



# Trestleboard

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

January, 2006

Volume XCIII, Number 1

## THE FALL

*"It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard; that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion."*

Ps. 133:2-6

The dew referred to in the passage from the Book of Psalms represents to Freemasons the influences of Divine grace given to us by God. It reminds us that we have all fallen short of what is expected from us; that we have fallen from paradise, much as did Adam and Eve in the Biblical story about creation. It also reminds us that while we are all God's creatures, we have within ourselves the power to do acts of great good, or greater evil.

If the paradise in the Biblical account is understood as an actual place on the terrestrial, or material plane, and if man's "Fall" is similarly understood as having taken place on this plane, the capability to do evil arises from something within ourselves; something quite possibly passed down to us from generations of ancestors. Thus understood, the tendency toward evil within man relates to the flesh, not the spirit, which is at war with the body.

However, it is the body which, rightly, has more reason to be ashamed of the soul inhabiting it, than the latter of the body. For the body is a miracle of wisdom, harmony and stability, which does not merit the scorn, but rather the admiration of the soul. Can the soul boast of moral principles as stable as the body's skeleton? Is the soul as indefatigable and as faithful as the heart which beats within the body every day without taking a break? And, if this does not suffice to change scorn into respect, then one may recall, if he is Christian, that Jesus

once inhabited and honored this flesh, as did Gautama Buddha.

Freemasonry does not promote a man's struggle against the body, but rather against the seed of evil sown within the soul. The virtues taught Masons are calculated to teach us that good and evil exist side-by-side; not only in the world within which we live, but within our very hearts. Like the alchemist, Masons are taught how to refine the good within themselves so that each may become a positive, rather than negative influence upon those with whom he interacts. We do these practices in virtue for the sake of our soul's reunion with our God.

This principle of positive asceticism is not unique to Freemasonry; it is universal. Everyone practices it. A scientist who shuts himself in his room with a view to pursuing his studies does so because he is taken up with the truth that he is seeking and not because he wants to deprive his body of sun, air, or the outside world. Positive asceticism is, therefore, truly an exchange of good for better – a message certainly not lost upon Freemasons.

The dew of Hermon and the dew that fell upon the mountain of Zion so familiar to those who study the lessons of the first degree of Freemasonry, emblematically reveals that God has given to us the Divine grace of knowledge by which we may truly exchange the good for the better. If the Fall of Man symbolically represents original sin, as many believe, that original sin has something to do with knowledge; either the lack of it entirely, or the misuse of it in the manner of disobedience. The potential for greater evil within us is realized when we

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619-291-0465

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# FROM THE SECRETARY

Happy Holidays, May the New Year bring you nothing but happiness and joy.

2005 is rapidly coming to an end Blackmer Lodge 442 had a good year, with three new Master Masons.

Our dine out night has been a great event thanks to our Brother Harry Besnoy, and I understand that 2006 will be even better. The dine out night is for every one to come and enjoy a time with friends and Brothers this is always posted in the Trestle Board.

As the year comes to an end please remember that your dues should be paid by January 1<sup>st</sup>, so take a few minutes and send in your dues.

Our Stated Meeting is on the first Thursday of the month, dinner is at 6:30 PM and the meeting is at 7:30 PM. Bring your lady as our ladies have a good time working on craft items and many other items.

May you have good health and great joy in the new year and always.

There are still several people that have not paid their 2006 dues, remember that the dues are due by January 1<sup>st</sup>, so take a few moments and send in your dues.

Fraternally Johnny Johnson, Secretary



Ordinances of the Grand Lodge of California Part II -  
Constituent Lodges  
Article XI - Visitation

## §24010 Privilege.

Before visiting a Lodge, a Master Mason shall satisfy himself of its lawful authority. The Lodge is required to show a visitor its Charter if requested to do so. Visitation is not a right but a favor which a Master Mason in good standing has a right to request and the Master of the Lodge may grant or refuse. The Master may ask visitors to retire at any time and should do so when controversial, delicate or sensitive matters are under discussion.

## §24020 Objection to Visitor.

A visitor shall not be admitted if, in the opinion of the Master, there is a valid objection to the admission by a member of the Lodge. The objection shall be made privately to the Master, stating the reason therefor. The Master's decision shall be governed by his discretion and is final. He shall not disclose to the visitor, any member, or any other person the name of the Brother objecting, but shall privately inform the visitor that a Brother objects.

## §24030 Examination of Visitor.

A Lodge shall make due inquiry or individual examination before admitting a visitor. The visitor shall produce written evidence under the seal of his Lodge showing that he is in good standing. He shall prove himself to be a Master Mason either by examination under the test oath, or by avouchment.

A record of visitors shall be maintained by each Lodge on forms prescribed by Grand Lodge.

## §24040 Avouchment for Visitor.

To vouch for a visiting Brother of this or any Grand Lodge or its constituent Lodges recognized by this Grand Lodge, a Master Mason must have sat with him in open Lodge, in a tiled School of Instruction or examined him under proper authority. A member of one Lodge who has sat in open Lodge with such a visiting Brother, can vouch for the visiting Brother to a member of any other Lodge, all three being present. The Brother to whom such avouchment is made can then vouch for the visiting Brother to the Master of his Lodge.

