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THE BEACON

The monthly Trestleboard of Union Lodge #3, A.F. & A.M

November 2019

Table of Contents

[Tidings From the East](#)

[Tidings From the West](#)

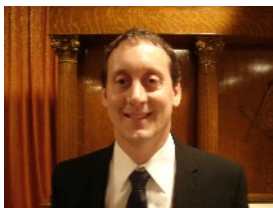
[Tidings From the South](#)

[From the Secretary](#)

[From a Mason Abroad](#)

[From WB J.J. Edwards](#)

[Lodge Calendar](#)



Tidings From the East

Welcome to November, Craftsmen!

I hope that you and yours are doing well. At our November meeting, we will be electing Lodge Officers for the upcoming Masonic year. I hope that you will all be present to vote and hopefully volunteer.

On Friday, October 4th, MWB Hunt, WB JP, Brother Nick Godfrey, and I had the honor of presenting a 50 year membership pin to Brother Waldo Farnham. We had a really nice morning getting to know Brother Waldo and his wife.

Fraternally,
WB Matt Gerbrandt
WM, Union Lodge #3



Tidings from the South

Likewise, Brother Junior Warden is buried in work this month. Hope to hear from him next month.



From the Secretary's Desk

["Do the Right Thing. It will gratify some people and astonish the rest."](#)

– Bro. Samuel Langhorne Clemens

Events/Announcements

- November: Voting for 2020 Lodge Officers
- December: Installation of 2020 Lodge Officers, date TBD



Tidings from the West

It is a busy time of year. Brother Senior Warden has asked to be excused this month.

Despite having planted one on the Blarney Stone, I lack the gift for gab that many other writers so strongly display. So when I sit down to write a column, I find myself remembering a comment made by Terry Pratchett when speaking about his being knighted by the Queen for "Services to Literature." He said "I suspect the 'Services to Literature' consisted of refraining from trying to write any."

This month I have no grand thoughts to share, no pithy observations to make regarding Masonry, or my (or anybody else's) views about it. But it has, nonetheless, been a fairly busy time for our Lodge. The holiday season is almost upon us and our families. So perhaps I can simply touch on some of the things that have happened recently, and a few that are coming up.

This last month we made our second charitable donation of the year, this time to Dayton Elementary School. We have made it a habit of providing something for the kids who lack good coats or shoes (or any other need that their teachers might notice) and that help has been well received. A big shout-out to WB Tom Gardner for the presentation of the check, and his tireless efforts in serving as a go-between for the Lodge and Dayton Elementary.



The Trustees were approached some time ago by Brother Dustin Reischman from Whitman Lodge, up in the Grand Jurisdiction of Washington. He and his fiancé were planning on getting married in McMinnville, but the venue that they had secured for the wedding rehearsal had cancelled on them. So this last month we also hosted that rehearsal by providing facilities for our Brother's wedding party. The event was well-attended. And as might be expected they were marvelous about cleaning up and leaving the facilities in great shape. The wedding party included no less than five Masons, all but one of whom had met at the Acacia Masonic fraternity at WSU. So the evening included a little ritual practice covering the closing Charge...good times all around.

Our last Stated Communication included a surprise visit by our favorite Travelling Mason, WB Frank Blair. Although we did not get nearly enough time to catch up on his rather busy and exciting life, everyone was both amazed and happy to see him. He had to return to McMinnville to deal with renewing his driver's license, and chose to surprise the Lodge. Mischief Managed. It was great to see him, and marvelous to hear that he has joined the Line in his Lodge in Bristol. And I must admit it was quite striking to see him in English Regalia.

On a closing note, the Masonic year begins to wind down and that means lots of work for the ol' Secretary. A number of end-of-year reports have to be made, as well as a fair bit of preparation for the

reports due at the beginning of next year. My thanks in advance to anyone that I need to harass in the effort of getting all this done. Your help is truly appreciated. The announcement of elections and dues notices have gone out, and so far we have had a great response. My thanks to the many Brothers who have already paid. And did I mention elections? Indeed, we will be holding elections at the next Stated Communication on 5th November. So please plan on being there—your vote and your willingness to serve are very important for our Lodge.

As I write this, it is almost Halloween and the rest of the Holiday Season begins to loom. It's a busy time, both inside and outside the Lodge. May the season bring blessings and happiness to you & your family.

