

Volume 3 Issue 4

April 1, 2014

### This Month's Feature Story:

#### Who Leads the Leaders?



Tax Day Tues April 15

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## "Who Leads the Leaders?"

By Bro. Alden H. Jones, PGM of Washington.

What is effective leadership? Who provides Lodge leadership? What can the lodge leader be expected reasonably to do? What happens if he doesn't do these things? Why isn't lodge leadership automatic? How do you promote something that doesn't exist? Who leads the leader? We have leadership problems in some, if not many, of our lodges. Another way to describe the situation is to say that we have many problems in our lodges and some of them are the result of ineffective leadership. An evaluation report from one of our District Deputies stated that the affairs of a certain lodge had not been well handled during the year because

"The Worshipful Master is not gifted with the qualities of leadership." What exactly was our Deputy telling us? First, that the constructive activities of the lodge had not been implemented; second, that this is a one-man lodge - the members look solely to the Master for lodge leadership; third, that the one man was not aware of what he is expected to do or of how to do it, and, fourth, that the members were resigned to letting the affairs of the lodge drift along for another year.

Let's examine these points. What are the constructive activities of the lodge which require implementation? Prompt opening and closing of meetings, proficient opening and closing

ceremonies, courteous reception of visitors, considerate attention to candidates, orderly and harmonious disposal of lodge business, informative special programs, community projects and public ceremonies, Masonic encouragement and inspiration for the Brethren. These are examples of constructive activities of a lodge. They are the things that we expect to find when we go to a lodge meeting, for we know that lodges die if they don't engage in purposeful activities.

Now, what about leadership of the symbolic lodge? To whom do we look for leadership? Why, to the Master, of course. Then what if he isn't a leader? We cannot demand it of him. He is chosen democratically by a majority vote

## Programs & Announcements



Don't forget your taxes are due Tuesday, April 15!

Saturday, May is the day for the Yellowhouse Lodge 2nd Annual Cook-off to see which Master Masons are the "Master Grillers" You may grill any type meat you

desire, to be shared with all those attending. Entry fee is \$15. Contact Glen Ashcraft at 806-239-0542 for further details.

The projectionist was unavoidably detained last month and the movie *7 Days in Utopia* did not run. So, this month, Wed. April 16, 7PM, we are going to leave it up to

those attending to run either *7 Days in Utopia* with Robert Duvall and Lucas Black or *The Blue Collar Comedy Tour—The Movie* with Jeff Foxworthy Bill Engvall, Ron White, and Larry the Cable Guy.

This month, April 28 we have our "Dining out" at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse.



### From the East— The Charge Worshipful Master James Urban

This month, our lodge enters into what I am calling 'awards season.' Although awards does not accurately describe all that we are doing, we have several presentations that we are planning for and taking part in. First, at our monthly stated meeting, we will be having our annual Past Master's night. We will be recognizing all past masters in attendance, both from Lubbock Lodge and surrounding lodges. If you can make it, please

join us. Additionally, it is our hope to recognize some very distinctive service milestones, as we hope to present service pins to those who's masonic anniversaries are approaching. That will be at our regular stated meeting.

As we proceed over the next several weeks, we will also be presenting our Community Builder Award for outstanding community service to a member of the community who represents the ideals of

building the foundations of our community. Lastly, we are already preparing to give out four scholarships to area high school students. At the same time, we hope to recognize one of these recipients with the Lamar Medal for outstanding achievement in academics. Clearly, it's always the season for masons to recognize true merit wherever found.



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

*Washington*



### Why do we call Masonic Lodges the "BLUE LODGE"? Senior Warden Glenn Fant

Originally, Lodges were called "Craft Lodges or Ancient Craft Lodges", some were even called a St. Johns Lodge. According to Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia, research, There are many reasons why Masonic Lodges are called the Blue Lodge:

- 1) The color blue has been associated with immortality, eternity, and fidelity.
- 2) References to the color

blue in the Bible emphasize the special place blue has as a color symbolizing goodness and immortality.

3) The ancient Babylonians associated the color blue with the gods. In Medieval times, Christians saw blue as the symbol of perfection and hope, and well as of immortality and fidelity.

4) The Hebrew word for blue when referring to spiritual

matters is tekhelet תכלת derived from a root word meaning perfection.

Beyond the allegory and symbolism of the color blue, there is the reality of millions of men who have experienced things beyond themselves, transformed and evolved into their highest potentials, in the BLUE LODGE



### From the South— Jurisprudence and Scattershots Junior Warden Kevin Rush

Scattershooting and wondering if you know what my favorite 4 letter word is that starts with an "F"?

