



Trestleboard

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

September, 2005

Volume XCII, Number 9

"LABORARE EST ORARE"

*"The labor of the righteous tendeth to life:
the fruit of the wicked is sin."*

Prov. 10:16

Operative Masons labored in the building of material edifices, while as Speculative Masons we are taught the importance of erecting a superstructure of virtue and morality upon the foundation of Masonic principles. Our Craft has made a working man (Hiram Abif) and his associates the heroes of the principal legend - a working man who was also the companion of kings. The idea is as simple and true as it is sublime.

From first to last, Masonry is *work*. It venerates the Grand Architect of the Universe, commemorates the *building* of a Temple, employs emblems fashioned after the *working tools* of masons and artisans, and preserves the name of the first *worker in brass* as one of its passwords. When the brethren meet together, they are *at labor*. The Master is the overseer who *sets the Craft to work* and gives them proper instruction. Thus, we are inculcated with the knowledge that there is a perennial nobleness and even sacredness in work.

By these lessons in labor, we may, each one of us, be reminded of yet another truth: *faith without works is dead*. From time immemorial, Masons have been invited to look within themselves, to study religion and philosophy

and to meditate upon the great goodness of the Great Architect. Yet that alone is insufficient to enjoy the true nobility of the *practical philosopher* - the status to which every Mason is led. There can be no virtue without activity and exertion, whether that be physical or mental. To learn for the mere sake of learning is useless, because the gift - that which was learned - is not passed along to others by *labor*.

The *work* referred to in this article is both literal and philosophical. It was well to give the earth to man as one dark mass whereon to labor. It was well to provide rude and unsightly materials in the ore-bed and the forest for him to fashion into splendor and beauty. It is better for the Mason to live while he lives, and enjoy life as it passes; to live richer and die poorer. It is best of all to banish from the mind that empty dream of indolence and indulgence; to address yourself to the business of life as the school of our earthly education; to settle it with yourself now that independence, if you gain it, is not to give you exemption from *labor*.

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

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FROM THE SECRETARY

Usually the month of August is a rather slow month with most of our members on vacation. However, this August Blackmer Lodge has been very busy. On the 8th we had two Second Degrees Brothers Sean Keller and Paul Athy and on the 15th we had two First Degrees Brothers Ryan Griffin and Larry Gerster. Congratulations to all of our candidates. I believe that we will be having at least one Third Degree in September, watch the Trestle Board for this glorious event. Let's show our candidates our support and try to come to all of the degrees.

We have had a lot of our newsletters returned because our members move and fail to notify the Lodge of their new address. PLEASE NOTIFY THE LODGE IF YOU HAVE MOVED OR ARE PLANNING TO MOVE AND YOU HAVE YOUR NEW ADDRESS.

Several of our Brothers have been under the weather. John Heisner, PM Frank Hass Richard Saldano, PM Give these Brothers a call and let them know you are thinking of them.

Last but not the least. We have several members who have not paid their 2005 dues. In the next few months we will be sending out the dues notices for 2006. If you have a problem please call me and let's try to work out something so that we will not have to suspend you. You are a valued member and we do not want to lose you. Fraternally, Johnny Johnson

WE HAD THE PLEASURE

We had the pleasure of passing Brothers Sean Keller and Paul Athy to the Second Degree in Freemasonry. It was a well done Degree and the members of Blackmer Lodge should be proud of their officers.

We had the pleasure of initiating Ryan Griffin and Larry Gerster into Freemasonry and Blackmer Lodge. Your officers did an exemplary job and our new members are looking forward to their next degrees. We hope we have support from the side lines for the officers.

We continue to have the pleasure of coaching many of our new members who are working on proficiencies for the First and Second Degrees. Check the calendar for upcoming Degree presentations and plan to attend to support our new members.

ALL MASONIC PICNIC

What a good time! Blackmer Lodge was well represented at the Annual All Masonic Picnic, hosted by the Scottish Rite. Many members and families were in attendance to enjoy a beautiful day and good food and great conversations. We shall look forward to next year's event with heightened anticipation after the success of this year's event. Set aside the date.



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 on-line" 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.

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

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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.



