



TRESTLEBOARD

NEWSLETTER OF WASHINGTON LODGE No. 20

August 2010

To Make Good Men Better

OUR 159th YEAR



From the East

Joseph Dongo, Master

My brother,

We would've been back from the USS Potomac cruise by the time you read me here. I anticipate this is going to be a fun trip. We will report back to you about it in the September Trestleboard.

Congratulations to Bro. Zachary Bowles who was initiated July 8 and Bro. Victor Sanchez who was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on July 15.

I would like to thank all the brethren who stepped up and helped to make this year's Child ID program a great success at both the Sacramento County and California State Fairs. We really had fun out there with the kids and their parents.

Now that we are in the second half of the Masonic season, we are having more and more Officers moving up the line to get familiar with the positions they may serve next year. We need all of your support to make this transition as smooth as possible. I would like to commend all the Officers for the heavy work load they have been carrying all year long. They have admirably responded to the lodge's needs and growth.

On a different note, last month, we unanimously voted to "Adopt-A-Freeway" as part of Caltrans program. We will be removing litter monthly along State Route 244, a 1 mile stretch of freeway between the Auburn Blvd ramp and the Capital City Freeway near Watt Avenue. The agreement is now signed and the road signs depicting the square and compass logo with "Washington Lodge # 20" will be in place by next month. Stay tuned for any new developments.

Joseph Dongo, Master

LODGE AMBASSADOR'S CORNER

Dave Freeman

Member Benefits for California Masons

As a California Mason in good standing, or his wife or widow, you're entitled to the following support services no matter where you reside - whether in California or out of state:

- referrals to senior care providers, financial assistance, and/or care management in your home community, provided by Masonic Senior Outreach*
- admission to a Masonic Homes of California continuing care retirement community, located in Covina and Union City*
- help dealing with family issues, such as the impact of divorce, the stresses of a special needs child, and other life challenges, provided by Masonic Family Outreach

*A member must be 60 years or older and a California Master Mason in good standing for five consecutive years, or his wife or widow.

Call Washington Lodge #20 ambassador David Freeman at (916) 363-7158 for information about the above benefits and services.



The 2010 Washington Lodge Officers

Master	Joseph Dongo
Email: Alacabo@gmail.com , 916/776-6440	
Senior Warden	David Cameron
Junior Warden	Michael Quinn
Treasurer	Eric Hixson, P.M.
Secretary	Jon Isaacson, P.M.
Email: secretary@washingtonlodge20.org	
Chaplin	Jed VanWagner
Senior Deacon	Juan Faranda
Junior Deacon	Dan Dailey
Senior Steward	John Djubek
Junior Steward	Josh Djubek
Marshall	Richard Pullen, P.M.
Tiler	Floyd Tritt
Officer's Coach	Eric Hixson, P.M.
Candidate's Head Coach	Rich Wilson
Officers Coach Emeritus	Ray W. Lenau, P.M.
Inspector District 414	Vince Parell, PM.
Masonic Lawn Board	Richard Pullen, P.M.
Masonic Lawn Board	Dave Freeman
Ambassador, Fraternal Support	Dave Freeman

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The Washington Lodge Trestleboard
is published monthly.

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Washington Lodge Trestleboard
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Stated Meeting Dinner August 5, 2010

Social Hour Pool and Billiards 5pm
Dinner 6pm
Meeting 7:30pm

Menu

End of Summer BBQ
Please RSVP by Monday, August 3rd
to 888/828-4478



Editor's Desk

Victor U. Sanchez

I am pleased to announce that we have succeeded in putting forth our first issue of the Trestleboard and there will be many more to come. I would like to thank every person who helped me get through these times and thank those who will be helping with future issues. I will always have an open invitation for articles, stories, travels and thoughts to share with our brethren.

I would also thank those who so selflessly helped me get through the 2nd degree of my Masonic journey. I hope to pass the next degree soon. It is my hope to pass the next step soon and join my brethren and fellows as we bring others into the light. It is my fondest hope that we add more members and accomplish many goals.

As I asked in the last edition, we are still looking for help in obtaining a full copy of InDesign to continue our humble yet informative newsletter. A full version would cost \$600.00 plus, however, there are student and teacher editions we might be able to use, and thereby save costs. If other Trestleboard Editors use and are willing to share your edition of InDesign, we would humbly accept your assistance. I have been and will continue attempting to negotiate a use agreement with Adobe prior to September's deadline, this trial version will expire before this issue is published.

Fraternaly,

Victor U. Sanchez, Editor

The Adopt a Highway Program

The Lodge Executive Committee at its beginning of the year meeting asked me to look into the civic responsibility promotion and community pride offered by the Caltrans "Adopt-A-Freeway" Program.

After months of diligent effort, I am reporting to you that Caltrans has made available for Washington Lodge adoption its Route 244. This 1 mile roadway lies between Auburn Blvd. and Watt Avenue on the Capital City Freeway.

A road sign with Washington Lodge No. 20 and a logo with the square and compass will be placed on each direction of the highway in the view of thousands of daily commuters in our community.

Caltrans will provide the safety training and all needed materials. In return, Washington Lodge or its contractor (to be hired if any) will be removing litter on the monthly basis along this one mile road. No money is involved in the agreement if we do not contract out for the litter removal work.

