

**THIS MONTH'S
FEATURE STORIES**

**Crossroads
Lets Go Out
And Sell
Freemasonry**



Inside this issue:

From the East	2
From the West	2
From the South	2
From the Secretary	3
From the Senior Deacon	3
From the Senior Steward	3
Lubbock Lodge 1392 in Action	6-7
The Quarry: Our Degree Work	8

Volume 4 Issue 6

June 1, 2015

Crossroads

Crossroads (This article is so relevant to our election season, we are running it again this year)

With elections upon us this month and as we are now about to embark on a new Masonic Year, let's look again at some of the challenges ahead.

For the last one-half century, membership in Freemasonry has continued to decline. Candidly, that may be phrasing it too gently since our fraternity has lost approximately 66 percent of its members during that period!

Some brothers sincerely think that reduction is good calling it a "cleansing" that would result in a fraternity of "higher quality men". A

brother with an opposite opinion could ask, "Who are we to judge the level of the quality of a man if he is found to be morally and ethically sound?"

No matter what your opinion is on that matter, it is safe to say that solutions to this and other issues before us require a need for change that makes the fraternity more contemporary to 2013 than to a past era, say 1913, 1953, 1973 or even 1993. But, to make this level of needed change requires courage, most especially from the East. It also takes patience, tolerance, flexibility and a new way of thinking from the general membership.

SOLUTIONS

How We Regard Each Oth-

er

Last year, we had a new charge at the closing of each meeting. "You are now about to quit this sacred retreat of friendship and virtue, to mix again with the world. Amidst its concerns and employments, forget not the duties you have heard so frequently inculcated and forcibly recommended in this Lodge. Be diligent, prudent, temperate, discreet. Remember that around this altar you have promised to befriend and relieve every brother who shall need your assistance. Remember that you have promised to remind him, in the most tender manner, of his failings, and aid his reformation. Vindicate his character when wrongfully traduced. Suggest in his behalf

Programs & Announcements



With elections for officers this month we hope that you will make the stated meeting on June 12. This is your opportunity to let your voice

be heard regarding leadership for the upcoming year.

We have a fundraiser this month on Saturday June 20! Another FAMOUS Fish Fry! John Rosser, Bob Lindley and Steven Polley promise

another outstanding meal that will be better than the last one.

Depending on the outcome of the elections, installation could be on the afternoon of Saturday June 27, so mark your calendars now!



From the East — The New Masonic Year

Worshipful Master Glenn Fant

Greetings brothers, June is already here, and we have election of officers at our next stated meeting, June 12th. I want to thank all of the Lubbock Lodge Officers and members who supported me this year. The Lodge has grown with new membership, & attendance. We have worked together to make needed revisions in our by-laws, and raised scholarship money for deserving high

school graduates. We provided many children with new dental kits. The coming year will bring many more opportunities to continue learning and growing in masonic knowledge, understanding, and community service. I want to encourage everybody to continue working together to make our lodge a success. Get involved with the leadership of the lodge, and

contribute whatever you can. Learn and teach the work to others. Spread the cement of brotherly love and you will build and benefit from your fraternity. Masonic education builds masonic retention and satisfaction of a job well done. We must create a more warm, welcoming and caring environment in this lodge if you want to make a real difference in the future.

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

Washington



A Message From the West - Re, Re, Re

Senior Warden Kevin Rush

What is Re, Re, Re? It is your challenge for the upcoming year!

It is time for you to REFLECT. It's the perfect time of year to look back and reflect on what you have done or not done in the craft this past year and to learn from it. Remember that self-reflection is an essential piece to growing

and developing as a mason.

It is time for you RENEW. If you lack enthusiasm for the fraternity, it may be time to take steps to renew yourself. Look back on why you became a mason in the first place.

It is time for you to RE-COMMIT. Once you have

rediscovered why you became a mason, it is then about making a declaration that you've had enough of how things are and you're committed to change the things you can so that you and the things around you are better.

I hope to see you and work with you in the upcoming year ahead!



From the South — Questions often asked

Junior Warden John Rosser

Questions often asked about Masonry: from www.masonic-network.com

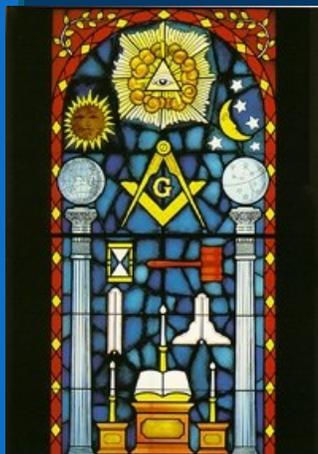
"Then why hasn't anyone ever asked me to join? People have asked me to join Rotary, Lions, and other clubs".

