



Wisdom Lodge No. 202

# BEE HIVE



A CONSOLIDATION OF HENRY KNOX, PENTALPHA, SOUTH PARK, WM. D. STEPHENS AND WEST LAKE LODGES

## Master's Message - September 2008

We honor BROOKS VINSON at this month's Stated Meeting with his 50 Year Pin. BROOKS and his wife ALANE are two of the nicest people I have ever known.

His auto-biography is in this Month's Beehive.

My congratulations to them on all their accomplishments.

Our Thanks to Worshipful Inspector JAN EDDY for all his excellent work and support to our Lodge and Lodge Officers.



Worshipful LEVON KESHISIAN is chairman of our Constitutional Observance on September 10,2008.

We are Honored and pleased to have the Mayor of Pasadena recognizing the Police,Firemen and Sheriffs that evening at our Lodge.

This month is the Grand Lodge Annual Communication in San Francisco on September 26, 27 and 28.

It is especially important to me as another great Wisdom Lodge 202 avent and I am Honored to be your Master this year.

Bring you spouse and a prospective Master Mason as guests of the Lodge at the Stated Meetig on September 3, 2008.

*See you there !*

*Fraternally, Sal Sciortino*

**Wisdom Lodge No. 202 F. & A.M.**

M.D. ROSENBERGER..... SECRETARY  
801 N. Brand Blvd., Suite 1180, Glendale, CA 91203

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION  
OBSERVANCE CELEBRATION**

**AT  
WISDOM LODGE**

**GUEST OF HONOR  
PASADENA MAYOR BILL BOGAARD**

**WE WILL HONOR POLICE/FIRE/SHERIFF  
FOR SERVICE BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY!**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2008**

*See the centerfold of this Beehive for additional information!*

**In Remembrance**

**SAM LEVINE, P.M.**

**Pentalpha Lodge No. 202  
Called from Labor June 18, 2008**

**JOHN E. CHARLES**

**West Lake Lodge No. 392  
Called from Labor July 9, 2008**

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**MEETINGS HELD AT:**

**Pasadena Masonic Temple (Meeting Nights only)**  
200 South Euclid, Pasadena, CA 91101 Telephone: (626) 578-9776  
*(For mailing purposes use Secretary's business address)*



**2008 OFFICERS**

- SAL SCIORTINO, P.M. (Sandy)** ..... **MASTER**  
Res. 6740 Agnes Ave., N. Hollywood, CA 91606 ..... 818.982.2392
- PAUL ROSENBERGER (Sylvia)** ..... **SENIOR WARDEN**  
Res. 2046 Canyon Close Rd., Pasadena, CA 91107.....(626) 791-6198  
Bus. 135 W. Green Street, Suite 100, Pasadena, CA 91105..... 626) 356-8080
- MARK BERASLEY (BETH)** ..... **JUNIOR WARDEN**  
.....markberaslev@yahoo.com
- RON HART**..... **TREASURER**  
809 Eucalyptus Dr., El Segundo 90245.....(310) 640.0222
- M. DEAN ROSENBERGER, P.M. (Jean)**..... **SECRETARY**  
Res. 130 Sequoia Drive, Pasadena, CA 91105 ..... (323) 254.8529  
Bus. 801 N. Brand Blvd., Suite 1180, Glendale, 91203 .....(818) 334-8623 Fax (818) 241-7353
- ANGEL SAMSON** ..... **CHAPLAIN**  
Res. 18551 Dearborn Street, No. 17, Northridge, CA 91324 .....(818) 731-0336
- NATHANIEL STILES** ..... **SENIOR DEACON**  
17830 Lassen Street, No. 119, Northridge, CA 91325 .....(818) 720-7333
- PETE SANDOVAL (Leona Marie)**..... **JUNIOR DEACON**  
1021 West Ave. P-14, Palmdale, CA 93551 .....(661) 857-1384
- GUSTAVO ALDANA** ..... **MARSHAL**  
2100 W. Cambridge St, Los Angeles, CA 91016.....(323) 253.8352
- JOSE GONZALEZ**..... **SENIOR STEWARD**  
Res. 3585 Division Street, Los Angeles, CA 90065.....(562) 716-1221  
.....email: igonzo@aol.com
- HECTOR GARCIA** ..... **JUNIOR STEWARD**  
15190 Badillo Street, #C, Baldwin Park, CA 91706 .....(626) 338-1410  
Bus. ....(310) 444-8631
- MARCOS MARTINEZ** ..... **TILER**  
Res. 1408 Rama Dr, La Puente, CA 91746-1108 .....(626).960.4238
- M. DEAN ROSENBERGER, P.M. (Jean)** ..... **OFFICER'S COACH**  
..... (323) 254.8529
- JAN EDDY (Patti)** ..... **326TH DIST. INSPECTOR**  
Res. 6731 Rubio Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91406 .....(818) 782.4962

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

John Garcia, PM., David McHugh, PM, Edwin M. Roos, P.M.

