

Volume 2 Issue 8

August 1, 2013

**THIS MONTH'S
FEATURE STORY**

**The Fellowcraft
Pillars**

The Fellowcraft Pillars

The three degrees of Freemasonry symbolically represent the three stages of life: youth, manhood, and old age. The lodge symbolizes the world as a whole with the Entered Apprentice representing the youth entering the world and the Master Mason about to leave it. The Fellowcraft represents manhood, the period in which a man is in the prime of his life prepared to face the trials and tribulations of the world, and equipped to do its work.

As now practiced in Freemasonry, the lessons of the three degrees are built upon the Biblical description of King Solomon's Temple constructed in Jerusalem as a monument to the God of the Israelites. The building of this edifice is described in I Kings Chapters 5 through 7, while Chapter 8 describes the dedication of the Temple. A careful reading of these passages provides insight into the three degrees.

The terminology is confusing in the way pillar and column are used almost interchangeably in Masonic writings while each term has a distinct meaning. A pillar is a firm upright support for a superstructure such as an upper wall, floor, roof or arch. A pillar can be of any proportions necessary to perform the needed mechanical function of support. A pillar can also be a free-standing shaft that serves as a monument. A column is an architectural feature that is composed of a base, shaft, and capital that has definite geometric proportions and is designed to support as well as to adorn the building. Thus, both pillars and columns are primarily structural supports, the difference being that a column is an architectural feature designed to be functional while beautifying the building.

The Biblical account of the pillars of King Solomon's Temple is contained in I Kings 7: 13-22,

The work of the world is indeed the greatest endeavor of human life. Human progress is not carried forward by the ignorant or the unskilled as life is complex. Human progress rests on the shoulders of those who have knowledge, skill, and experience. This is the principal idea behind the Fellowcraft Degree. It is a drama of education, the philosophy of enlightenment. The Degree is wise in its teachings and profound in its truths.

The great pillars that figure so prominently in the ceremonies of the Fellowcraft Degree are reminiscent of the two pillars that stood in front of King Solomon's Temple, not to support its roof but as symbolic reminders of the truths and forces in government and religion. While there have been many contradictions regarding the introduction of the pillars into the Masonic system, they are now universally recognized as part of the Fellowcraft Degree.

It's Still Summer!



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Programs & Announcements

This month our dining out will be returning to Chili's at 5805 Slide Road. Bring your voucher and the lodge receives a 15% rebate on the cost of your meal to support the scholarship fund.

Family Night, Wednesday August 21 starting at 6:30. we will be showing JOHN WAYNE! - The Man Who Shot Liberty

Valance. Gather your friends and family and join us! Serving hot dogs, popcorn and soft drinks (don't forget the steward's fund) or you may bring your own.

Don't forget proficiency examinations August 10 beginning at 9:00AM at Mackenzie Lodge and August 24 beginning at 9:00AM at Plainview Lodge.

Plans are progressing for the Hilltop meeting scheduled for September 14. Check the website under events for details. We will publish more the closer we get to the date.

A one day Warden's retreat is likely coming to Lubbock in late October. More details as they develop.



And God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. Genesis 1:3



The Charge: A Message From the East
Worshipful Master James Urban

Brethren, we have begun a new masonic year. As we move into the unknown that lies ahead, remember that we all must work together towards our collective goals. Let nothing take away from our ability to achieve great things. It is the principle that as a cohesive group we can do the greatest good. Division, groupthink, factions, and dissension are all problems that cannot be easily repaired and cause a huge degree of angst within our

walls. What is our ultimate endeavor? How can we make the life we live a better place, not just for us, but for society in general?

For these reasons, I remind you of the grandmaster's request that a charge be read at closing: live in peace, and may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with and bless you. As humble as it may seem, that is my goal for us this year, to work together to continue to build

our lodge and our community under the fellowship we have together.