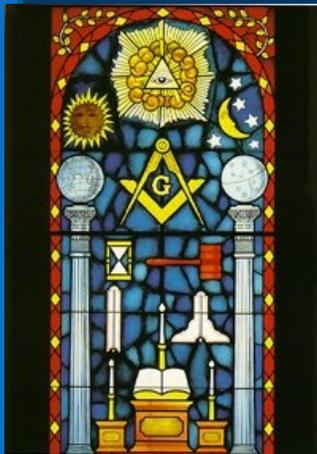
So, the lodge got a petition, the month before; it is read and an investigating committee has been formed. At the subsequent meeting, the secretary informs the Worshipful Master that the petitioner desires to withdraw his petition as his employment at about to transfer him to an-

other city. Now what?

Pursuant to Article 405, the Master should instruct the Secretary and inform the brethren that upon the request of the petitioner, the petition is withdrawn and requires no further action. The Secretary is further instructed to inform the petitioner that his request has been granted AND return any fees that may have been paid. Under an "old" rule, once a

petition had been received, a petition could not be withdrawn. Under the "new" rule, a petition may be withdrawn at anytime prior to a ballot. The petitioner is required to report on a subsequent petition that he has previously petitioned for the degrees of Masonry.

My favorite 4 letter word that begins with "F"? Why FREE of course! What were you thinking?



*"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*

Don't forget the Grand Master's Conference - Saturday, May 3, 8:30—Noon, Lubbock Scottish Rite, 1101 70th St, Lubbock 79412. This conference will be open to ALL masons, including EA's & Fellowcrafts and their ladies. For more information contact Bob Clemmons, 806-535-4276. Just a little bit of information as to the duties of

the Secretary:

Art. 288 - It is the duty of the Secretary to make a correct record of all things proper to be written pertaining to the business of the Lodge; to collect all revenues of the Lodge and pay them over to the Treasurer; to draw all warrants on the Treasurer; to issue Summons; Certificates of Good Standing; Waivers of Juris-

diction; and notices, as he may be directed; to make out and send up the returns to the Grand Lodge; and to perform such other duties as may be required by law, or directed by the Lodge.

DUES, DUES, DUES, are due !!!!!!!!!!!



**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.

As we investigate potential candidates and discuss the fraternity with our newer members we need to make

them understand that the three degrees of the Craft are only the first three steps in a lifelong journey. To presume to know Freemasonry from the first three degrees would be to stand on the seashore, take three steps, and presume to know the world. The degrees of Masonry are intended, not to impart, but to ignite a desire for more Light. In our event-filled society it is

easy to take for granted or lose sight of the processes that make the events possible. The processes, though, are where most of the learning, growth and progress happens. By understanding our own motivations and being able to express those motivations to others we can help our fledgling brethren to appreciate the truly precious jewels of Freemasonry.

*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*

Brethren, Here we are another month gone already and hopefully the April showers will hold true! I hope everyone is in good health and good spirits. This month for our stated meeting we will be honoring our past masters so I will be preparing a nice dinner. Let us try to get as

many members out as we can as we partake in this fellowship of brotherly love. I look forward to seeing all of the regulars and hopefully a few new faces as we enjoy the meal this month. In closing I would to thank everyone for all they do to keep our lodge functioning so well, thank

you all and I look forward to seeing everyone at the stated meeting.



**Upcoming Menu for April:**

**Roast balsamic red potatoes baby carrots, salad, rolls, and tea and dessert to be determined.**

## "Who Leads the Leaders?" - con't



and any member is eligible to be chosen Master of his lodge. This is for a good Masonic reason and it has nothing to do with his gift of leadership. More often than not, the primary qualifying factor for a Master is his willingness to take the office, rather than his gift of leadership.

Conclusion: We contend that we are all a part of this drama and that we have a duty to make it work. Some of us may have a personal involvement; each of us has watched the developing picture in our lodge and has a deep concern for the outcome. We should look in the mirror and say, "You own a piece of this action". Don't give me your old worn-out excuse that nobody interferes with the Worshipful Master. What about Brotherhood? What about Service? What about Unity? What about the Instructive Tongue? What about reminding a Brother in a most friendly manner?"

Obviously, not all who see the need are qualified to lead the leader, but there are those in any group who know at least part of the answer and who can be trusted to provide personal counseling with propriety. This should be encouraged. Practical advice or a discreet suggestion from a respected Brother can often convey a crucial message. Past Masters who have the precious gift of seeing a lodge problem for its relevance with 2014 and not as a carry-over from a couple of generations ago belong in this elite group of private counselors. District Deputies should be uniquely qualified for leadership guidance. Not

only were they appointed because of their leadership qualities, but they are charged to assist the lodges to the best of their ability, and they are supported by the authority of the Grand Master. This authority is not used nearly often enough to pry open stubborn doors.

