

T R E S T L E B O A R D

Newsletter of Washington Lodge No. 20

August 2011

To Make Good Men Better

Our 160th Year



From the East

David H. Cameron
Master



From the West

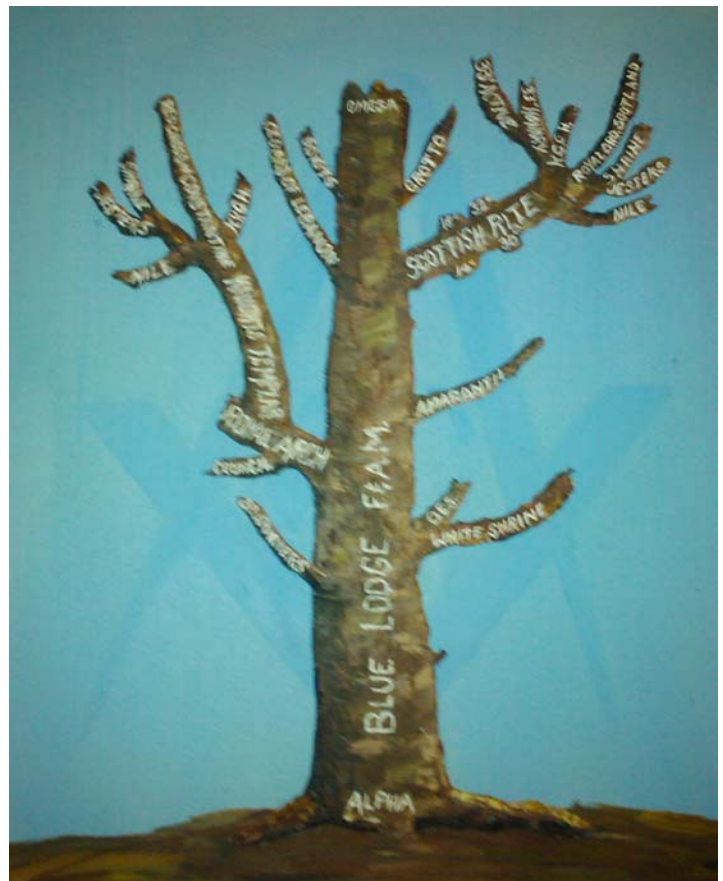
Michael P. Quinn, Sr. Warden

Obligation: an agreement, a bond, a tie, an understanding of the promises one is engaging in, a commitment of body and mind to a common idea or belief.

I confess before you all, that I have misunderstood Masonry for some time. I have always thought it was best to perform the ritual, and live by it's teachings, and that if I did, I could be better than anyone else. How vain is the man who will perceive himself to be superior to another, worse yet, to demonstrate the same in his actions? If a man does his best, will God not reward him. Then why should I look upon him with any less respect or admiration.

This came to mind when thinking of a Brother, not one in particular, but many, and from all about the Earth. I was contemplating the 'Short' and 'Long' form proficiency. How wrong I have been to think one is superior to another, or that one may produce a better Mason. The infirmed have more to offer than the healthy, for they give with their souls, and the peasant more than the Master, for he gives from his heart. It is this heart of a man which brings honor, character, compassion, love and understanding, and not the last book he read, or check he wrote as a silent supporter. It is the man who lives the very words he speaks, who adheres to the teachings, and not only repeats those words aloud, but feels the sincerity of them as the warm air passes his lips. So I say, do you have to go long form to be a better Mason, do you have to go short form to be a better Mason, or do you have to live by the precepts, adhere to lessons, then display them for all to see, and not just yourself or your God!

While Traveling in Texas and Louisiana I found brothers of Masonry almost everywhere I went. While visiting the World War II Memorial, formally the D-Day Museum, in New Orleans, a fellow in line commented about my ring. I asked him if he too was a Traveling Man and he replied, "I am". We struck up a conversation while waiting for the exhibit to open and I found out he had family in California, now lives in Austin Texas, was a member of the Blue Lodge and the Shrine. I remarked about the Sacramento Lodges and my experience in the California Fraternity. He invited me to visit him in Austin and I likewise when he came to our area. What a great fraternal experience to find friends and brothers in every walk of life in all parts of the world.



August Schedule

- August 4th Stated Meeting
- August 11th Degree
- August 18th Practice
- August 25th Dark

Washington Lodge #20 2011 Officers

Master: David H. Cameron

Senior Warden	Michael Quinn
Junior Warden	Juan Faranda
Treasurer	Eric Hixson, P.M.
Secretary	Jon Isaacson, P.M.
Chaplin	Jed Van Wagner
Senior Deacon	Daniel Dailey
Junior Deacon	Jerry Livingston-Joy
Senior Steward	Brian Schoenborn
Junior Steward	David Huez
Marshall	John Basham
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, P.M.
Masonic Lawn Board	Richard Pullen, P.M.
Masonic Lawn Board	Dave Freeman
Ambassador	Dave Freeman

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The Washington Lodge Trestleboard
is published monthly

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Adopt-A-Freeway Program

Volunteers Needed

None in August 2011

***Litter Removal on Freeway 244: On & Off
Ramp I-80 at Auburn Blvd.***

***Meet at Del Paso Park, corner of Park Road
and Auburn Blvd (near the Ramp.)***



From the South

Juan Faranda, Jr. Warden

My Trip to China

I just got back from a wonderful trip to China. We visited so many places in a short amount of time. We visited Beijing, the Great Wall, of course, and the Terra-cotta Museum in Xian. We took a Yangtze River Cruise where we explored the Three Gorges Dam. The Dam is designed to serve three main purposes: flood control, hydroelectric power production and navigation improvement. I'm very impressed with this project, which is the largest water conservancy in the world. The construction of the dam formally began in 1994, became operational in 2003 and was fully completed in 2009.

