

This Month's Feature Stories

Blue - A Masonic Color More Light



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Volume 2 Issue 11

November 1, 2013

Blue - A Masonic Color

Often we speak of the "Blue Lodge" and of "Blue Lodge Masonry," but do we really understand its meaning and its origin? I am referring to the use of the color "Blue" as used in conjunction with lodge and masonry.

We are told that the Blue refers to the Canopy of Heaven and teaches the universality of Masonry. This is true and I would not take away a bit of this teaching, but would add to and enlarge on our thinking about the color blue and its Masonic symbolism.

Appropriately it is the color of the Ancient Craft degrees. It teaches and is the symbol for universal friendship and universal benevolence, as it is the color of the vault of Heaven, which embraces all the world, so should each Brother Mason be equally extensive in his virtues of friendship and brotherly love.



Among the ancient Jews the robe of the High Priest's ephod, the ribbon of his breastplate and the plate of the miter were of Blue. The people of the Jewish nation were charged to wear a blue ribbon above the hem of their garments and it was the color of one of the seven veils of the temple.

Josephus tells us that the Hebrew word for Blue was "tekelet" and that it symbolically meant perfection. Among the ancients, to be initiated into the Mysteries was to attain perfection and how

Programs & Announcements



Yellowhouse Lodge is sponsoring a Thanksgiving holiday dinner to be held at the Scottish Rite on Thursday, November 14, at 6:00PM. FREE for all local masons and their families!

Well, we misplaced *Support Your Local Sheriff* last month and watched *Support Your Local Gunfighter*. So, (yes, you guessed it) this month, Wednesday November 20, *Support Your Local Sheriff*, Starring James Garner, Walter Brennan, Jack Elam and Harry Morgan. 7PM. Popcorn and soft drinks or bring your

own snacks. Still working on this month's dining out. Details to follow. Be sure and check your emails. This program is really working well for our scholarship campaign. So well, that the Shriners are doing the same thing to support the Children's Hospital.

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

Good to Great: a book by Jim Collins that explores what takes a good organization and turns them into a great one. However, when I hear the phrase, I much more often associate it with what most of us think of masonry . . . that it takes good men and makes them better, or in to parallel Jim Collins, greater. But how does masonry make good men greater? Obviously some ques-

tions are experience of each individual, but it is the things we share in common, our very foundation, that makes good men great. We teach the principles and precepts that make us just and give our lives meaning. The willingness to live life through that lens and under the frame of reference that constantly points is in the direction to self-improvement is what takes

each man from being good, a prerequisite among masons in my opinion, and makes us great. But when all is said and done, we must find our own greatness through the merits we subscribe too, since we are guided by our individual experience, interpretation, and wisdom, which truly makes us great.



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

Washington



A Message From The West - Tolerance in Your Lodge Series
 Senior Warden Glenn Fant

Under difficult circumstances there are some who find it almost impossible to exercise tolerance and put the blame on personality clashes. Yes each of us has our own unique belief and opinions that make up our personalities. If we clashed with everyone who differed from us, we would be constantly at loggerheads... In fact, we tolerate, accommo-

date, and even enjoy certain differences. Clashes occur when our deeply-held values or beliefs are being challenged, or we challenged others. This can be viewed as a threat, and could result in a hard fight to prove who is "right" and who is "wrong." What we are really doing is seeking confirmation that we have no reason to change our own belief.

There should be no issue that cannot be dealt with by a handshake and in most cases without need to alter one's personal views. We cannot bring about peace and compassion without forgiveness and tolerance. We build our temples & our character one brick at a time. Don't cause the wall to tumble. EXERCISE TOLERANCE in all your dealings.....



From the South — Confidences; An Important Lesson
 Junior Warden Kevin Rush

Here is something to mull over which likely will yield different answers for different people: How much can I confide in a Brother before they run off and put my membership in jeopardy? As a Mason, I've always been told to whisper good counsel to an erring Brother, not go behind his back and file masonic charges.

Should you be able to confide in a brother at all times without worry of being retaliated against? Our obligation refers to two things that are left at

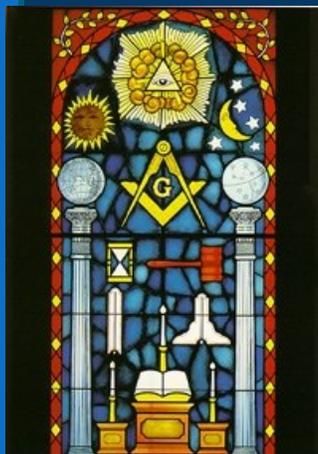
our option, but what about a potential violation of masonic law?

if a Brother tells me he robbed a bank, must I keep it a secret? On top of that, if I know the police are going to raid his house, do I have to warn him.?

On the other hand, I promised to whisper wise council in his ear, so if he did tell me he committed a crime, I would have to encourage him to come clean to both the authorities, and the Lodge.