# Trestleboard

## September, 2008

### **Wednesday September 3, 2008**

Wednesday September 3, 2008  
Stated Meeting- 6:30Pm Dinner  
BROOKS VINSON  
50 Year Pin

### **Wednesday September 10,2008**

Constitutional Observance- Dinner 6:30 PM  
Honoring Police/ Firemen/Sheriffs  
Worshipful LEVON KESHISHIAN Chairman

### **Wednesday September 17. 2008**

Qualifications  
Worshipful Inspector JAN EDDY Presiding

### **Thursday September 18, 2008**

Officers School of Instruction  
Burbank Lodge - 7:30 PM  
Worshipful Inspector JAN EDDY &  
PAUL ROSENBERGER, SW  
Grand Lodge Resolutions

### **Wednesday September 24, 2008**

Qualifications  
Worshipful Inspector JAN EDDY Presiding

### **Friday, Saturday & Sunday September 26, 27 & 28, 2008**

Grand Lodge Annual Communication - San Francisco

### **Wednesday October 1, 2008**

Stated Meeting Dinner  
6:30 PM

## *View From the West*

As part of my summer reading, I read a book by Hampton Sides entitled "Blood and Thunder: The Epic Story of Kit Carson and the Conquest of the American West." For those of you who do not know, Kit Carson was a famous fur trapper, scout and soldier whose exploits in the American West in the mid-1800s became legendary. As I flipped through the photographs in the center of the book, there was a picture from the 1850s of Kit Carson surrounded by other gentlemen. I immediately thought, "that looks like a bunch of Masons." My hunch was confirmed by the caption accompanying the photograph. Like so many other notable historic figures, Christopher "Kit" Carson was indeed a Mason.

A little internet research reveals that Brother Carson was initiated April 22, 1854, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on June 17, 1854 and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on December 26, 1854 in Montezuma Lodge #101 in the Santa Fe territory of New Mexico. He even served as Junior Warden and Senior Warden of his Lodge, though never as Master - probably due to his constant roaming duty as a U.S. Army officer during the period through the Civil War.

Although the book does not provide details of Carson's Masonic involvement, I was struck by the thought that in the desolate New Mexico Territory of the 1850s, Masonry established a foothold. *Amazingly*, wherever you find the seeds of civilization take root you also find the presence of Freemasonry - the Craft helping to establish order amidst the chaos by perpetuating its age-old values.

The American frontier closed long ago and democratic society is on a safe footing in California. Nevertheless, Freemasonry can and still does make a difference. We must continue to strive to improve ourselves, our communities and society at large.

If you peruse a list of famous Masons, I think you too will be inspired to make a difference in the lives of others. Afterall, as Masons we share the same values as our historic predecessors.

Fraternally, *Paul D. Rosenberger, Senior Warden*

## Brooks Vinson to Receive 50 Year Pin at Stated Meeting on September 3rd.

### Brooks Vinson Autobiography

I was born in London, Arkansas on July 12 1930 to Sid and Ruth Vinson. I attended the local high school and afterwards joined the U.S. Army for three years and served two years in Panama as a Military Policeman. After an honorable discharge I graduated from Wichita Business College. During my college days I worked as a deputy sheriff.

I moved to Southern California in 1956 and joined the Masons (Southern California Lodge #278 which is now in Arcadia). I was appointed to the office of Chaplain after receiving my 3rd degree. I also served as Junior and Senior Steward, Junior and Senior Deacon and acted as Marshall. I received my 32nd degree and joined the Al Malaikah Shrine in 1959. I'm active in the Pasadena Shrine Club.

I retired from the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) after 34 years. While working at the Jet Propulsion Club, I was elected President of Caltech/JPL Management Club in 1978, received NASA's service medal for helping to achieve NASA's goals.

