



Trestleboard

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

February, 2006

Volume XCIII, Number 2

FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

"But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin,
but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine
which was delivered you."
Rom. 6:17

During the presentation of the First Degree of Freemasonry, the candidate is instructed upon the importance of freedom and the responsibility he has, as a Mason, to use it wisely. Freedom is the power, rooted in reason and will, to act or not act, to do this or that, and so to perform deliberate actions on one's own responsibility. By the exercise of free will, one shapes one's own life. Freemasonry teaches that human freedom is a force for growth and maturity in truth and goodness; it attains its perfection when directed toward God.

Yet, as Freemasonry also instructs, the world is made up of opposites, a truth that equally applies to the concept of freedom. As long as freedom has not bound itself definitively to its ultimate good – God – there remains the possibility of choosing between good and evil, and thus of either growing in perfection, or failing in wrong doing. The more one does what is good, the freer one becomes. Consider the example of our Grand Master Hiram Abif, whose habit of doing good cemented in him a necessity to always protect his integrity. His example also teaches that there is no true freedom except in the service of that which is just and good. Consequently, choosing to disobey and do evil is an abuse of freedom that inevitably leads to slavery of the human soul.

Freedom makes man responsible for his acts to the extent they are voluntary. Progress in virtue, knowledge of the good, and

asceticism enhance the mastery of the will over its acts. Imputability and responsibility for an action can be diminished, or even nullified by ignorance, inadvertence, duress, fear, habit, or other social factors. However, every act willed is imputable to its author and even the best among us fall short. Consider that the prophet Nathan questioned King David after he committed adultery with the wife of Uriah and had him murdered: "What is this you have done?" All men are accountable and responsible for both the good they do, as well as for the evil into which they descend.

Freedom is exercised in relationships between human beings. Freemasonry recognizes that every person, created in the image of the Supreme Architect, has the natural right to be recognized as a free and responsible being. In many jurisdictions, Masons are referred to as "Free and Accepted" in further recognition of the dignity to which mankind is destined. Everyone owes to each other a duty of respect. Freemasons also recognize that the right to the exercise of freedom, especially in moral and religious matters, is an inalienable requirement of the dignity of the person. To become valid, this right must be recognized and protected by civil authority within the limits of the common good and public order.

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

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contact us

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619-291-0465**

FAX

619-291-1364

FROM THE SECRETARY

If your Dues Card does not read 31 December 2006, you are in arrears. Take a few moments and send in your dues.

Our Stated Meeting is on the First Thursday of the Month. Please call in your reservations by the Monday before the meeting so that we can contact the Caterer.

We have had several Brothers and Honored Ladies that have moved and have not notified us of their new address. If you are going to move or have moved send us a note with your new address, phone number etc.

If you know of a Brother or one of our Ladies that is not feeling up to par please let us know, either call me (619) 291-0465 or our Chaplain Paul Athy (619) 337-9454

Fraternally Johnny Johnson, Secretary



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.

Ordinances of the Grand Lodge of California Grand Master... Politics and Religion

§350 Grand Master.

The Grand Master, during the interval between the Annual Communications of Grand Lodge, possesses all its executive powers, except the granting of charters. This power and the title of Grand Master applies not only to him who has been elected and installed as Grand Master, but to any of the Grand Officers who shall have succeeded to the powers and duties of the Grand Master. Only Grand Lodge, itself, at an Annual Communication can reverse or modify the decisions of the Grand Master. Neither the Grand Master nor Grand Lodge is precluded from acting merely because a matter is not placed in a formal manner. It is mandatory that the Grand Master immediately investigate any matter in violation of our laws, make such orders in respect to the case as may be required, and report to Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication.

§380 Politics and Religion

Grand Lodge and constituent Lodges shall not interfere or voice an opinion with regard to political or religious matters. Members, when they are assembled in constituent Lodges or Grand Lodge, may not discuss political or religious matters. Members must have a belief in a Supreme Being and a future existence; however, no invocation, benediction, or prayer shall be delivered which would have a sectarian significance.

§430 Ceremonial

The Grand Master, or his duly authorized representative, may convene Grand Lodge at any place in this Jurisdiction, at such time as he directs for the performance of any of its public or private ceremonies. The only ceremonies that may be held on Sunday are funeral services, cornerstone laying and dedication ceremonies. Grand Lodge may be opened prior to public ceremonies, in the discretion of the Grand Master. Masons may be present during such communications.