CHUCK ELLIS WRITES

My wife and I enjoy reading the monthly bulletins as they arrive. Outside of our two sons and their families who live in the San Diego area, the bulletin helps us keep in contact with that place. A little about our connections to San Diego. My wife moved to San Diego at the age of six weeks in 1920 to get out of the heat in Yuma. San Diego was the place to go. I moved to San Diego in 1938 and we were married in 1939. We raised three boys in San Diego. After retirement in 1974 from North Island, and my wife from National City School system we spent several years traveling the western United States in a 25-foot travel trailer. Stopped for ten years at Lake Tahoe and ten years in Carson City, NV and then moved here a couple of years ago.

My father-in-law, Ebb A. Wood, was a long time member of Blackmer and a member of the Shrine prior to his death. He owned E.A. Wood Plumbing and my wife worked for him several years.

What a life,
Chuck Ellis

MASONIC HOMES ENDOWMENT FUND

The Lodge will accept your contribution to the FUND, when you send your Dues Check or at any other time. 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. Please make your contribution as large as you can.

FROM THE EAST

Blackmer Lodge continues to be busy with Candidate coaching and Degrees. We will have several practices, a school of instruction and a Second Degree in September. It turned out that this is a vacation month for several of the Officers causing some adjustments to scheduling leeway.

Brother Johnny, our wonderful Secretary has had our Officers collars and aprons cleaned. This should be an improvement. He is also, as of this writing, looking into getting our Officers' collars' jewels re-plated or possibly replaced.

Your Officers are working hard to become qualified for installation pending election in November. These Brothers, work hard for you and the Lodge! Please support them by attending our Degrees and see how good they really are.

A few months ago I included some information regarding consolidation in this column. Any thoughts, positive or negative. You can help make this not be necessary by supporting YOUR Lodge and its functions. Attend Lodge.

Congratulations to Fred Kleyn, our new Inspector. We hope you enjoy your time with Blackmer.

Our list of Brethren who wish to receive the Bulletin by email is growing. Send me an email at ctandrews@comcast.net to be added to the list.

Brethren, Blackmer is YOUR Lodge. Keep it that way by doing a little more than paying your dues and sending in a check for the Masonic Homes Endowment Fund (both excellent things to do); ATTEND LODGE and take part in the ceremonies by being there.

Fraternally,
Coren Andrews, Master

BIRTHDAYS

Milford Barnes	9/13
Bernard Barnett	9/10
James Barron	9/23
Roland Camacho	9/10
Donald Clark	9/24
Jack Cruse	9/26
Clarke Day	9/04
Charles Dickenson	9/13
Zane Feldman	9/08
James Guthrie	9/06
Craig Leff	9/05
Brian Marvel	9/05
William Newbern	9/23
Lewis Palmer	9/24
Craig Ross	9/03
Harold Thoman	9/08

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.

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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SEPTEMBER 2005, CALENDAR

September

- Thurs 1st** **Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
 Reservations please call 619-291-0465. A presentation by
 Bernard Surovsky - "Unlocking the hidden value of life
 insurance"
- Mon 5th** **Labor Day - Enjoy**
- Thurs 8th** Candidates' Coaching at Lodge Office, 6:45 p.m.
- Mon 12th** Special Coaching for Officers' Qualification
- Wed 14th** County Wide Masonic Information Night, S.R. at 6:00 p.m.
- Thurs 15th** Candidates' Coaching at Lodge Office, 6:45 p.m.
- Mon 19th** Second Degree if candidate is ready, 7:15 p.m.
- Thurs 22nd** Candidates' Coaching at Lodge Office, 6:45 p.m.
- Mon 26th** ISI - 442 host - 35 work, Third Degree, Second Section, All
 Officers to attend. If unable, call the Inspector.
- Thurs 29th** Officers' Practice, Third Degree, 6:45 p.m.
- Fri 30th** **Grand Master's Reception and Mason of the Year**

October

- Mon 3rd** Officers' Practice, Third Degree, 6:45 p.m.
- Thurs 6th** **Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
 Reservations please call 619-291-0465.
- Sun 9 to Wed 12** **Grand Lodge Sessions in San Francisco**

SEPTEMBER STATED MEETING DINNER MENU

- Chicken Marsala and Mahi Mahi
- Baby Red Potatoes and Grilled Mixed Vegetables
- Caesar Salad and Mini-Croissants
- Cobblers and Beverages



Call your reservations to Johnny at 619-291-0469