I married Alane Hine, a native of Glendale, California in 1961. While working at JPL she was elected "Miss Guided Missile." We have one son Brent, who is a Captain in the Fire Department, near Sacramento. We have a grand-daughter, Melissa and two younger grand-children, Tyle and Jordan.

I am a Past Commander of the American Legion Post in Pasadena. I am an active member of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses (white suits) for 36 years. I am a member of the La Cañada jazz band called "The Wright Stuff." I play the string bass. Currently I volunteer my time at the Spars Height Community Center.

My grandfather was a farmer in Arkansas and was very active in the Pope County Lodge serving as Secretary for many years.

It has been a great fifty years and I thank all the brothers for their support. Thanks to Sal and the Lodge for this honor.



*Included among Brooks' guests at his 50 Year Pin celebration will be his close friend, Los Angeles County Supervisor, Brother Michael Antonovich.*

*Ramblin' with Ed Roos...*

## Cowboy in Church . . .

One Sunday morning an old cowboy entered a church just before services were to begin.. Although the old man and his clothes were spotlessly clean, he wore jeans, a denim shirt and boots that were very worn and ragged. In his hand he carried a worn out old hat and an equally worn out Bible.

The church he entered was in a very upscale and exclusive part of the city. It was the largest and most beautiful church the old cowboy had ever seen. The people of the congregation were all dressed with expensive clothes and accessories.

As the cowboy took a seat, the others moved away from him. No one greeted, spoke to, or welcomed him. They were all appalled at his appearance and did not attempt to hide it.

As the old cowboy was leaving the church, the preacher approached him and asked the cowboy to do him a favor. 'Before you come back in here again, have a talk with God and ask him what he thinks would be appropriate attire for worship.' The old cowboy assured the preacher he would.

The next Sunday, he showed back up for the services wearing the same ragged jeans, shirt, boots, and hat. Once again he was completely shunned and ignored. The preacher approached the man and said,

'I thought I asked you to speak to God before you came back to our church.'

'I did,' replied the old cowboy.

'If you spoke to God, what did he tell you the proper attire should be for worshiping in here?' asked the preacher.

'Well, sir, God told me that he didn't have a a clue what I should wear. He said He'd never been in this church.'

*"Plough deep while sluggards sleep and  
you shall have corn to sell and to keep"*

*Ben Franklin - Poor Richard's Almanac*

# Annual Communication

September 26, 27 and 28, 2008



This year we will be staying at the  
**San Francisco Hilton Hotel**  
in  
**Union Square**

Make your reservations early!  
Call Dean Rosenberger at  
**(818) 334-8623**

## *View From the South*

The summer months saw the officers work on getting ready for qualification for next year. We saw the hard work of the officers start to take form at our Stated Meeting on August 6th - a day that should be looked back at as an important day for Wisdom Lodge in the endeavor to develop the new Brothers of our Lodge.

For the first time in quite a while, and all those who have been with the Lodge for many years should contemplate the last time they remember this occurrence, the opening and closing of the Lodge was done with no Past Masters in chairs other than those chairs frequently filled by Past Masters. And almost as importantly, all of those chairs were filled - yes, there were nine chairs filled with younger Brethren. This is a tribute not only to the hard work of our up and coming line of officers, but also to the Past Masters who have dedicated their time to mentor and work with these new officers, preparing us to lead this Lodge into the future.

While the focus of the summer was on preparing the Lodge for the future, we will see a flurry of activity in September - from presenting a 50 year pin at the Stated Meeting, to Constitutional Observance the following week, to the Grand Lodge Annual Communication at the end of the month. At the same time we will be working to get as many of our officers as possible qualified with our Inspector, Worshipful Jan Eddy, prior to the Annual Communication. For after our return from the Annual Communication Wisdom Lodge will be in a new district based on a restructure within California.

The time and effort that Worshipful Eddy has put in as our District Inspector has strengthened the work of the officers and we are grateful for his dedication to the Craft.