This is the first time this portion of the Capital City Freeway has been offered for adoption. For the adoption of any road around the Sacramento area one needs to be placed on a long waiting list.

For more information on the Caltrans "Adopt-A-Freeway" Program, please visit: <http://www.adopt-a-highway.dot.ca.gov>, or contact Master Joseph Dongo.

Share a story, adventure or lesson(s) learned. Submit your article to: panache3029@sbcglobal.net and get published!



From the West

David Cameron, Sr. Warden

When I retire

I want to live by the coast, tall trees leaning away from the surf, the smell of the fresh ocean air. Fishing from the rocks, and watching the sunset as it makes it's last wink at the day. Life will be simple, just me, the wife and the dogs. Music will replace the sound of computers and fax machines. The only conversations that will hold any value are those that the wife and I have over what to do next. Silence will replace the sounds of phones, cars, and neighbors. It will be so quiet, so peaceful, that our minds will be free to wonder at the glorious beauties of our Creator.

This sounds perfect, until I realize that those are but dreams, my earthly hopes and desires. I am bound to this earth by memories of those who were; those who are, and those I hope to meet. I am bound by duty, obligation, and a responsibility to all mankind. Although I may reach the summit of my life, and all my dreams will have been realized, all my hopes achieved, I have yet to reap the blessings of retirement. True retirement reigns forever in Heaven. I may build my home on the coast, listen to the waves and count the gulls as they glide on the winds. But I will not have rest until I have reached Heaven, and am sitting with my family, my friends by my side, and the Creator looking down at me with pleasure that my earthly life has ended, and the true enjoyment of retirement has just begun.

David H. Cameron, Sr. Warden
My trust is in GOD
Work (916)229-4190
Home (916)359-5335
Cell (916)600-6325

Do you know

...who said?

"In a world where men do battle over whose definition of God is most accurate, I cannot adequately express the deep respect and admiration I feel toward an organization in which men of differing faiths are able to 'break bread together' in a bond of brotherhood, friendship, and camaraderie."

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From the South

Michael P. Quinn, Jr. Warden

Sometimes I find I get to thinking of the past and from time to time I'm reminded of the influence of Masonry on everyday life in some of the Colloquial phrases and sayings that I've heard in the past. My Great Uncle used to refer to Masons he knew as "Traveling Men", he would also sometimes reply; "he is a level on the level" when asked about their character. Someone who did not have good character was said to be; "a half bubble off plumb". When he built something around the house and thought it done right he would say; "I plumbed that house, right & square". Other phrases he related to me concerned deals done right, such as; "a square deal". To let another Mason know that the person he was introducing was okay, he would say; "we met on the square", something we are all familiar with in the closing ceremonies. When asked about going to church or questions about religion he would reply; "I go to a round church so the devil can't corner me". I made the connection of that remark years later when I learned that many Templar Churches are built in the round as an architectural curiosity and are unique to the order.

In literature I was fascinated by Rudyard Kipling's reference to masonic brothers as "Fellow Craft" or that he is "Craft" and the statement, "Brother to a Prince and fellow to a beggar if he be found worthy." To which we might add, "and well qualified". Also, the curious question and response between two characters in the short story, The Man Who Would Be King, "I ask you as a stranger-going to the West," he said with emphasis. "Where have you come from?" said I, "From the East," said he, "and I am hoping that you will give him the message on the Square-for the sake of my Mother as well as your own."

Finally we are all familiar with the saying; "he got the third degree" which I always thought was the manner of extracting a confession out of a suspect, how curious that it had more to do with the Ritual surrounding the Master Mason's Degree than anything else.

What did all these words and phrases really mean, I wondered? Where could I find the answers? Who could I ask? All the while being reminded of my Uncle Fred the first Mason I ever met or came to know. Later in life, long after my Uncle's passing and after careful reflection, I eventually sought out a Mason and asked the question, can I become a Mason and find the answer to my questions?

Hope you enjoyed my ruminations from the past, my quest for answers to the riddle of curious phrases, and partly how I found my way to the door of Freemasonry.

We take good men and make them better!

For centuries, millions of men of every race, color, creed, and political persuasion throughout the world have found in the Symbolic Lodges of Freemasonry the light to guide their search for answers to eternal questions: What is the meaning of life? The nature of God and man?

Freemasonry is a system of morality, veiled in allegory, illustrated by symbols. Not a religion but religious in character, it is a philosophy of ethical conduct which imparts moral and social virtues and fosters brotherly love. Its tenets have endured since man turned the first pages of civilization. They embody the understanding by which man can transcend ordinary experience and build "a house not made with hands" in harmony with the Great Architect of the Universe.

Yet Freemasonry can never conflict with a man's relationship to God or fellow man. Sectarian religious or partisan political discussion in a lodge is strictly prohibited. Every Mason stands equal among his brothers, regardless of walk of life, and none is turned away for financial need.

Freemasonry has been referred to as "an organized association of men, symbolically applying the principles of operative Masonry and architecture to the science and art of character building."

Freemasonry has also been characterized as a fraternity devoted to high ideals and admirable benevolence. Community service and charitable work are, in fact, principal Masonic activities.

Easily the best-known is the world's largest single charitable institution, the Shriners Hospitals for Children, which are located throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. Other Masonic bodies support their own statewide and national foundations for research, teaching, and treatment or rehabilitation services for children with learning or speech disorders, cancer, visual problems, and need of dental restoration.

