

Blackmer Lodge

Bulletin



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

August, 2005

Volume XCII, Number 8

A POINT: THE BEGINNING OF GEOMETRICAL MATTER

*"For God, ... commanded the light to shine out of the
darkness."
2 Cor. 4:6*

In Masonic teachings, the "point" is used to symbolically illustrate several truths. The point within the circle is intended to convey (1) the eternity of God, and (2) the circumscribed boundaries of one brother's behavior. When applied to the more esoteric concepts arising out of geometry, the "point" alludes to "potential." As Fellowcrafts, we are instructed that a point is the beginning of all geometrical matter and from that instruction we learn that all matter has a beginning, or starting point. Our Masonic message, however, asks us to see something deeper; a truth that runs to the very core of the Raising we witness during the ritual in the Third Degree.

Throughout Masonic symbolism we find repeated references to "above" and "below." The very manner in which the square and compass is arranged is illustrative: the square is pointed downward or "below," while the compass is directed upward, or "above." Masonry teaches us that together they signify the conjoining of Divine will with human will, which is the true goal of every man who professes a belief in the Great Architect. It is the mystical blending of the infinite with the finite mind, or the illumination of darkness with supernal light - a light which has no beginning and no end.

While the Divine endures forever

and ever and is not confined by time, such is not so with man, who being a part of the material world has a beginning and an ending. The "point" referred to in our Masonic lesson about geometry is meant to imply that there is a starting place for man's understanding of his relationship to deity. For some, it is at the knee of a devout mother. For other, it comes after years of ritualistic attendance at the church or synagogue of our choice. And yet for others it occurs during the evolution of understanding that comes from a prolonged exposure to Masonry. Regardless of the method, the result is the same: we begin to see the light.

It is that light which enables us to see the truths lying in wait behind our other ritualistic symbols. The greatest of these is the truth of life after death, or as Masons will say, life without end. Behold the Raising in the Third Degree, contemplate its meaning and understand its impact. We are told in a following analogy that the acacia reminds us that we are invested by virtue of our creation with a spirit or affinity that will never, never, never die. Consider the "potential" wrapped into that statement. You are free to abandon your personal point of view, to renounce your own will and to learn and act as the Great Architect guides you to act. My brethren, you have no other Masonic obligation of greater significance.

May the Great Architect of the Universe
Bless You, John R. Heisner, P.M.

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contact us

**Lodge Office
619-291-0465**

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619-291-1364

FROM THE SECRETARY

It is very important that we have as many Brethren as possible attend the Degrees on the 8th and 15th of August.

We still have a few Brothers who have not paid their dues for 2005. Please take a few moments and send in your check.

On August 13th we are having an all Masonic Picnic at Admiral Baker Field. We have invited all of our candidates and their families, so lets have a big turn out for this. If you need a parking pass, please contact me or pick up a pass at the Scottish Rite office.

Out congratulations to Brother Arnold Korey on his up coming marriage to Marlen Parker. Hope to see you both at our functions.

Please keep cool during the hot weather and drink lots of water.

It is very important that you call in your dinner reservations at least 3 days ahead of the meeting so that we know how much food to have prepared.

Fraternally, Johnny Johnson



SUPPORT YOUR LODGE AND ITS PROGRAMS.

YOUR ATTENDANCE IS NEEDED AND ENCOURAGED!

WE HAD THE PLEASURE

We had the pleasure of seeing Paul Athy take his First Degree in Blackmer Lodge on July 11th. He was an attentive candidate and will make a fine addition to Blackmer Lodge.

We had the pleasure of welcoming Worshipful Brother, Fred Kleyn, interim Inspector of the 493rd Masonic District at our Stated Meeting for his Official Visit. He briefly addressed the Lodge and brought greetings from the Grand Master.

We continue to have the pleasure of coaching several candidates who are working on their proficiencies for advancement. Brother Mark Kaufman will be ready to present his Second Degree proficiency and exam and Sean Keller will present his proficiency and exam on August 8 when we will also pass him to the Degree of Fellowcraft. Paul Athy has had several coaching sessions at the Lodge and is progressing rapidly.

ALL MASONIC PICNIC

The Annual All Masonic Picnic, hosted by the Scottish Rite, will be held at its usual location at Admiral Baker Field on Saturday, August 13 from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Lunch from 11 to 1). All Masons and their families are invited to enjoy good food, good company and fun and games. Blackmer Lodge especially invites its members and families to attend and offers a special invitation to our Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts. Look for the banner and be ready to enjoy the picnic. It is at no cost and parking passes are available at the Scottish Rite or at the Lodge office. Be there!

MASONIC OUTREACH SERVICES

The easiest way to make your tax-deductible gift to our Masonic Homes is to visit our website at www.freemason.org and click the secure "give online" button. It is an easy and fast way to ensure that you help this year. Of course you can always mail your check to the Grand Lodge Office of Philanthropy.

MASON OF THE YEAR

He joined DeMolay at the age of 16 and remained an active member until he was 18. He joined Blackmer Lodge at the young age of 22 and was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in September of 1967. Our Brother has been busy in many aspects of Masonry, including his Blue Lodge, Blackmer, where he is currently Senior Deacon with an eye on the Master's Chair. He joined the San Diego Scottish Rite in November of 1993 and is currently serving as Second Lieutenant Commander in the Council of Kadosh, which is in charge of general services for the Scottish Rite. Along with these duties, he is active in the Ritual work of the Scottish Rite and is Director of the Work for the 18th Degree. He received the Albert Pike Award for 32nd Degree work in 2003 and has been active with service and membership areas of the Scottish Rite. Our Brother Harold Thurber has been nominated as Blackmer Lodge's Mason of the Year for 2005 and will be honored and presented his award by Most Worshipful David Doan on Friday, September 30, 2005.