There is another "fraternity" within the motorcycle world that subscribes to the idea that three can keep a secret if two are dead.

So, what is the point of all of this? Honor your obligation, be discreet but, use common sense too in what ever you are about to divulge to another brother. Ask yourself what is the context of what is being told to me. Is my brother venting or does he need help? Give prayerful consideration when having to deal with this issue.



"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."

Benjamin Franklin



From the Secretary Jerry Hendrick
Taking Care of Business

The Constitution and Laws of the grand Lodge of Texas briefly enumerate the re-quired duties of the Secretary of the Lodge; but, as any good Secretary will agree, his duties go far beyond the limits of the Lodgeroom.

The Secretary should keep a correct record of all the business of the Lodge that is proper to be written.

The Minutes of each Stated and Called Meeting should be kept in a permanent binder for preservation.

Oh! did I mention dues? There are many thing coming up in the near future and dues happens to be one, that is near and dear to my heart and the lodge's financial needs.

Dues are due by the 31st of

December 2013, for the next masonic year. This year the cost is \$55.00. If you decide to pay early, you are more than welcome to do so, or you can wait until I send out the Dues Notice's once I get the Dues Cards from Grand Lodge.



From the Senior Deacon John Rosser
Visiting Brothers & Prospects

Last month we had the following guests attend our stated meeting: Bob Clemmons, PM and Rolan Pirtle of Yellowhouse Lodge.

This month I want to share with each of you quotations from "A Cowboy's Guide to Life".

If your job is to shovel, and all you can see ahead is dirt, it's time to change jobs.

A Good Pard will ride with you till hell freezes over - and a little while on the ice. A Texas breakfast is a two pound hunk of steak, a quart of whisky, and a hound dog. If you are wondering why you need the dog - well, somebody has to eat the steak.

It's the work, not the clock, that tells you when it's quit-

tin' time.

You can't weigh the facts if you've got the scales loaded down with your opinions.



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

Hello brethren, hope all is well with you! Who doesn't love Thanksgiving time?

Thanksgiving is a great time of year where we get to come together with family and friends and enjoy great food while reflecting on what we are most thankful for. While it's easy for us to be thankful for all that we have I ask everyone to look

at those in our lives and extend a loving and helpful hand to anyone who might not be as fortunate. Whether it's a widow, a friend, a brother, or just a neighbor, I encourage everyone to get out and help someone; something as simple as mowing a neighbors lawn or spending some time with a widow can really brighten

someone's day and remember that just smiling at people can brighten their day. I look forward to seeing everyone at our stated meeting .



Upcoming Menu for November

My wife's skillet lasagna
Garlic bread
Chocolate truffle for dessert.

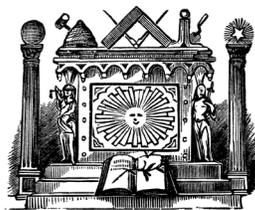
Blue - A Masonic Color con't from Page 1



better to speak of initiation into the greatest of fraternal institutions then to use a word that signifies perfection, BLUE, to designate our symbolic lodges.

Among the Druids it symbolized "truth." The Egyptians esteemed blue as a sacred color, signifying heavenly nature. Jeremiah tells us that the Babylonians clothed their idols in blue, and to the Chinese in their mystical philosophy "blue" was represented as the symbol of Deity. The Hindus assert that their god, Vishnu, was dressed in celestial blue, thus indicating that wisdom from God was symbolized by this color.

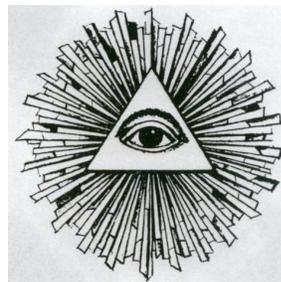
Among the medieval Christians blue was considered the emblem of immortality, as red was of the Divine Love of God.



The color Blue is used extensively in the Scottish Rite degrees, with various symbolic significations; all, however, more of less relating to its original character as representing universal friendship and be-

nevolence.

In the Nineteenth degree of Grand Pontiff, it is symbolic of mildness, fidelity, and gentleness. In the degree of Grand Master of all Symbolic Lodges it is used with yellow and refers to the appearance of Jehovah to Moses on Mount Sinai in the clouds of azure and gold. In the twenty-fourth degree it is the color of the tunic and apron of a Prince of the Tabernacle, whose teachings refer to our removal from this house of clay to the "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." Here it is a symbol of heaven, as we were taught in the Symbolic Lodge.

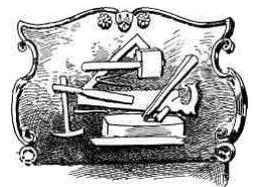


We learn therefore that by custom and symbolism and not by any adopted law or by-law, we use Blue in referring to the Master Mason lodge as the "Blue Lodge".