*Fraternally*

**Mark S. Berasley**, Junior Warden



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

*A hearty Birthday wish is extended to the following brethren who celebrate their birthdays in September. We sincerely hope your celebration is joyous and we would like to share in this event. Please join us at our Stated Meeting.*

Rex C. Davis	1	Ennis McGinley	16
Ronald L. Foote	2	Archie Y. Cooper	17
Cordell F. Harges	3	David Cabero	17
Ryan Y. Kwon	3	Levon H. Keshishian	17
William G. Woodman, Jr.	4	James E. Bass	18
Clive E. Craig	4	James A. Kline	20
John B. McCormick	6	Mark Berasley	22
Majid Mossanen	7	Michael A. Tosti	25
Humberto Santamaria	7	Tony Contreras, Jr.	26
James W. Metcalf	8	George D. White	26
George Kesablak	12	Shelden L. Sundgren	26
Armen Kasian	13	William T. Savage, Jr.	27
Apo Maassarjian	14	Garabed Babian	27
Jacob Gadjian	14	Merlin T. Murphy	28
Craig Jackson	14		
Kenneth A. Mounce	15		
Robert Ortega	15		

## 3rd Degree Anniversaries In September

Ronald L. Hart	6	1967	Stephen G. Sollock	22	1982
Edward B. Mcleod, Jr.	10	1963	David B. Clem, Jr.	23	1987
Robert B. Malouf	10	1975	Lee Beatley	24	1970
Howard W. McCargar	12	1950	Clarence U. Welte	24	1964
Jose Gonzalez	12	2007	Clancy A. Imislund	24	1975
Edward Beirnes	16	1959	Fredrick A. Schaefer	24	1962
Edward D. Benes	17	1980	Rex C. Davis	27	1991
John Houston	17	1959	F. Thomas Meehan	27	1973
Eugene R. Lilly	18	1957	Edvin E. Minassian	27	1989
Edwin D. Goakes	18	1946	Howard G. Schuler	27	1966
F. Fravell Johnson	19	1968	Naim Perry	28	1971
John M. Asbell, Jr.	20	1950	Steve Castelar	28	2005
Walker S. Kisselburgh	21	1948	Archie Y. Cooper	30	1969
Gordon P. Williams	21	2005	James O. Narey	30	1965
David F. Carroll	22	1948			
Charles W. Leinbach, Jr.	22	1954			
Walter R. McCormick, Jr.	22	1966			

Reserve this Date  
**Saturday, November 8, 2008**

**6:00 pm**



**Wisdom Lodge # 202**  
**Master's Annual Dinner Dance**  
*At the beautiful*

**Hilton Hotel - Universal City**

**Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres**  
**3-course Dinner**  
**Dancing till Midnight**

**\$70 per couple**

## Inside the Masons

The fraternal order has long been the target of conspiracy theories and hoaxes. *Here's the real story* - **By Jay Tolson**

The 1820s looked as though they would be the best of times for the special relationship between the fraternal order of Freemasonry and the young American nation. It wasn't just because so many prominent members of the founding generation--George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and indeed 13 of the 39 signers of the Constitution--had been members. It was also because the rapidly growing republic and the fraternal society still held so many ideals in common. American republican values looked like Masonic values writ large: honorable civic-mindedness, a high regard for learning and progress, and what might be called a broad and tolerant religiosity. Indeed, says Steven Bullock, a historian at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and a scholar of the Masonic fraternity in America, Freemasons "helped to give the new nation a symbolic core."

Not for nothing were the compass, square, and other emblems associated with Freemasonry emblazoned everywhere, even on jewelry, furniture, and table settings belonging to Masons and many non-Masons as well. Nor was it insignificant that a goodly number of Americans thought--erroneously but justifiably--that the Great Seal of the United States itself contained Masonic symbols. It was both a tribute and a liability to the brotherhood that people saw the influence of Freemasonry even where it didn't exist.

Since the Revolution, Freemasons had become the semiofficial celebrants of American civic culture. Wearing their distinctive aprons and wielding the trowels of their craft--the original Masons were in fact stonemasons--they routinely laid the cornerstones of important government buildings and churches and participated prominently in parades and other public ceremonies. When the aging Lafayette made his return tour of the United States in 1824-25, members of the "craft" (as Masonry is called) conspicuously greeted their fellow Mason, often inviting him to stay at the local lodge. That tour further boosted Masonic membership, which had grown from 16,000 in 1800 to about 80,000 in 1822, or roughly 5 percent of America's eligible male population.

How, then, did what looked like the best of times for Freemasonry so quickly become the worst of times? Part of the answer can be found in the public's divided reaction to Lafayette's tour, suggests historian Mark Tabbert, curator of Masonic and fraternal collections at the National Heritage Museum in Lexington, Mass., in his new book, *American Freemasons: Three Centuries of Building Communities*. To many citizens, those conspicuous displays of fraternal affection for a foreign nobleman smacked of something both elitist and conspiratorial. Quite simply, Tabbert writes, they "heightened suspicion of the craft as an international order with secrets and a radical revolutionary past."