"The grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race"

Washington



A Message From the West
Senior Warden Glenn Fant

We are now beginning a new Masonic Year, and it is time to say thank you to all the lodge officers and brothers who have made the past year such a grand success. We are now eligible for the Vanguard Award. You're planning, hard work, and diligent attention to your duties has set you apart from the crowd. Congratulations and a most sincere

thank you from your new Senior Warden. I hope you will join me, in making the coming year the same successful adventure and experience as the last. With every year comes new challenges and problems that must be addressed head-on with the same fervency and zeal as before. Join me in making the ensuing masonic year as good as or even better than

the last. I will be there for you, and you can depend on my help in planning, and participating in every worthy mission. Please help me in assisting the new Worshipful Master make this year the best ever. May The Prince of Peace Continue to Bless You With Wisdom,



From the South — Did You Know? . . .
Junior Warden Kevin Rush

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of this lodge for their expression of trust and the honor to serve as your Junior Warden in the upcoming masonic year. I promise that I will do everything I can to prove worthy of that trust.

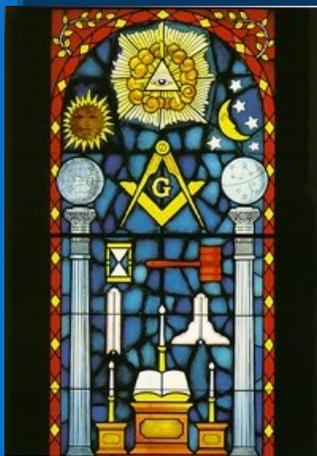
In the months ahead, I want to pursue topics for discussion in our newsletter and stated meetings for the up-

coming year that concern some of the lesser known but interesting aspects of masonic law in Texas.

Did you know . . . That in Title III .Art. 383 that a visitor from any other jurisdiction, can be excluded from a meeting at the objection of one member and at the discretion of the WM and must be excluded on the objection of 3 members; and that a

brother under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas may be excluded from a meeting if there are Masonic charges pending against them?

More to come!



"Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment."

Benj. Franklin



From the Secretary Jerry Hendrick
Taking Care of Business

Our Masonic degrees are intended to be profound and revolutionary experience from which the newly made Master Mason should become a new man. He should acquire new thoughts, new feelings, about mankind and about his God. He should acquire new confidence in immortality and a new passion for Brotherhood. He should have an entirely dif-

ferent feeling toward Charity. No one should think and I don't believe anyone does, that our three degrees will, in some mysterious manner, change a man's entire nature to make it possible for him without failure, to live up to his new obligation. It is only by striving to understand and to live by the Tenets of Masonry and to do away with errors and mis-

understandings that he may have had before, that he will finally become a Freemason in fact. Thus we learn that our Fraternity is sort of a school in which men learn Brotherhood by practicing it toward Freemasons, because he who begins thus will sooner or later come to be practicing it everywhere.



From the Senior Deacon John Rosser
Visiting Brothers & Prospects

Last month we had the following guests attend our stated meeting: Roland Martin, DDGM of Emma Lodge, Bob Clemmons, PM and Rolan Pirtle of Yellowhouse Lodge, Charles Leatherwood of Crosbyton Lodge and James Houk of Gray Lodge in Houston.

We also had the following

visitors at the Installation of our new Officers: Roland Martin, DDGM of Emma Lodge, Bob Clemmons, PM and Rolan Pirtle of Yellowhouse Lodge, Van Baker, PM of Wolfforth-Frenship Lodge and Cole Shooter of Mackenzie Lodge.

"Why am I, or any other member, going to be at the

Lodge next Friday? Not because one is an officer, or has to cook, or any other obligatory reason. No, I want to know why does a Master Mason stay active? What is Masonry for? How will I know if I am a Master Mason in more than just conferred title?" I will focus on these topics in upcoming articles.

Let us endeavor so to live that when we come to die even the undertaker will be sorry.

Mark Twain



From the Senior Steward Brandon Gould
Food, Flowers & Frolic

Greetings brethren, As many of you know I am your new senior steward which means you will have the grand opportunity to enjoy spaghetti (or variations thereof) for the next 12 months! I'm kidding of course (maybe) but I look forward to letting you all experience my culinary

masterpieces. For those of you who don't know me my name is Brandon Gould, I was raised in September of 2012 at Hilltop. I am a west Texas native and I am currently married with two beautiful baby girls. I have worked in the cell phone industry for the last 9 years, 5 being

in a call center and 4 in retail.

I hope you all enjoy the food for the next year and I look forward to serving you all



Upcoming Menu for August:

Sounds like we're eating SPAGHETTI!

The Fellowcraft Pillars—con't

where the writer describes the work of Hiram, a skilled metal worker, in creating the pillars. In addition to this account, Flavius Josephus, a first century Jewish historian, provides the following account.