It's no reflection on you. There is a rule in Masonry that a person must seek admission himself. We aren't allowed to go out and twist

arms.

There is a reason for that. A person needs to come to Masonry because he really wants to, not because he's been talked into it. Masonry is a real commitment. If you are a Mason and you need help, every Mason in the world must help you, if he possibly can. By the same token, you must be willing to help any Mason who needs it. And then there is another reason -

a person has to be ready for Masonry. Masonry isn't a civic club, although we do a lot of civic projects. It is a Fraternity. We're dedicated to the growth and development of our members as human beings. A person has to be ready to grow, has to suspect that there is something more to life, and wants to know what that is, before he is really ready to become a Mason.



"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

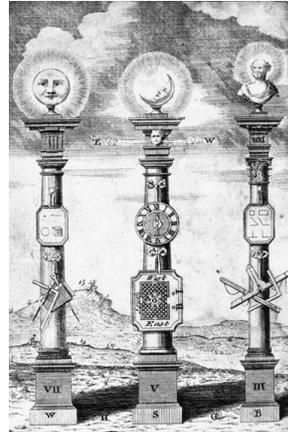


From the Secretary Jerry Hendrick

Taking Care of Business—Cabletow - "What is the length of my cabletow?"

In the earlier day if American Freemasonry a cabletow was considered to be as long as an hour's journey - roughly 3 miles. - The Baltimore Masonic Convention of 1843 declared that the length of a cabletow is "the scope of a Brother's reasonable ability"; and this is the generally accepted meaning today.

In other words, a Mason is bound to his Brethren by a tie which is as long and as strong as his conscience dictates. He alone must determine for himself what constitutes his "reasonable ability."



From the Senior Deacon Charles Straub

Visiting Brothers & Prospects

On the second Friday, May 8, 2015, we had 14 members in house for our stated meeting. We also received two guests; Bob Clemmons of Yellowhouse #841 and Stephen Saunders of Port Neches #1163.

Ya'll come to our stated meeting on the second Friday of June. We will have election of officers for the ensuing year and it is my understanding that there will be a petition to be read.

Hope to see you there!



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

Mark Twain



From the Senior Steward Luis Ramos

Food, Flowers & Frolic

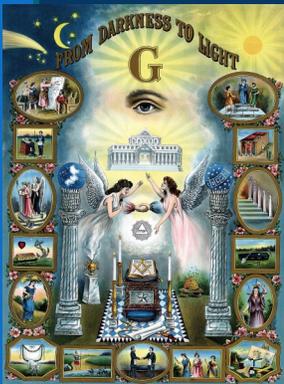
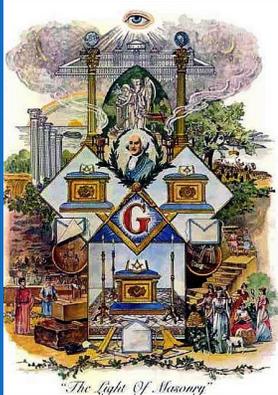
Well we are in the month of June. Soon the new officers will be elected. I hope that we will all support and guide our new leaders.

Don't forget that on the 20th of June at 5pm at the lodge we will be having a fish fry to help benefit the lodge and scholarship fund.



Upcoming Menu for June:

- Salisbury steak
- Mashed potatoes
- Mix veggies
- Dinner rolls
- Cookies

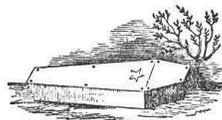


the most candid and favorable circumstances. Is he justly reprehended? Let the world observe how Masons love one another. "How many take this charge to heart? Did any of your obligations state I will not sit in a Lodge with a Brother I don't agree with? Level, Plumb and Square; think about those implements. Now, is refusing to sit in lodge with someone with whom you disagree Masonic?"



Membership Process

Many good men never join our fraternity because they never know that they had to ask. Let's give ourselves as many opportunities as possible for someone to ask. Let's find ways to increase our visibility in the community. Ask yourself, "How many people in Lubbock know we even exist?" Perhaps we also need to be more aggressive in dispelling the misinformation about our fraternity. We need to have open houses in our meeting places, visibly help in community projects, do more random acts of kindness, and generally let our neighbors know who we really are, what we stand for and the good that we do. Let us begin to talk about the many charities that our fraternity supports, publicly share our history, and create do-able plans that would make us a real element of our community. If



we do so, this will end up being our best membership development tool.