The complete article can be found at the U.S. News and World Report web site - <http://www.usnews.com/usnews/culture/articles/050905/5masons.htm>

*Officer Kevin Jackson*

## "Operation Hard Rock" Case Overview

The leader of a violent street gang was responsible for a number of gang related crimes in and around the City of Pasadena. He was also part of a nation-wide drug trafficking organization that was responsible for distributing hundreds of kilograms of cocaine and laundering hundreds of thousands of dollars throughout the United States.

Under the leadership of the Pasadena Police Department a joint investigation with the United States Drug Enforcement Agency was initiated to dismantle this criminal organization in an effort that became known as, "Operation Hard Rock." Officer Jackson was assigned responsibility over this investigation, which had been ongoing for about one year, upon his transfer into the Special Investigation Unit.

The leader of this crime organization and primary suspect was a career criminal who was cunning and purposely insulated himself in his efforts to evade apprehension. Jackson used his prior experience as a narcotics task force officer assigned to the Los Angeles High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, whose primary responsibility is to investigate and prosecute large scale narcotics organizations, to attack this case using a relatively unused method.

What Officer Jackson did was prepare an affidavit for the 1st narcotics wire tap to be used in the history of the Pasadena Police Department. This effort would allow investigators to closely monitor the activities and actions of the primary suspect.

Given the complexity and geographic influence of this case, Jackson reached out and developed a partnership with the DEA who would help us by providing a number of additional resources, including critical electronic surveillance equipment that enabled "Operation Hard Rock" to be carried out.

The results of the 2 ½ year long investigation were:

[Four primary suspects were indicted and \\$38,740, 10 kilos of cocaine, 14 weapons and 6 vehicles were seized as evidence.](#)

Further, several subsequent cases are underway including evidence that was developed that aided the Rialto (California) Police Department with their investigation into two active homicide cases.

Finally, the equipment used in this case was donated to the Pasadena Police Department and remains available for use in future investigations.

# Constitutional Observance Program - Wednesday, September 10, 2008

*We salute three honorees at this year's program.*

## **Kevin Jackson**

**Pasadena Police Department**

## **Lisa Derderian**

**Pasadena Fire Department**

## **Samuel Estrada**

**Los Angeles Sheriff's Department**

### **Officer Kevin Jackson**

Officer Kevin Jackson was raised in the communities of Compton and Carson California. Kevin began his law enforcement career as a volunteer with the Los Angeles Police Department while he attended Long Beach City College.

Kevin has been an officer with the Pasadena Police Department for the past 13 years. In addition to working patrol, his past assignments include serving as a Field Training Officer, service with the Special Enforcement Section where he attended the Los Angeles County Sheriff's SWAT School, he has served as a Task Force Officer with the Southern California Drug Task Force (LA-HIDTA) and most currently as an investigator in the Pasadena Police Department's, Special Investigations Unit.

Kevin has received two awards from the United States, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and a Department Commendation from the Pasadena Police Department for his work as a narcotic investigator.

Kevin is also a member of the department's Human Relations Committee, the California Narcotics Officers Association, and the International Narcotics Enforcement Officer Association.

*Because of the sensitive nature of Officer Jackson's work his photograph will not be published.*

## **Lisa Derderian - Emergency Management Coordinator**

Lisa Derderian serves as the Emergency Management Coordinator and Fire Department Public Information Officer. She joined the department in 2003 after working for seven years as the Communications &



Marketing Director for the San Gabriel Valley of the American Red Cross. Lisa is responsible for citywide disaster preparedness, response and recovery. Additionally, she coordinates the fire department's Pasadena Emergency Response Team (PERT) Training which educates neighborhood associations, businesses and city employees how to be self sufficient after a large scale disaster.



### **Keynote Speaker**

## **Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard**

In 2007, Mayor Bill Bogaard began a new 4-year term as Pasadena's first City-wide elected mayor. His time in office has been an active period in the City's history, involving the arrival of the Gold Line light rail transit system with six stations in Pasadena; new housing construction; strengthening of cultural institutions; reform of the public schools; and enhancement of the City's neighborhoods.

### **Guest Speaker**

## **Commander Eric Mills**

**Pasadena Police Department**

Commander Mills will share his views on the U.S. Constitution and Freemasonry.

**Cheese and wine - 6:00 P.M.**

**Dinner - 7:00 PM**

**Program - 7:30 P.M.**