-Walk in light my Brothers.-



The Adventures of a Country Master Mason Abroad

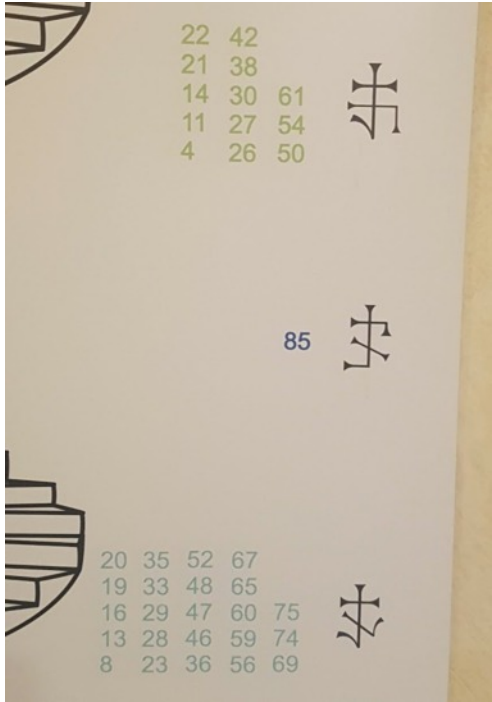
Fraternal greetings,

As you may have noticed, I didn't submit a column last month – things got a little busy around here. I was on the continent for a week, partly to explore France and Belgium. The main part of the trip, however, was to attend the unveiling of a monument to American soldiers killed in the Parroy Forest and participate in commemoration ceremonies for the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Lunéville and Kriegsheim. A friend of my wife's family was in a unit that participated in each of those and was killed at Kriegsheim in 1944. Kathleen was representing his family, who were unable to attend, at the ceremonies.

This wasn't exactly Masonic work, but while in Strasbourg (near Kriegsheim) we stopped into a coffee shop which is situated in a sixteenth century building about fifty yards from the Cathedral. The spiral staircase is original and each of the stairs was carved by a Mason who left his mark. Nine individual masons have been identified and there is a placard on the ground floor that numbers each stair and both clusters and color-codes them based on the mason's mark. The first picture is part of the staircase with some of the marks visible. There are 89 stairs; the placard is visible below.



The second image is a close-up of part of the key. Each number is an index to a stair on the main diagram. The top mark is associated with 13 stairs; the bottom mark is associated with 23 stairs. It's not clear why the mason who carved stair 85 was responsible for only one. As is usual, names aren't known and can't be associated with the individual marks.



After returning from France, I was home for a few days and then showed up in the States for a bit. I had to renew my drivers license and managed a surprise visit to Lodge since the trip overlapped. It was great getting to sit in my Mother Lodge with the McMinnville Brethren again. Sadly I didn't get to see everyone and I had to leave shortly after. Hopefully some folks will be able to come over when I take the Chair as Master of Cabot Lodge in Bristol in 2021.

Masonically, the rest of the year is busy – I'm currently SD in Cabot Lodge. Next year I'm jumping to SW so I'm learning all that work, which is somewhat more substantial than Oregon ritual. I was installed as 2nd Assistant Sojourner in Royal Arch Chapter last week – a little floor work and one line. I'm not committing to anything progressive outside of Craft Lodge and I'm trying to limit my joining activities. With reading and writing, other obligations of the Ph.D. program, and the occasional visit somewhere interesting ... that's plenty. We're combining a couple of those things in December when we travel to the Czech Republic to attend the wedding of good friends, one of whom is finishing up his Ph.D. this year related to early Masonic aprons (early 18th c.) and the visual symbolism represented by them. He's also a Brother in the Province of Bristol at Brunel Lodge. In November, I'll be attending an Emulation Ritual demonstration here in Bristol. Emulation is the most common ritual form used in the English Constitution, but it's not the only one. Bristol ritual is unique and there are four or five other variations throughout the country.

Elections are coming up this month (November) there in McMinnville. Good luck to all the Brethren standing for positions. Don't forget to come to Lodge and ballot if you can.

Next month, we'll explore other types of marks that are confused with or wrongly associated with Mason's marks.