MASONIC INFO NIGHT

County Wide Masonic Information night, Wed. September 14, 2005, 6:00 p.m.

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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

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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 EAST

Blackmer Lodge has been busy this year with a plethora of degrees and more coming. This is good for the Lodge especially because several of them are being diligent in pursuing their various proficiencies and continuing their advancement to become Master Masons. We are using the Grand Lodge mandated Masonic Education materials and our candidates are gaining the benefits of this additional instruction. If you are able to assist in coaching these candidates with their proficiencies, please contact Johnny or me so we can receive the benefits of your time and knowledge.

Several of these new Members have voice a desire to become officers in the Lodge. We sincerely hope to nurture that desire and have these Brothers sitting in Officers' chairs soon.

Attendance at Lodge functions has been adequate but marginal. We need many more side liners to support our new members at their degrees. We need many more Brethren who will participate in the Degrees. We need many more Brethren who will even become officers of the Lodge and make the commitment to attend and play an active part in the history of Blackmer Lodge.

In an earlier Bulletin, I included some information from the CMC regarding consolidations. Brethren, your active support and participation in Lodge activities is vital to the life of Blackmer Lodge as it is today. Don't let your Lodge down.

The All Masonic Picnic will be a great opportunity for Members of Blackmer Lodge to meet and greet and get together at a fun event that doesn't cost anything and is fun. Look for the Blackmer banner in the shade at Admiral Baker Field, Saturday, August 13, 10 to 3. Hope to see a great turn out. Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts are especially invited and don't forget the FAMILY.

Our list of Brethren who wish to receive the Bulletin by email is growing. Albeit slowly. Please send an email to our editor Coren Andrews at ctandrews@comcast.net to be added to the list and begin receiving your Bulletin days before everyone else.

Fraternally,
Coren Andrews, Master



BIRTHDAYS

Bernard Burchette	8/04
Edward Cook	8/22
James Furrh, Jr.	8/16
Freeman Graham	8/13
Edward Hanzlik	8/30
Charles Hoffman	8/7
Gary Hollcraft	8/07
Perry Hooper	8/05
Matt Kaufman	8/16
Paul McNitt	8/16
Ernest Miller	8/07
C. Robert Millhouse	8/10
Robert Newman	8/08
Sam Rubino	8/29
Melvin Stanley	8/26
Herbert Strangman	8/17
David Tobias	8/07
Paul Wilton	8/02

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.



BULLETIN BY EMAIL

A growing number of your fellow members of Blackmer Lodge in receiving your copy of the Bulletin electronically. To join in, just drop an Email note to the editor, Coren Andrews at ctandrews@comcast.net to begin receiving your Bulletin in an Email.

Be on the cutting edge, contact Coren Andrews at ctandrews@comcast.net.

ENDOW YOUR LODGE - GIVE IT THE GIFT OF YOUR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

It will soon be time to pay our dues for another year. Consider writing a larger check to Blackmer Lodge and Give it the Gift of YOUR Life Membership. Blackmer Lodge has adopted the alternate dues structure and the amount due will increase at the Grand Lodge Communication in October. Save now and write your check before the increase. The current amount for dues and per capita is \$91.00 and a breakdown for life memberships is shown.

Under 49	21 times annual dues or \$1911
50 to 54 inclusive	19 times annual dues or \$1729
55 to 59 inclusive	17 times annual dues or \$1547
60 to 64 inclusive	14 times annual dues or \$1274
65 and over	11 times annual dues or \$1001

PLEASE CHECK YOUR DUES CARD. IT SHOULD SAY "PAID THROUGH DECEMBER, 2005."

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.

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Freemasonry: Values that Brighten our
 Communities, Share the Light

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AUGUST 2005, CALENDAR

August

- Mon 1st** Dark
- Thurs 4th** **Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
 Reservations please call 619-291-0465. **Hawaiian Attire is appropriate**
- Mon 8th** **Second Degree, 7:15 p.m., Brother Sean Keller**
- Thurs 11th** Candidates' Coaching at Lodge Office, 6:45 p.m.
- Sat 13th** **All Masonic Picnic, Adm. Baker Field 10:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m.**
- Mon 15th** **First Degrees, 7:15 p.m., Two candidates**
- Thurs 18th** Candidates' Coaching at Lodge Office, 6:45 p.m.
- Mon 22nd** Dark - Coaching by appointment
- Thurs 25th** Candidates' Coaching at Lodge Office, 6:45 p.m.
- Mon 29th** Dark - Coaching by appointment

September

- Thurs 1st** **Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
 Reservations please call 619-291-0465.
- Mon 5th** Labor Day - Enjoy the Holiday Weekend
- Thurs 8th** Candidates' Coaching at Lodge Office, 6:45 p.m.
- Wed 14th** County Wide Masonic Information Night, S.R. at 6:00 p.m.
- Fri 30th** **Grand Master's Reception and Mason of the Year**

AUGUST STATED MEETING DINNER MENU

- Kab obs of Chicken and Roast Pork and Gravy
- Rice Pilaf and Grilled Mixed Vegetables
- Caesar Salad and Pineapple Upsidedown Cake
- Beveages and



Call your reservations to Johnny at 619-291-0469