Now Solomon sent for an artificer out of Tyre, whose name was Hiram. He was by birth of the tribe of Naphtali, on the mother's side (for she was of that tribe), but his father was Ur, of the stock of the Israelites. This man was skillful in all sorts of work; but his chief skill lay in working in gold, and silver, and brass, by whom were made all the mechanical works about the temple, according to the will of Solomon. Moreover this Hiram made two hollow pillars, whose outsides were of brass, and the thickness of the brass was four fingers breadth, and the height of the pillars was eighteen cubits, and their circumference twelve cubits; but there was cast, with each of their chapiters, lily-work that stood upon the pillar, and it was elevated five cubits, round about which there was net-work interwoven with small palms made of brass, and covered with lily-work. To this also were hung two hundred pomegranates in two rows. The one of these pillars he set at the entrance of the porch on the right hand, and called it Jachin, and the other at the left hand, and called it Boaz.

References to these two great pillars are found in pre-Grand Lodge of England rituals. Their symbolism is the same today as then. It is generally agreed that Boaz means "in him is strength" and Jachin, "he shall establish." Thus, Boaz signifies strength while Jachin denotes establishment. As Masons, we should reflect upon the significance of the pillars as we construct our personal values and morals. The critics of Freemasonry object to the use of the pillars Jachin and Boaz in Masonic ritual for various reasons; however, the names and descriptions are taken

directly from the Bible (I Kings 7) and there is nothing sinister implied by the Masonic usage.

The characteristics of the pillars present important symbolic lessons. The pillars are described in ornate detail with particular geometric attributes. The details of beauty and geometry are to encourage us to fully develop our minds regarding the mysteries of nature and the laws of the universe. Through an improved understanding of our surroundings and the works of nature we begin to develop a true appreciation for Deity and his mighty creation.

The ornamental detail regarding the network, lily-work and pomegranates denote unity, peace, and plenty, respectively. While the Biblical account does not provide a clear picture of what the capitals (chapiters) looked like, it does indicate they were highly ornate. The purpose of the network was to provide a background and its intricate, interconnected arrangement suggests unity. The lily-work represents peace and purity. Peace is a noble attribute we should strive for in our spiritual relationship with God and as Masons, we should promote peace between all men. The pomegranates must have been striking with two hundred on each capital. The pomegranate fruit, due to the exuberance of its seed, is an emblem of plenty, which was one of its ancient significances.

The explanation of the Fellowcraft Degree in the Masonic ritual provides very similar details of the two pillars provided in both the Biblical account of I Kings and that of Flavius Josephus. However, the Masonic ritual alludes to two spherical bodies placed on top of the pillars, which represent the terrestrial and celestial spheres upon which maps of the features of the earth's surface and heavenly bodies were depicted. An account of King Solomon's Temple in II Chronicles 4: 13 suggests the pillars were topped with bowl-like containers. This Masonic addi-

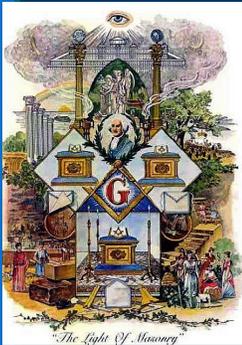
tion, however, does not distract from the symbolism that together these spherical shapes represent the universality of Freemasonry.

The Fellowcraft Pillars, as reminders of the two pillars Jachin and Boaz that stood in front of King Solomon's Temple can be studied from two viewpoints. From one viewpoint, the pillars suggest the massive power, which upholds the universe, provides the laws of nature, and suggests the eternities of the heavens. Before such a Power, man should bow down and worship, engrave upon his heart that the Almighty God is indeed the creator of the universe and the giver of life, and realize that the most godlike man is one whose life is the most constructive.

From another point of view, the pillars suggest the fact of birth, which has more and larger meanings than at first thought. One does not enter a well-furnished manhood by chance, like a blind man blundering through a doorway, but by virtue of study, labor, and preparation. On one-hand, there is the terrestrial sphere with its wisdom and knowledge concerning the earth, its physical existence, and its manual tasks to provide for himself and his family physically. On the other, there is the celestial sphere, with its wisdom of spiritual life, the conscience and imagination, and of the intellect and study of God's nature to provide for himself and his family spiritually.

