

BEE HIVE

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

Master's Message - October 2009

Brethren,

It is October and Wisdom Lodge will be well represented in San Francisco for the Annual Communication. Once again it is an interesting time to be a Mason. Dan Brown, author of the Da Vinci Code has released a new novel, *The Lost Symbol*, and for better or worse Freemasonry plays a prominent role in the plot. When the book was released on September 15, it created so much interest in Freemasonry that our own Grand Lodge website went off-line due to web traffic that overwhelmed the servers.



The Grand Lodge servers are now back up and running and according to the site, the December issue of California Freemason Magazine will have coverage devoted to Masonic myths in response to the surge in interest created by Mr. Brown's book. The California Freemason website contains the following positive quote from Dan Brown:

"I have enormous respect for the Masons," Brown told The Associated Press during a recent interview. "In the most fundamental terms, with different cultures killing each other over whose version of God is correct, here is a worldwide organization that essentially says, 'We don't care what you call God, or what you think about God, only that you believe in a god and let's all stand together as brothers and look in the same direction.'"

I think this is an opportunity for us to enlighten others who have a newfound interest in our ancient and honorable fraternity.

When we return from San Francisco, we will have important business to attend to at our October 7th stated meeting. It is proposed that the Lodge increase its annual dues to an amount equal to the per capita

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

M.D. ROSENBERGER..... SECRETARY

801 N. Brand Blvd., Suite 1180, Glendale, CA 91203

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amount paid to Grand Lodge plus \$36. Currently, the per capita charge exceeds \$30, which means that only a small fraction of dues collected is used to fund Wisdom Lodge's programs. The proposed increase insures that each paying member pays \$3 per month for the programs and benefits provided by the Lodge itself.

Wisdom Lodge was not immune to the steep downturn in the financial markets last year. Like other non-profit organizations, Wisdom Lodge suffered losses to its investment portfolio. Fortunately, the market has turned around and our investment fund has recouped a significant portion of its losses. Nevertheless, the reduction in principal means that there is less income generated, which means less money for worthwhile programs. It is important that we be good stewards of our investment funds, and not deplete them. The only way that we can assure this, while at the same time maintaining the level of programs that we have come to enjoy, is by supplementing our investment income with additional funds.

This is your Lodge, so please make your voice heard by attending the stated meeting on October 7th.

Fraternally,
Paul D. Rosenberger

Save the Date

Please save the following dates:

October 2-4, 2009	Grand Lodge Annual Communication - Hospitality Suite at Marine Memorial Hotel
October 7, 2009	Stated Meeting Dinner
November 4, 2009	Stated Meeting Dinner
November 8, 2009	Masonic Service Bureau (Midnight Mission Clothing Drive)
December 2, 2009	Stated Meeting Dinner (ARC Bell Choir)
December 11, 2009	Annual Installation of Officers

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MEETINGS HELD AT:

Pasadena Masonic Temple (Meeting Nights only)
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(For mailing purposes use Secretary's business address)



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Franz Rodriguez, PM., David McHugh, PM, Edwin M. Roos, P.M.

December Holiday Program

Trestleboard

October, 2009

October 2-4

Annual Communication - San Francisco

Wednesday October 7, 2009

Stated Meeting Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker - Steve De Muth

(Santa Monica Bay Royal Arch Chapter #97)

Wednesday October 14, 2009

Officers' Practice - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday October 21, 2009

Officers School of Instruction - 7:30 p.m.

South Pasadena Lodge

(all officers required to attend)

Wednesday October 28, 2009

Officers' Practice - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday November 5, 2008

Stated Meeting Dinner 6:30 PM

Please join us for our stated meeting dinner on **Wednesday December 2, 2009** for a presentation by the **ARC Hand Bell Choir**, a group of developmentally disabled adults.

The Bell Choir has performed at numerous events and has appeared on PBS.



ARC's Mission Statement

ARC is a charitable, non-profit, tax deductible, California corporation, incorporated for the purpose of promoting the welfare, protection, education and advancement of individuals with mental retardation. It is designed to assess the ability and potential of each person, then develop and implement a regimen of activities calculated to help achieve his/her full potential for mental, emotional, physical and spiritual development.

