



Trestleboard

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

October, 2005

Volume XCII, Number 10

THE SABBATH

*"And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it;
because that in it he had rested from all his work which
God created and made."*

Gen. 2:3

Throughout Masonic ritual, and especially in a lecture of the Fellowcraft degree, the Divine appointment for one day of rest is firmly acknowledged. For the Hebrews, the Sabbath was a day of devotion to God during which no work was to interfere with meditations upon His greatness. In its esoteric context, the Sabbath represents something more; something essential to a world full of grace.

Three historical personalities have vividly portrayed the idea of what is referred to as the "cosmic wheel," also known to Masons as the point within a circle. These are Gautama Buddha, King Solomon and Friedrich Nietzsche. Buddha saw the cosmic wheel as an *open circle*, or as Masons will recognize, a spiral staircase from which birth, death, suffering can pass into the center of rest. Solomon saw the cosmic wheel as inexorable fate, rendering human hope and endeavor in vain - the emptiness of the world which is filled by God. Nietzsche saw and understood the cosmic wheel as a *closed wheel* with no outlet - a world of eternal repetition into which no new light can shine. Nothing can be added to or taken away from Nietzsche's world - it is finite and determinable; literally a world without God. However, in the worlds of Buddha and King Solomon, we discern something quite different.

Though Solomon preached sadness and despair, something inside of him defined a deliverance from woe long before Christians hailed a Messiah. So, too, did Buddha, as did the Hebrews themselves when they instituted the Sabbath at Moses' instruction. As Solomon

considered, the world must be spatial and have an uncreated part. That is so, he thought, because God's infinity has a place in the already created finite world - a continuous realm of creation. That "uncreated part" is symbolized by a day of rest, or the Sabbath, which is the "opening" in the cosmic wheel - the path by which miracles occur and new life is created.

Solomon's world can be transformed. Nietzsche's cannot. A closed circle implies that there is nothing new under the sun - a cosmic hell. An open circle implies that there is an entrance and an exit - there is no eternal prison. Solomon believed that God was not unknowable, but rather knowable through inexhaustible and infinite knowledge. That is why he encouraged study, research, building and unceasing work. This infinite "revelationability" and "knowability" of God is the very essence of the eternal Sabbath; the seventh day of creation. It is laden with possibilities of new things, and from it energies can be added to the so-called constant quantity of the phenomenal world, just as energies of this world can disappear into it.

Masons are taught the value of an endless search for knowledge, not to solely acquire knowledge, but to use it to the glory of the Creator, as much as to the welfare of his fellowman. Masons are taught the truth of the open circle symbolized emphatically by the Sabbath. Have you stopped learning? If so, begin again and find out for yourself that there is yet much you do not know.

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

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contact us

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FROM THE SECRETARY

We will be having a couple Third Degrees in October and possibly a couple of Fellow Craft Degrees. We would like to have a great turn out for these degrees. Especially some of our Past Masters. Check your Trestleboard for the date and time.

It is that time of year when I will be sending out dues notices and I would greatly appreciate it if you would send us a check as soon as you get the notice. There are a few members who have not paid their 2005 dues, they will be subject to suspension on the first of January. We sure do not want to suspend anyone so PLEASE send in your Lodge dues to keep in good standing.

Your Officers will be going to Grand Lodge in October for the session. Hopefully they will bring us back a report of the proceedings.

We had our Officers Aprons cleaned and they look much better now, we also had the collars cleaned. As the Worshipful Master has stated, if you would like to get the Trestle Board via email please let the Worshipful Coren know so that we can take you off the mailing list.

Fraternally, Johnny Johnson, Secretary



WE HAD THE PLEASURE

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.

FROM THE EAST

Blackmer Lodge had the opportunity so far this year to confer the Degrees on several very fine Brothers. Three of them will shortly be raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Please check the calendar and attend these degrees. Your lodge officers are looking forward to raising several new Master Masons and would really appreciate your support. Brothers Mark, Paul and Sean are excited and we should be there to support them.

ELECTIONS TO BE HELD

The annual election of officers for your Lodge will be held at the Stated Meeting in November. Put this important date on your calendars and plan on attending. We hope to have a very strong corps of officers next year lead by a couple Past Masters and some hard workers and some new faces. We will learn who they are and be there to congratulate them. The next step will be to support them at the Installation of Officers on the second Thursday in December.

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.

DO NOT BE SUSPENDED

There are basically three ways to leave a lodge. One is to die. Rather extreme and not recommended. Another is to stop paying your dues. This will eventually result in a suspension from the craft and any other Concordant and Affiliated bodies you may belong to. This method of leaving a lodge is also not recommended (you lose all Masonic privileges and benefits) but not as extreme as the previous one.