Improve Meetings

Gaining membership is one problem. Another is getting brothers to attend lodge meetings and be present for the conferring of degrees. Where can we find answers to attendance problems? First, try asking inactive Masons. There must be a reason why these men are not attending. We should not be afraid to find out what our shortfalls are. Most decisions made in our lodges are made by those few who actively attend and the end result is that we too frequently continue with an attendance-squashing status quo. The status quo is not good enough for future success.

Equally important is to ask what active members think of our meetings. Some brothers want to attend their lodge meetings for the fellowship and to learn something. They want the meetings to be more social, shorter, less ritualistic, and provide an opportunity to listen to an interesting speaker. Some brothers may not care to hear the minutes read in their entirety, but rather enjoy dinner before the meeting and have the opportunity for time for fellowship. Whatever the issue is, let's find a way to be better.

While we don't require a coat

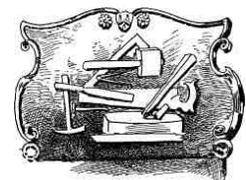
and tie, should we have more respect for our institution and not permit jeans, shorts and t-shirts?

Floor Practice

Candidates deserve the most beautiful and impressive ritualistic ceremonies we can confer. That means we must work at it. We should not let our floor practice time go to waste. Our esoteric leaders, those who hold instructor certificates, should help establish goals and help the membership attain them. Our appendant bodies go to great lengths in putting on degrees with elaborate costumes and props. Perhaps this is something we should consider as well.

Separating the Fraternal and the Financial

While almost every Mason enjoys and supports the fraternal bonds of brotherly love and the beautiful ritual or our degrees, few have been provided the matter-of-fact information that would also allow them to understand and address the weakening financial side of our lodge. We were provided this information last year and we are to be congratulated for having done a better job this year financially. In spite of the cost of living expenses, OUR dues and fees have stayed the same for several years. However, we must continue to be fiscally sound.



Conclusion

The true secret of Freemasonry is not in the ritual, but rather it is the special bond that exists between Masonic brothers. This special bond cannot be defined nor can it be described. It just exists, and that is our true and real secret that no person can take away.

To do nothing new to preserve our fraternity and expect better will not begin to address the challenges before us. The world changes around us every day whether we like it or not. We must examine the need for our own change if we expect to be a significant fraternity in the future. We need to ask ourselves and our brothers "are we doing all the right things today to assure there is a future Masonic Fraternity, including one for those Masons yet to be born?" The time for positive change is now and no change will take place unless there is . . . Courage to do so!

Adapted from COURAGE IN THE EAST (THE TIME FOR CHANGE)

By: Thomas K. Sturgeon



Lets Go Out And Sell Freemasonry!

Now if that title does not get your attention, I do not know what will. Freemasonry should be sold with all the expertise and all of the ability, which we can bring to the sales effort.

If you keep reading after those first two sentences, you are the man I am looking for. I am not advocating that we should go out and sell Freemasonry to the general public. I certainly am not proposing that we continue the insipid newspaper advertisements which I see far too many of in my own state. I dont think that many of the brochures and the television spots supposedly informing the public of what Freemasonry really is help us.

Not at all. What I suggest is that we sell Freemasonry to the people who really need to be sold on Freemasonry. Lets sell Freemasonry to those who have been Freemasons for some thirty or forty years and have never bothered to learn about the Fraternity. In Missouri, we used to call the button Masons. A friend of mine, who shall be nameless, as it might hurt him professionally, states: How do you know yourself to be a Mason? and he answers with: By all the pot-metal pins which I wear on my lapel.

We don't really need advertising. We don't need so much press-agentry. What we need to do is sell Freemasonry to our own members. With some 3,000,000 salesmen out working for the fraternity, we could be a working organization once again. We need to sell Masonry to our members and we need to educate those members.

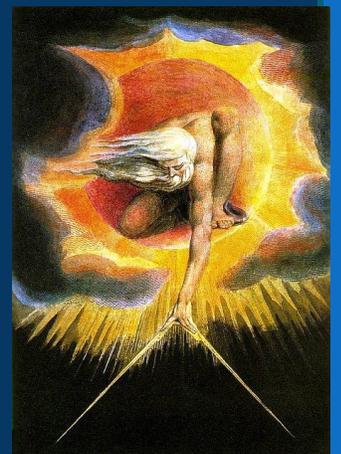
Before someone comes up with the brilliant statement that his

particular lodge has the entire membership already sold on Freemasonry, let me ask a few questions. How many lodges, in the United States, can state that ten percent of their membership attend on a regular basis? How many members does your lodge have that havent attended since they took the third degree? How dedicated can some person be who joins an order and never takes the slightest interest in the working of that order?