ARC Programs:

Respite Care

Saturday Camp

Hand Bell Choir & Chime Choir

Adult Day Activity Center

Young Adult Club

Residential Camping

Adaptive Living Services

Adult Education Classes

**The Beehive is available on-line at:
www.wisdomlodge202.org**

Submitted by Levon Keshishian

Masons Around a Campfire

This is a tale of Masonic men surrounding a campfire in the Old West, at night, discussing the Fraternity and its teachings. One old man listened patiently, and finally spoke up:

'I can tell you more about Masonry in a little example than some of the great Masonic philosophers can in books. Everybody stand up, and gather in a circle around the campfire.'

They did that.

'Now, everybody hold hands with the man next to him.'

They did that, too.

'Now, what do you see, looking ahead?'

'The face of a Brother Mason through the flames.'

'What do you feel in front of you?'

'The warmth of the fire, and the comfort it brings on a cool night.'

'What do you feel at your side?'

'The warm hand of a Brother.'

'OK. Now, drop the hands, and turn around.'

They did so.

'Now, what do you see, looking ahead?'

'Complete darkness.'

'What do you feel, looking ahead?'

'A sense of loneliness, of being alienated.'

'What do you feel at your side?'

'Nothing at all.'

'What do you feel on your backside?'

'The warmth of the fire.'

'So it is with Masonry,' said the old man. 'In Masonic gatherings, you can feel the warmth of Masonic interaction, you can see the face of a Brother through the light Masonry brings to you, and you can always feel the warm hand of a Brother. When you turn away from Masonry, and are out in the world, you see darkness, feel alienated and alone, and do not feel the warm hand of your Masonic Brother. But Masonry, and the warmth and light it brings, are just a turn away from you.'

-- Unknown

ANNUAL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

You, your family, and friends
are cordially invited to
Wisdom Lodge's
Annual Installation of Officers
on
**Friday evening,
December 11, 2008
7:00 PM**

Dinner served following installation ceremony

Famous Masons cont.

Joseph Warren to ride to Lexington to warn John Hancock and Samuel Adams of the British approach. The war erupted and he went on to serve as lieutenant colonel in the Massachusetts State Train of Artillery and commander of Castle Island in Boston Harbor. He and his troops saw little action at this post, but they did participate in expeditions to Newport, Rhode Island and Worcester, Mass.

He expanded his business interests in the years following the Revolution. He imported goods from England and ran a small hardware store until 1789. By 1788 he had opened a foundry which supplied bolts, spikes and nails for North



End shipyards (including brass fittings for the U.S.S. Constitution), produced cannons and, after 1792, cast bells. One of his largest bells still rings in Boston's Kings Chapel.

Concerned that the United States had to import sheet copper from England, he opened the first copper rolling mill in North America in 1801. He provided copper sheeting for the hull of the U.S.S. Constitution and the dome of the new Massachusetts State House in 1803. Revere Copper and Brass, Inc., the descendent of Revere's rolling mill is

best known for "Revereware" copper-bottomed pots and pans.

He was a Freemason from 1760 to 1809 and held several offices in St. Andrew's and Rising States Lodges as well as the Massachusetts Grand Lodge. A member of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association, Revere also served as the association's first president. Founded in 1794, the group was an organization of artisans, and small businessmen who sought to improve the conditions under which their peers worked and aided members in "distressed" circumstances.

In 1811, at the age of 76, Paul Revere retired and left his well-established copper business in the hand of his sons and grandsons. Revere seems to have remained healthy in his final years, despite the personal sorrow caused by the deaths of his wife Rachel and son Paul in 1813. Revere died of natural causes on May 10, 1818 at the age of 83, leaving five children, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The son of an immigrant artisan, not born to wealth or inheritance, Revere died a modestly well-to-do businessman and a popular local figure of some note. An obituary in the Boston Intelligence commented, "seldom has the tomb closed upon a life so honorable and useful." Paul Revere is buried in Boston's Granary Burying Ground.

Famous Masons

He Rode Into History

Born in Boston's North End in December, 1734, this famous Mason was the son of Apollon Rivoire, a French Huguenot (Protestant) immigrant, and Deborah Hichborn, daughter of a local artisan family. Rivoire, who changed his name some time after immigrating, was a goldsmith and eventually the head of a large household.