Shanghai, built along the Huangpu River, boasts beautiful architecture, which is also very modern. We then went to Hong Kong and felt the dynamic blend of Eastern and Western cultures. Hong Kong was reunited to China in 1997 after years of British rule.

This trip was an incredible experience to learn so much about history and the culture on China. I am also very happy to be back home, and ready for the next first degree.



Stated Meetings

Thursday, August 4th, 2011

5:00 PM Social

6:00 PM Dinner

7:00 PM Stated Meeting

RSVP

(888) 828-4476

A Letter From Bro. Alan W. Peay

Thank you to all the members at Washington Lodge 20 for helping me become a Master Mason before my deployment to Afghanistan. I am stationed at a very small place but its home for the next few years. Currently we are working side by side with the army to support the war effort. War is a messy business but required to keep our Freedom. When we first arrived there were several rocket attacks. Lucky for us they do not know how to aim rockets. However, an empty bus is totaled.

Yesterday was a loud and busy day as the military handled some issues on the mountain. I think it was the cause of the sand storm that followed.

So far everything is going well and thanks to Brother Alex Chompff I came well prepared for this journey. I hope to return at the end of the year to visit the lodge and see my brothers. It is great to be a part of a family that has the same beliefs I have always carried.

I would like to give a special thanks to Worship David Cameron and the officers of the lodge for the last minute degree ceremonies prior to my deploying to Afghanistan. I am really glad had a chance to complete my degrees because where I am stationed there is no Masonic lodge. I especially want to thank my coach Joe Basham who took the time to make sure I knew my part during the ceremonies. I couldn't have asked for a better coach.



Ambassador's Corner
Dave Freeman



Mustard Seed

Several months ago, Washington Lodge #20 was searching for a school project in the Sacramento area that might be in need of some form of financial support. The Lodge had budgeted funds for such assistance during 2011.

By way of an existing contact we had with Loaves and Fishes, a non profit organization that serves the needs of the homeless, we learned of Mustard Seed. Mustard Seed was established in 1989 to help meet the needs of homeless children ages 3-15 within a structured academic program. A major goal of the Mustard Seed program is to prepare and enroll homeless children into public schools when the family has found housing stability. In the past 22 years, over 4,500 children have gone through the Mustard Seed School. From 15-30 children may attend each day, with the average stay of approximately 3-4 weeks. Mustard Seed is located at 1321 North "C" Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

On May 31, several members of Washington Lodge No. 20 and Bicentennial Lodge No. 830 met with Angela Hassell, the Director of Mustard Seed School and presented the school a check for \$500. A further commitment of school supplies and equipment was also made at that time.

Attached is a picture taken of our group meeting. From left to right Clyde Kidd & John Ansell of Bicentennial Lodge, David Cameron, Master of Washington Lodge, Angela Hassell, David Allmuth, AGL and David Freeman of Washington Lodge. "

About California Masons

Masonry is the world's first and largest fraternal organization.

It is based on the belief that each man has a responsibility to help make the world a better place. As Masons, we lead by example, give back to our communities, and support numerous Masonic philanthropies. We invest in children, our neighborhoods, and our future. With 2 million Masons in the United States and more than 3 million worldwide, we've established a strong and highly respected local, national, and international presence.

How it all began

In the Middle Ages, the term "freemason" referred to highly skilled stonemasons who were hired as free agents to build castles and cathedrals in England and Scotland. Because of the inherent danger of their work, many stonemasons formed local organizations, called lodges, to take care of sick and injured members as well as the widows and orphans of those who were killed on the job. They also used lodges as places to meet, receive their pay, plan their work, train new apprentices, and socialize.

In 1717, the Freemasons organized as a fraternal group with the establishment of the first governing body, called a Grand Lodge, in London. Within the next two decades, English Freemasonry spread throughout Europe and eventually made its way to the American colonies. In 1733, the first American lodge was established in Boston under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England. George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, and other founding fathers were among the first Masons in America.

From the Middle Ages to California gold

During the Gold Rush of 1849, thousands of settlers came to California in search of fortune. Those who were Masons brought their rich traditions with them, soon establishing some of California's first Masonic lodges in the mining towns of the Gold Country.



In 1850 – the same year that California became a state – the Grand Lodge of California was established in Sacramento. Now headquartered in San Francisco, today the Grand Lodge of California has more than 63,000 members and about 340 lodges in the state, making it one of the largest Grand Lodges in the world.

How to become a Mason

Membership is open to men age 18 and older who believe in a Supreme Being and meet the qualifications and standards. Men of all ethnic and religious backgrounds are welcome.

One of Masonry's traditions is that we do not solicit members. Men must seek membership on their own initiative. When you're ready to join, select a lodge close to your work or home, whichever is most convenient. A lodge locator is available at freemason.org. Contact the lodge you choose and ask for a membership information packet. Or you may complete the request for information form on freemason.org and someone will contact you regarding membership.

For more information about the Masons of California, go to freemason.org.