Am I proposing that all members become active in the ritualistic work of the Lodge? No, I am not. I am proposing that each and every member know enough about the fraternity that he can intelligently discuss Freemasonry with anyone who might ask him about the order. I would think that we should not only educate and inspire our membership about Freemasonry but that we should continue to communicate with our entire membership and see that this membership is kept informed about current developments within the fraternity.

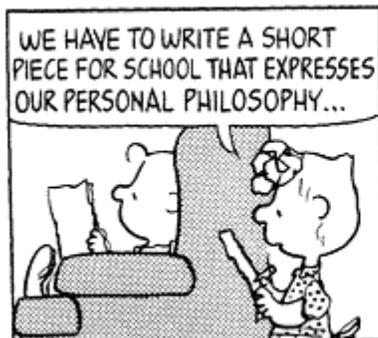
A man who knows nothing about the orders to which he belongs is a man who, through ignorance and apathy, casts a negative rather than a positive vote toward that survival of Freemasonry.

<http://masoniceducation.com/article/?article=lets-go-out-and-sell-freemasonry>



June 2015 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2 Wolfforth stated Meeting Lubbock Floor Practice	3	4	5 Yellowhouse Stated Meeting Slaton Lodge 100 Anniversary	6
7	8 York Rite— Commandery Emma Lodge Stated Meeting	9 Lubbock Floor Practice	10	11 Abernathy Stated Meeting York Rite— Chapter Stated Meeting	12 LUBBOCK STATED MEETING	13
14	15 Crosbyton Lodge Stated Meeting	16 Mackenzie Stated Meeting Lubbock Floor Practice	17	18 Slaton Lodge Stated Meeting	19	20 Daylight Stated Meeting
21	22	23 Lubbock Floor Practice	24 Scottish Rite Stated Meeting	25	26	27
28	29	30 Lubbock Floor Practice	1	2	3 Yellowhouse Stated Meeting	4 4th of July Weekend 



Lubbock 1392 in Action

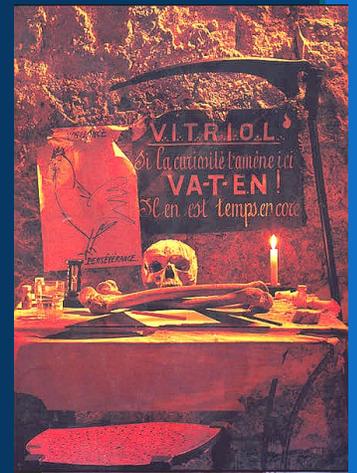
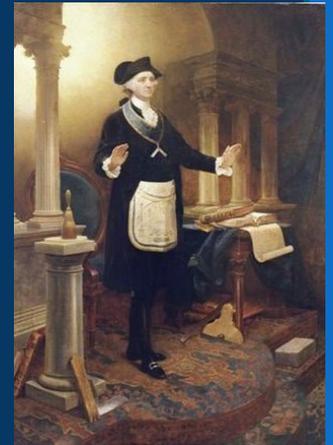


How about all of that rain!?



All across the country, many lodges just like ours are preparing for new officers

YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE



"Be strong in body, clean in mind and lofty in ideals."

James Naismith

LUBBOCK MASONIC LODGE #1392

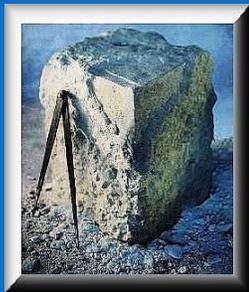
MASONIC DIST 93-A

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



**Dewain Collins
Roland Martin**



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

Winfred E. Medlock	6/9	Peter Mitchell	6/27
Randy Schoor	6/16		
George VanSlyke	6/12		
George Buchanan	6/24		

The Quarry: Our Esoteric Work By Bro. Coke Etgen

The Gavels of Freemasonry

Freemasons have two Gavels. One is the Master's Gavel, symbol of authority that must be wisely used to preserve harmony within the Lodge. The other is the Working Tool of the Entered Apprentice.

Our other Gavel, that of the Entered Apprentice, is for the workmen to employ in their labors. It approaches in importance the Gavel of authority. In one sense it is as important as the other Gavel, for



no Master may open a Lodge unless the workmen are present. He cannot preside and supervise the work unless the workmen are at their labors. He cannot be successful in his conduct of the Lodge and his supervision of the work unless the workmen are cooperative. Even as autocratic as his power may be he can not drive them to their labors. In either case the Gavel must always be wisely used and in the best interest of the lodge.

Source: 3-5-7 Minute Talks on Freemasonry by Elbert Bede.



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

E-Mail: info@lubbockmasoniclodge.org