One step beyond private counseling is the action which can be taken within the lodge by individual officers or Brethren as a means of encouraging decisiveness thus, leadership, on the part of the Master. Proposals can be made for lodge projects of programs, and discussions can be introduced to bring information into the open and obtain an indication of interest by the lodge members, and set the stage for the Master's decision. Motions for lodge commitment can be useful in forcing a leadership decision. Such strategy would be utilized for the primary purpose of promoting lodge activity but it should be done invariably in a manner to accommodate the Worshipful Master, and as a step in developing his leadership potential. If he is fully informed of the proposed business before the meeting, then so much the better.

A third type of correction for ineffective leadership is in group study of leadership principles. Lodge officer associations should sponsor such studies through discussion, lecture or seminar programs. Grand Lodge Officers and Committees should be involved in the leadership improvement effort by the offer of instructional programs in lodges or officer associations. We look also to Grand

Lodge for a formal program of leadership training for officers of constituent lodges. This program is presented every year in the format of Warden's Retreats, and should be taken full advantage of by all master masons who may aspire to office, and especially by current lodge officers. Continuation of the master mason into the York Rite of Freemasonry provides yet further leadership training and preparation to become effective leaders in the fraternity.

In summary, although we look to the Worshipful Master for leadership, we often find him with limited ability and we cannot demand more from him; that lodge leadership is a management function and should not be confused with the philosophical duties of the Master; that when leadership qualities are absent, the welfare of the lodge is in danger; that the technique of leadership and the pattern of lodge management can be defined and transmitted as a counseling or training process; that when the need for guidance is evident, those qualified to provide it should do so as a Masonic duty; and, finally, that any action taken should be expressly for the assistance of the Worshipful Master and at his will and pleasure even when we use a 2 x 4 to get his attention, tenderly, of course.



Lubbock 1392 in Action



Lubbock Lodge receiving District Deputy Grand Master Jerry Hendrick

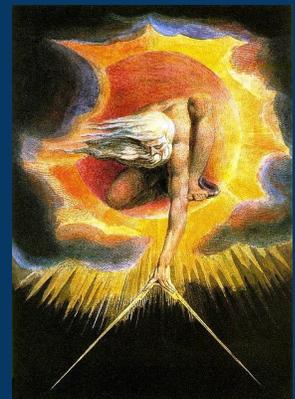
This year Lubbock Masonic Lodge paid tribute to the teachers and staff at Smylie Wilson Middle School and Coronado High School with apples and a brief history of Masonic involvement in Texas Public Education. Check the website for more pics.



WM James Urban with Coronado High School secretary Charlotte Godlove



John Rosser manning our booth at the recent gun show



# LUBBOCK MASONIC LODGE #1392

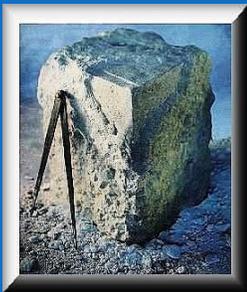
MASONIC DIST 93-A

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](http://lubbockmasoniclodge.org)



**Brotherly Love, Relief & Truth**

## This Month's Sickness & Distress



**George Buchanan**



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

James Owens 4/1  
Glenn Fant 4/17

## The Quarry: Our Esoteric Work By Bro. Bob Clemmons

### The Rite of Discalceation

While reading through the commentaries in Jewel P. Lightfoot's Manual of the Lodge, an article caught my attention. It was called the Rite of Discalceation. What in the world could this be? After looking up the definition of discalceation, it came to light. This word is derived from the Latin word discalcare which means to pluck off one's shoes.

This rite has been used throughout the centuries and quoted by many Bible scrip-



tures and philosophers.

In quoting from Exodus III:5 states that the Angel of the Lord appeared to Moses and exclaimed "Draw not nigh hither; put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place where on thou standest is holy ground."

The philosopher, Pythagoras who was supposed to have been initiated as a Master Mason and into several orders of

Priesthood, taught his disciples to offer sacrifices and worship with thy shoes off.

The Rite of Discalceation that is one of the most familiar to Masons comes from the Book of Ruth IV:7-8. "Now this was the manner in former time in Israel, concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things, a man plucked off his shoe and gave it to his neighbor; and this was a testimony in Israel."

To summarize the Rite of Discalceation is, therefore, a symbol of reverence. Symbolically, it signifies that the spot which is about to be approached in this humble and reverential manner is to be consecrated to some holy purpose.

*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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