He was educated at the North Writing School and learned the art of gold and silversmithing from his father. When he was nineteen (and nearly finished with his apprenticeship) his father died, leaving him as the family's main source of income. Two years later, in 1756, he volunteered to fight the French at Lake George, New York, where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the colonial artillery.

In August, 1757, he married Sarah Orne. Together, they had eight children. Soon after Sarah's death in 1773, Revere married Rachel Walker with whom he had eight children.

His primary vocation, a trade he learned from his father, was that of goldsmith/silversmith, meaning he worked in both gold and silver. His silvershop was the cornerstone of his professional life for more than 40 years. As the master of his silversmith shop, he was responsible for both the workmanship and the quality of the metal alloy used. He employed numerous apprentices and journeymen to produce pieces ranging from simple spoons to magnificent full tea sets. His work, highly praised during his lifetime, is regarded as one of the outstanding achievements in American decorative arts.

He also supplemented his income with other work. During the economic depression before the Revolution, he began his work as a copper plate engraver. He produced illustrations for books and magazines, business cards, political cartoons, bookplates, a song book and bills of fare for taverns. He also advertised as a dentist from 1768 to 1775. He not only cleaned teeth, but also wired in false teeth carved from walrus ivory or animal teeth. Contrary to popular myth, he did not make George Washington's false teeth. Fabricating a full set of dentures was beyond his ability.

His political involvement arose through his connections with members of local organizations and his business patrons. *As a member of the Masonic Lodge of St. Andrew*, he was friendly with activists like James Otis and Dr. Joseph Warren. In the year before the Revolution, he gathered intelligence information by "watching the Movements of British Soldiers," as he wrote in an account of his ride. He was a courier for the Boston Committee of Correspondence and the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, riding express to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia. He also spread the word of the Boston Tea Party to New York and Philadelphia.

At 10 pm on the night of April 18, 1775, he received instructions from Dr.

WISDOM LODGE OBSERVES UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION HONORING PASADENA POLICE & FIRE PERSONNEL

Wisdom Lodge, for the fifth year in a row, celebrated the United States Constitution by honoring members of the Pasadena Fire (PFD) and Police Police Departments (PPD). The lodge approaches, every year the PPD and PFD Chiefs for a nomination and then puts on a deserving program to honor those who "go beyond the call of duty" to protect and serve the community. This year's nominees were: from the Fire Department Firefighter/Paramedic Richard Roldan, whose services to the FD were highlighted throughout the evening, and from the Police Department an entire unit called the Fugitive Apprehension Unit, whose five members were honored for their un-tiring efforts and work in apprehending fugitives totaling more than 400 to date.

The program started with Benediction given by Past Master Steven Cooper and pledge of allegiance by member of the lodge Sheriff's Captain Ray Leyva, followed by welcoming remarks and the explanation of why the observance of the Constitution by the Master of the Lodge Paul Rosenberger. Brother Levon Keshishian, explained how and why Wisdom



Worshipful Paul Rosenberger (left) and Pasadena Police Chief Bernard Meleki appear with the Pasadena Apprehension Unit.

Lodge honor public servants on this occasion by providing a short history of how it started five years ago.

As it has become a custom, the Eagle, a symbol of freedom, an award established by Wisdom lodge, was given to the honorees, together with congratulatory certificates from the Mayor of Pasadena Bill Bogaard and the Lodge Master Paul Rosenberger. A lavish dinner was provided to all, courtesy of the Lodge and its members. Service during dinner was provided by Masonic Youth Group members of the Order of DeMolay. Over 90 people were in attendance. The event was chaired by Past Master Levon Keshishian who also emceed the program.

Pasadena Police Chief, Bernard Melekian, the keynote speaker, thanked Wisdom Lodge for continuing with their determination of honoring Police and Fire personnel. He dwelled upon the feeling of FEAR and how the Constitution, "the first such document in the world" as he called it, tried to overcome Fear and gave freedom and liberties to all those who chose to live under it. He continued by praising the work done by the Fugitive Apprehension Unit and how they have been working hard to get those who violate the Constitution to put them behind bars to make the community a better place...



Pasadena Fire Department Honoree Firefighter/Paramedic Richard Roldan (right) with his wife and baby. Also pictured is Paul Rosenberger (left) and Deputy Fire Chief Calvin Wells