WE HAD THE PLEASURE

We had the pleasure of participating in Worshipful Mike's first Stated Meeting of the new year. It, of course, went well and Lodge was close in due form early in the evening. The Brethren then stood around talking for quite some time. We had the pleasure of practicing for the initiation of Nicholas Prodanovich who will be initiated on February 16.

NOTICE: Mark you calendars. Honored Ladies luncheon is Thursday, May 25 at Noon.

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

As this month we are celebrating Presidents Day it might be appropriate to refresh our memory with highlights of the life of George Washington as given to us by Ralph A. Herbold, P.M. of Southern California Research Lodge.

George Washington was born February 22, 1732 at Wakefield, Virginia. Made a Mason in the Lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia, being initiated Nov 4th, 1752, becoming a Fellowcraft on Mar 3rd, 1753, and a Master Mason on Aug 4th, 1753. This Lodge is now No. 4 on the roll of the Virginia Grand Lodge. On June 24, 1784, he became a member of Alexandria (renamed Alexadria-Washington in 1805), Lodge No. 39 Virginia on the rolls of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. On April 28, 1788, this Lodge became No. 22 on the rolls of the Grand Lodge of Virginia with George Washington as its first Master, to which office he was re-elected on December 20, 1788, serving 20 months.

He was inaugurated as President of the United States on April 30, 1789, while serving as Master, taking the oath of office on the Bible of St. John's Lodge No. 1 of New York. The oath was administered by R.R. Livingston, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York. The Marshal of the day was general Jacob Morton, Master of St. John's Lodge who became G. M. of the G. L. of New York in 1801.

On September 18, 1793, George Washington participated in elaborate Masonic ceremonies by laying the cornerstone of the United States Capital.

First in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen, and surely first in the hearts of his brethren in freemasonry. Died December 14, 1799 at Mount Vernon, Virginia.

M.Zdravkovic, Master



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.



A BIT OF SUN

by Scott Pearce, PM

Gentle and generous Heavenly Father, giver of all good gifts, as each new day is a little life for us, and each time we meet is a little gift to us, surely shared pleasure is just ahead for us.

Whenever you can, Lord, give us a bit of sun, a bit of work, and a bit of fun. Give us all, in the struggle and sputter, friends we treasure, brothers we love, our daily bread, and a bit of butter.

We will, in turn, labor always as we pray, and lift our hearts to you, Father, with our very own hands. Amen.

**SUPPORT YOUR LODGE AND
ITS PROGRAMS.**

**YOUR
ATTENDANCE IS NEEDED
AND ENCOURAGED!**



BIRTHDAYS

Ralph Barnes, PM	2/09
Thomas Buckel	2/08
Kenneth DeVault	2/01
Richard Disraeli	2/26
Thomas Hom	2/15
Errol Kader	2/27
Richard McKee	2/15
Greg Maizlish	2/24
Guy Michael	2/15
Tommy Nilson, PM	2/18
Charles Reid	2/12
Norman Ross	2/07
Bernard Surovsky	2/06
Joseph Van Holst	2/04

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

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FEBRUARY, 2006, CALENDAR

February

- Thurs 2nd** **Stated Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
 Reservations please call 619-291-0465. Inspector's Official Visit
 to Blackmer Lodge, **Business Casual**
- Mon 6th** **Dining out at Great Moon - see article**
- Thurs 9th** Officers' Practice, Third Degree, 6:45 p.m.
- Mon 13th** Officers' Practice, First Degree, 6:45 p.m.
- Thurs 16th** **First Degree Conferral - Mr. Prodanovich, 7:15 p.m.**
- Mon 20th** Dark - Presidents Day
- Thurs 23rd** Dark - San Diego Chapter, Royal Arch meeting
- Mon 27th** Inspector's School of Instruction - 574 works Third Degree,
 second section, 442 hosts, 7:00 p.m. - All officers to attend
 unless excused by the Inspector, call him at 619-461-5724

March

- Thurs 2nd** **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.**

FEBRUARY STATED MEETING DINNER MENU

- Baron of Beef and Chicken Teriyaki
- Steamed White Rice and Grilled Mixed Vegetables
- Spring Mix Salad and Cobblers
- Beverages and rolls



Call your reservations to Johnny at 619-291-0465