Fraternally,
-Frank



Some Thoughts from WB Johnny Edwards

REMEMBRANCE: MY SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 EXPERIENCE

BY R.W. MOISES I. GOMEZ

JOIN US FOR AN INTIMATE RECOUNT OF THE PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF A 9/11 FIRST RESPONDER

R.W. MOISES I. GOMEZ has worked for The Port Authority of NY & NJ for 31 years as a member of the Emergency Services Unit stationed at the George Washington Bridge. He responded to both terrorist attacks on our nation's soil in 1993 and 2001. He remains on active duty.

Gomez is a member and Past Master (2012) of Atlas Pythagoras Lodge No. 10 located in

Westfield, New Jersey. He was appointed Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in 2015, 2018, 2019, and has presided over eight different Masonic bodies – holding membership in more than 40 Masonic organizations, research groups and societies, and holds several honorary memberships throughout the Craft.

Included in the list of groups to which he belongs are the SRICE, AASR, NMJ & SMJ, Allied Masonic Degrees of USA, Knight Mason, Acou. Operatives, HRAKTI, York Rite, Red Cross of Constantine, Athelstan, and National Sojourners Heroes of 76, and the Great Priory of America Rectified Scottish Rite (Chevaliers Bienfaisants de la Cité Sainte and Operatives). He is currently the Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey and is the Chairman for the Allied Masonic Degrees Annual Masonic Week in Virginia.

DATE & TIME

Friday, November 15, 2019 at 7:00 pm

LOCATION

Al-Kader Shrine Center
25100 SW Parkway Ave.
Wilsonville, OR 97070

ADMISSION

The presentation is free of charge and is open to the public



R.W. Moises I. Gomez

November-December 2019 Calendar

- Nov 2 - Tuality # 7 - Stated - 10:00 am
- Nov 5 - Union # 3 - Stated - 7:30 pm
Election of 2020 Officers
- Nov 5 - Holbrook # 30 - Stated - 7:30 pm
- Nov 6 - Rickreall # 110 - Stated - 7:30 pm
- Nov 13 - Sheridan-Dayton - Stated - 7:00 pm
- Nov 14 - Newberg # 104 - Stated 7:30 pm
- Nov 22 - Trustees Meeting 12:30 pm
- Dec 3 - Union Lodge Stated 7:30 pm

REMEMBER THE DATE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2019 - 7:30 PM

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE 2020
LODGE YEAR




The Brothers of Union Lodge are encouraged to submit articles for the The Beacon. Submissions should be in Microsoft Word documents. Please email your articles to Tom Gardner at gardner_t@onlinenw.com by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the following month's edition of The Beacon.

Be sure to keep up with Lodge activities between editions of the Beacon by checking our website <http://www.unionlodge3.com>

OR



Visit Union Lodge # 3 on Facebook and be sure to Like us.



Esoterika Lodge No. 227

ANCIENT FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF OREGON

DECEMBER QUARTERLY LECTURE:

DECODING ALPHONSE MUCHA'S SYMBOLIST MASTERPIECE: "LE PATER"

BY ADAM BAYER

AT THE HEIGHT OF HIS CAREER as Paris' most celebrated Art Nouveau illustrator, Alphonse Mucha was driven to create what, for the remainder of his life, considered his masterpiece, *Le Pater*. Such a devout Catholic and deeply engaged Freemason, Mucha's objective was to fuse the Lord's Prayer as a rich narrative of non-didactic and esoteric symbolism, drawing from Buddhist, Vedic, Classic and Neoplatonic sources. This lecture aims to deconstruct much of the intent and meaning behind the artist's endeavor.


Adam Bayer is a Portland-based graphic designer and illustrator with a passion for the early-to mid-20th century culture and history, especially embracing fashion, antiquity and phenomena of the sea. In addition to being a long-standing member of Esoterika Lodge No. 227, Adam is also a Past Master of both Portland Lodge No. 85 and the Research Lodge of Oregon No. 198. He is currently the Junior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Oregon.

DATE
Saturday, Dec. 21st, 2019

LOCATION
Esoterika Lodge Oregon
12635 SE Main Street
Milwaukie, Oregon

SCHEDULE
Door Opens 5:00 pm
Lecture: 5:30-6:30pm (Public)
Esoterika Social Meeting: 7:00 pm (Masons only)

ADMISSION
\$10 (suggested donation)
Refreshment provided



WB Adam Bayer