Source: Bro. Foster H. Garrett, 33rd

More Light

Don't expect perfection in a man because he is a Freemason. If you do, you will be disappointed. Masonry makes a man better, but no human agency can make him perfect.



If he is a Mason, you have a right to presume he is a good man, but do not condemn Masonry even if a few Masons turn out bad. Even the Great Teacher Himself had a Judas.

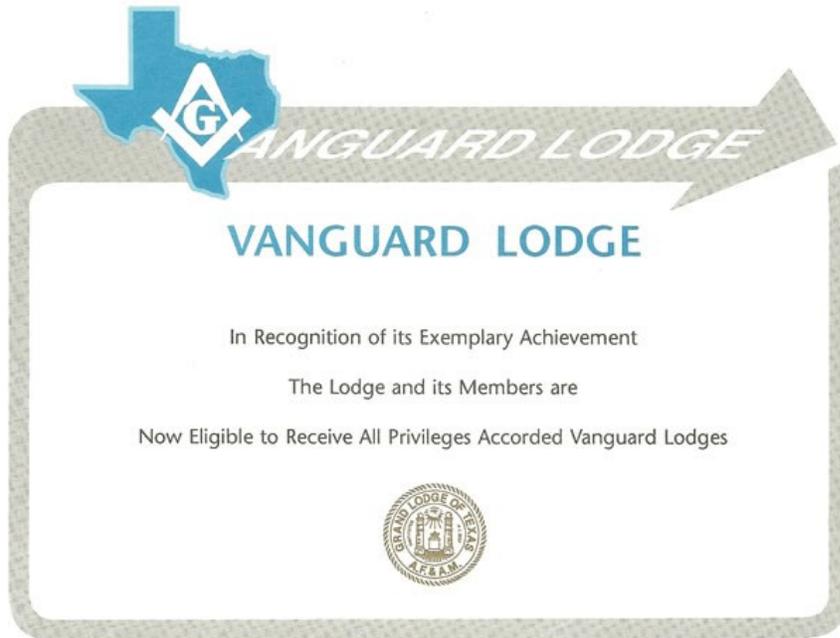
The aim and purpose of Masonry is to receive none but good men, keep them good and make them better. Judge the institution not by a few failures, but by the average of its successes.

That average is high and it consequently gives standing to its members, but it cannot be an infallible guide.

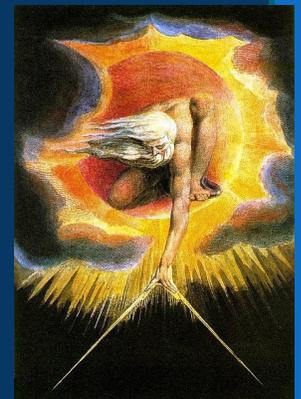
Author Unknown

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Lubbock 1392 in Action—October 2012



Lubbock Lodge #1392 is a Vanguard Lodge and we will receive our award in December at the Grand Lodge Communication!



Some pumpkin carving fun at the lodge! The pumpkins wound up at the pumpkin trail and were on display on Oct. 20-23 in Clapp Park.



LUBBOCK MASONIC LODGE

#1392

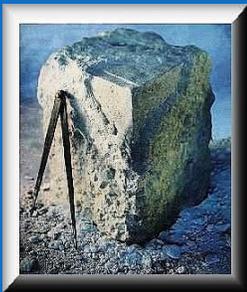
MASONIC DIST 93-A

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.

www.lubbockmasoniclodge.org



Brotherly Love, Relief & Truth

This Month's Sickness & Distress



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

Justin Robbins	11/1
Norvell O'Brien	11/19
Anthony Rumpel	11/22



The Quarry: Our Esoteric Work By Bro. Bob Clemmons

REMINDER: FLOOR PRACTICE EVERY TUES- DAY STARTING PROMPT- LY AT 7:00PM

In the October 2013 newsletter, the definitions of esoteric masonry and exoteric masonry were explained; Esoteric masonry is taught to a select few while in exoteric mason-

ry, the manuals can be read or taught to all.

The ancient philosopher, Pythagoras was said to have learned this double method of instruction while on his travels through Asia, Egypt and Africa. The high priests in Egypt used this method of teaching and was adopted by Pythagoras. He was initiated into several orders of high priesthood and was thought to have been raised to the sublime degree of a master mason.

This double method of instruction still applies today. The entered apprentice, fellow-craft's and master mason's degrees all use esoteric and exoteric instruction.

The total number of esoteric certificates issued by the Grand Lodge of Texas in 2012 is 1258 (A,B,and C certificates.) District 93-A and District 93-B has a total of 11 members with A certificates. The members of the lodges in these two districts should be proud of these members.

To quote from the master mason's charge "the ancient landmarks of the order, entrusted to your care you are carefully to preserve; and never suffer them to be infringed, or countenance a deviation from the established usages and customs of the fraternity".

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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