Members of Lodges in this Jurisdiction shall not vouch for any member of any unrecognized Grand Lodge or its constituent Lodges to gain admission to a Lodge in this Jurisdiction.

## WE HAD THE PLEASURE

We had the pleasure of installing the 2006 corps of officers on December 9th. The installing team did a fine job with Richard Saldano, PM, John Heisner, PM and Dusan Martin, PM doing the work. Our three newest Master Masons have joined the line of Officers to help lead Blackmer Lodge into the next phase of its history. We will have the pleasure of continuing the good works which Blackmer Lodge is well know for in both quality of ritual and fraternalism. Be sure you are a part of the Lodge's activities this year and watch the calendar for important information.

## Blackmer Lodge Trestleboard

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 350 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

Having the Installation of Officers and main Holidays behind us, we are poised to look into the future with great expectations. Year 2006/6006. Looking well Brethren. Looking well. I hope that Blackmer Lodge attendance at the meetings and other occasions will continue to grow. Numerous visits and happenings are planned either for Masons only or families and friends included. I would like to thank once again brethren and families who contributed in making the Installation a success.

To all members of the Blackmer Lodge and their families I wish this to be the Happiest and Most Prosperous Year yet.

M.Zdravkovic, Master



**The Fall** - continued from page 1  
choose to exercise our free will separate and apart from the will of God. This is what child psychologists have called "presumptuous audacity" when describing a misbehaving and disobedient child.

The Book of Genesis informs us that mankind was originally placed in a garden "in order to till it and keep it." Gen. 2:15. For Masons, a garden is symbolically associated with a state of cooperation and equilibrium between the spirit and nature. It is, therefore, incumbent upon all Freemasons to cultivate and maintain the world – to will and to be silent as by the grace of our great Creator we watch how our hands, guided by His grace, mold cooperation and equilibrium. A state we call "brotherhood."

May the Blessing of the Supreme Architect of the Universe be with you.  
John Heisner, PM

**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.

## DINING OUT

Starting out the new year with an Asian flavor, Our Brother Tiler, Harry Besnoy, has arranged for us to dine out in February at the GREAT MOON BUFFET. It is located at 1840 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach (858-273-6868). Johnny says it is behind the Bagel Shop.

Please join in the dining-out experience and be with the group of Brethren, family and friends at 6:30 p.m. for what should be a very enjoyable evening. Call Harry if you have any questions or need additional information.

## SUCCESS

by Scott Pearce, PM

For me, real success, gratifying success is personal. It is not outward, public, and selfish; it is, instead, inward, private, unselfish and wise.

Success is a personal thing: If you have a good name; if you are right more than you are wrong; if your children respect you; if your grandchildren are glad to see you, and if, in time of trouble, your friends can count on you, and you can count on them, success is yours. If you can face God, and say, "I have done my best," you are a success. You have found needs and filled them. You have honored those you love. Along the way, you have traveled from the joy of the doing to the peace of the done. You are blessed. You are successful.

**SUPPORT YOUR LODGE AND ITS PROGRAMS.**

**YOUR ATTENDANCE IS NEEDED AND ENCOURAGED!**

## BIRTHDAYS

William Anderson	1/02
Harry Arnoff	1/02
James Barker	1/08
Donald Callard	1/06
Duane Ely, PM	1/07
Jonas Feurzeig	1/11
Henry Horton III	1/12
Thomas Jewell	1/19
Kevin Jones	1/06
Harry Kessler	1/26
Steven Leapman	1/18
Robert Lewis	1/03
Willard Ohland	1/22
Roger Parker, PM	1/31
Gary Parks, PM	1/21
Robert Reuillard	1/07
John Ridgway, Jr.	1/15
John Simzisko	1/07
Harold Thurber, Jr.	1/08

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](mailto:ctandrews@comcast.net) to begin receiving your Bulletin in an Email.

Be on the cutting edge, contact Coren Andrews at [ctandrews@comcast.net](mailto:ctandrews@comcast.net).



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**Trestleboard**



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United We Stand, Together we can  
 Make a Difference,  
 The Family of Freemasonry

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**JANUARY, 2006, CALENDAR**

**January**

**Mon 2nd** **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**  
**Thurs 5th** **Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.  
 Reservations please call 619-291-0465. **Business Casual**  
**Mon 9th** Dark  
**Thurs 12th** Officers' Practice, Third Degree, 6:45 p.m.  
**Mon 16th** Officers' Practice, Third Degree, 6:45 p.m.  
**Thurs 19th** Dark  
**Mon 23rd** Dark  
**Thurs 26th** Dark  
**Mon 30th** Officers' Practice, First Degree, 6:45 p.m.

**February**

**Thurs 5th** **Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.  
 Reservations please call 619-291-0465.  
**Mon 6th** **First DINE OUT NIGHT of the year at Great Moon, 6:30 p.m.**

**JANUARY STATED MEETING DINNER MENU**

Lasagna and Chicken Fried Steak  
 Scalloped Potatoes - Peas and Carrots  
 Caesar Salad and Assorted Rolls  
 Beverages  
 Cookies or Brownies

Call your reservations to Johnny at 619-291-0465