In the process of becoming a Fellowcraft Mason, you passed between the two great pillars, Jachin and Boaz, of your own free will. This signified you were no longer a youth but a man. You have the essentials for success, achievement, and happiness. If you passed these pillars with understanding, if you realize that power without control is dangerous, you have learned the lesson taught by the symbolism of the pillars.

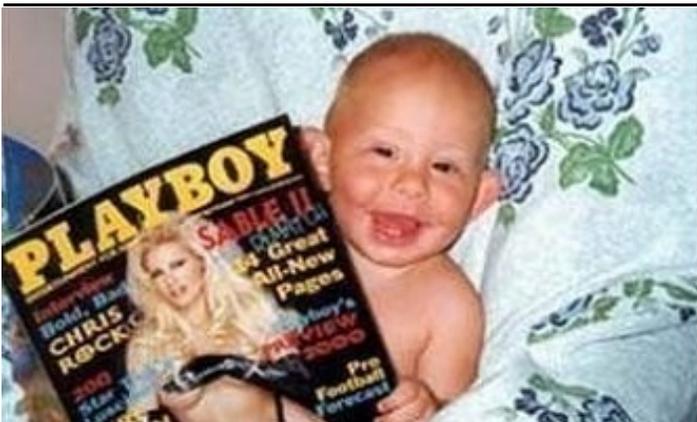
Source: The Grand Lodge of Texas



Lubbock 1392 in Action



There are no pictures this month and that just ain't right!
Some of us are here for the pictures!



Check for installation pictures on the website soon!



LUBBOCK MASONIC LODGE #1392

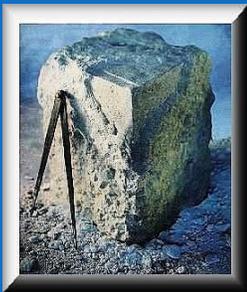
MASONIC DIST 93-A

4539 Brownfield Dr
Lubbock, TX
79410-1721

Meetings:
Second Friday of each
month, 7:30 p.m.
Meal: 6:30pm

Floor School:
Every Tuesday @ 7p.m.

lubbockmasoniclodge.org



Brotherly Love, Relief & Truth

This Month's Sickness & Distress



Kevin Rush lost his stepmother on July 26, 2013



Please take the time to visit our sick and distressed; send them cards or call them on the phone, and be sure to keep them in your prayers.

If you know of sickness or distress with a brother or his family, please let us know.

This Month's Brothers & Birthdays

Eric Martin 8/1
Billy Dyess 8/7
Luis Ramos 8/9
Brian Harrison 8/11

Tom Lusk 8/23

The Quarry: Our Esoteric Work By Bro. Joe Sanders

Symbols in Ritual

It is a new Masonic year so let's start from the beginning in our looking at esoteric work.

Freemasonry is described in its own ritual as a Beautiful or Peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.

The Volume of the Sacred Law is always displayed in an open Lodge. In many French Lodges, the Masonic Constitutions are used instead. A candidate will be given his choice of

religious text for his Obligation, according to his beliefs. In Lodges with a membership of mixed religions it is common to find more than one sacred text displayed.

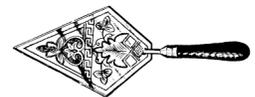
In keeping with the geometrical and architectural theme of Freemasonry, the Supreme Being is referred to in Masonic ritual by the titles of the Great Architect of the Universe, Grand Geometrician or similar, to make clear that the reference is generic, and not tied to a particular religion's conception of God.

Solomon's Temple is a central symbol of Freemasonry, which holds that the first three Grand Masters were King Solomon, Hiram, King of Tyre, and Hiram Abiff - the craftsman/architect

who built the temple. Masonic initiation rites include the reenactment of a scene set on the Temple Mount while it was under construction. Every Masonic Lodge, therefore, is symbolically the Temple for the duration of the degree.

The Masonic handshake, or "token", was originally used as a way to gain admission to meetings and identify legitimate visitors. (Adapted From Wikipedia)

Don't forget certificate examinations Saturday, August 10, 9am at Mackenzie Lodge.



The things a man has to have are hope and confidence in himself against odds, and sometimes he needs somebody, his pal or his mother or his wife or God, to give him that confidence. He's got to have some inner standards worth fighting for or there won't be any way to bring him into conflict. And he must be ready to choose death before dishonor without making too much song and dance about it. That's all there is to it."

Blaise Pascal

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