi.com
COREN ANDREWS, PM 619-449-8781
- Head Candidates' Coach jheisner@san.rr.com
JOHN HEISNER (Margo) 619-437-8119
- Inspector ke6osdjrr@worldnet.att.net
JAMES R. REGET, PM (Margaret) 858-453-3994
- Immediate Past Master
SCOTT PEARCE, PM 619-460-6747

OCTOBER 2003, CALENDAR

October

- Thurs 2nd Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. - Dinner at 6:15 p.m.
Reservations please call 619-291-0465.
- Mon 6th** Pizza KNight, Tierrasanta Roundtable, 10415 Tierrasanta Blvd., 6:30 p.m.
- Thurs 9th** Dark
- Grand Lodge is October 12th through 15th in San Francisco.**
- Thurs 16th** Officers' Practice, Second Degree, 6:30 p.m.
- Mon 20th Proficiency and Second Degree, 7:15 p.m.**
- Thurs 23rd** Officers' Practice, Third Degree, 6:30 p.m.
- Mon 27th** ISI - School of Instruction - 837 Host, 561 Work, Third Degree, Second Section 7:00 p.m. Call the inspector to be excused.
- Thurs 30th Third Degree, 7:15 p.m.**

November

- Thurs 6th Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Reservations please call 619-291-0465.
- Mon 10th** Pizza KNight, 6:30 Tierrasanta Roundtable, 10415 Tierrasanta Blvd.

OCTOBER STATED MEETING DINNER MENU

The following has been requested for our October Dinner
Rack of Lamb and Sirloin Tips Bourguignon
Near-East Cous-Cous and Spanish Rice
Baby Carrots
Waldorf Salad - Black Forest Cake
Breads and Beverages