The recommended method of ending your association with a Masonic Lodge, if you must, is to obtain a demit. The process is simple and very straight forward. While you are in good standing, your dues are paid through the current year, write a note to the Lodge Secretary or Master and request a demit. It doesn't have to be elaborate and you don't have to state a reason though we would like to know if we have offended or upset you for any reason. Send the letter to the Lodge and you will be issued a demit and will not be suspended for not paying your dues. This method is easy and does not entail the less palatable measures of the first two.

However, carefully consider what you do and try to support the organization that should have meant so much to you over the years. It isn't much, pay your dues.

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.



2005 LEGISLATION

GRAND MASTER DOAN'S DECISIONS

See you at Grand Lodge for these

GRAND MASTER DOAN'S RECOMMENDATIONS

2005-01 Will permit the Grand Master to name various other permissible investments for California lodges as may be determined as prudent and appropriate.

2005-02 Will authorize Concordant and Appendant Masonic Organizations to conduct raffles for the benefit of their charities and for our Masonic Youth Orders to be able to conduct raffles for their charities and special needs such as leadership development and travel to special events.

2005-03 Recommends that the Grand Lodge Strategic Plan as distributed be adopted as the strategic plan until changed by subsequent Grand Masters.

2005-04 Would remove the requirement for the line officers to learn and give the lectures if a qualified brother will assist in that capacity for the entire year.

2005-05 Allows the Grand Master sole discretion to appoint or not appoint the Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Bible Bearer and Grand Pursuivant.

2005-06 Removes the Grand Lecturer from the elected Grand Officers and makes him an appointment by the Grand Master from one of the Assistant Grand Lecturers.

2005-07 Allows a three year pilot program to allow the Grand Master to permit lodges to confer the degrees upon those candidates who have not progressed for at least a year, waiving the required proficiency between the degrees.

2005-08 Establishes a code review committee to report at next annual communication.

CARRYOVER GRAND MASTER KIRKPATRICK'S RECOMMENDATIONS

2004-02 Candidate's Fees to Grand Lodge

2005 RESOLUTIONS

05-01 Expands the scope of unmasonic conduct to include offences against Masonic affiliated organizations.

05-02 Would allow evidence of prior Masonic trials in setting penalties at a Masonic trial.

05-03 Expands scope of notification to other Masonic Lodges and organizations when a Masonic trial is pending or transferred.

05-04 Would allow committees to whom legislation has been submitted to recommend for or against that legislation.

05-05 Specifies what constitutes an emergent matter.

05-06 Seeks to establish that a motion to consider an emergent matter is debatable.

05-07 Seeks to preclude business before Grand Lodge being referred to the Executive Committee.

05-08 Would allow a Lodge's presiding officer the discretion to conduct business on the degree of his choice.

05-09 Would allow Lodges to store alcoholic beverages on Masonic property under certain safeguards and conditions.

05-10 Seeks to allow every Past Master a vote in Grand Lodge.

05-11 Modifies requirements regarding the Grand Lodge budget and adds the requirement of a two-thirds rather than a simple majority vote for adoption.

05-12 Seeks to permit any gambling activity not prohibited by federal, state or local law.

05-13 Modifies the rules on Grand Lodge audits.

05-14 Permits Sierra Valley Lodge #184 to hold only 10 stated meetings a year.

BIRTHDAYS

Ralph Avalos	10/16
Garrett Boroda	10/30
S. Terry Block	10/08
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
James Harmon	10/31
Marty Hull	10/26
Mark Kaufman	10/06
Michael Kaufman	10/23
Edward Kotler	10/22
Arthur Lewis	10/14
David Lewis	10/05
Fahmi Marini	10/24
Bijan Massrouf	10/19
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
Paul Warren	10/21
Keith Webb	10/04
Robert Welk	10/11
Wayne Yanda	10/08

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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OCTOBER 2005, CALENDAR

October

- Mon 3rd** Third Degree Practice, 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. Dress: Business Casual
- Sun 9 to**
- Wed 12** **Grand Lodge Sessions in San Francisco**
- Thurs 13th** Dark
- Mon 17th** **Third Degree - Mark Kaufman, 7:15 p.m.**
- Thurs 20th** Dark
- Mon 24th** ISI - 561 host - 574 work, Election of Officers, Present Flag, All Officers to attend. If unable, call the Inspector.
- Thurs 27th** **Third Degree - Paul Athy, 7:15 p.m.**
- Mon 31st** Dark

November

- Thurs 3rd** **Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Annual Election of Officers. Reservations please call 619-291-0465.
- Mon 7th** Souplantation Dine Out, 9158 Fletcher Parkway, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Share your coupons and it is only \$7.39 per person. Contact Harry Besnoy for more info or next Trestleboard
- Thurs 10th** **Third Degree - Sean Keller, 7:15 p.m.**

OCTOBER STATED MEETING DINNER MENU

- Cabbage Rolls and Chicken Fried Steak
- Been Beans and Baked Potatoes
- Caesar Salad, Bread, Beverages
- Double Scoop Ice Cream



Call your reservations to Johnny at 619-291-0465

