

Wisdom Lodge No. 202



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

Master's Message - October 2008

This year has been a resounding success and I wish to especially thank Worshipful Inspector Jan Eddy and Assistant Grand Lecturer (AGL) Vernon Dandridge for all their hard work and encouragement of our Lodge Brethren.



The 50 year Pin Ceremony for Brother Brooks Vinson and the Constitutional Observance Program were unqualified successes in my opinion. Thank you Worshipful Inspector Jan Eddy and Worshipful Levon Keshishian PM for your excellent work.

Please check this month's Beehive for the October Dinner Menu. Our website at wisdomlodge202.org under webmaster Brother Mark Poliner is outstanding. Look it up for yourself on the Internet and note it is directly linked to the Grand Lodge Website at freemason.org.

Brother Paul Rosenberger, Senior Warden, has scheduled this year's installation of officers for December 12. Please mark your calendars.

Bring your spouse and a prospective Master Mason and his Lady as guests of the Lodge at the Stated Meeting on October 1, 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



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

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

Richard Ortega	1	Alan Dearman	20
Donald W. Tagtmeyer	2	Joseph Momjian	21
Alan Artunian	4	Raymond H. Murphy	21
Michael Chumo, Jr.	4	J. S. De Laney	22
Bruce G. Ellis	6	Michael D. Moro	23
Merl Seastrom Jr.	6	Frederick A. Dickinson	23
Mark M. Martinez	7	Rafael Morga	24
Norman M. Murphy	7	Renato H. Tan	25
Emlyn Williams	8	Jules A. Juge, Jr.	25
Naim Perry	9	Francisco Pineda	25
Tyler Schroeder	9	Jack R. Spradlin	26
Robert B. Malouf	12	Steven C. Cooper	27
James L. Sheidenberger	13	Guy A. Main	28
Edwards Beirnes	14	Vaughn A. Gates	28
Misak Toros	14	Vasken Jouharian	28
Elwin O. Studebaker	16	Dennis A. Bruecker	28
William C. Klentschy	17	William R. Hatchett IV	29
William Amir	17	Harry J. Safady	30
Nathaniel Stiles	18	Charles D. Lacy	30
Wesley G. Grapp	19		

3rd Degree Anniversaries In October

Douglas B. MacMullen	3	1944	George D. White	24	1984
Gerthardt W. Olson	8	1964	Edwin M. Roos	24	1979
Hector Garcia	10	2007	Jon H. Schlobohm	25	1961
Mund Shaikly	10	1968	Rafael Morga	25	1995
Charles E. Franklin	17	1950	Les E. Benton	26	1948
Harold M. Hand	17	1944	Philip K. Szeto	26	1994
David C. McHugh	18	1989	Patrick H. Cooney	28	1981
Tony Contreras	19	2005	William Bottorff	28	1947
Manuel S. Bogharian	19	1994	Irving G. Adlen	29	1973
Neil O. Hammond	20	1958	Cordell F. Harges	29	1972
J. S. De Laney	20	1965	Jules A. Juge, Jr.	29	1964
Franz Rodriguez	20	1993	Frank M. Morgan	30	1944
Raymond H. Murphy	20	1955	Cary C. Harwin	30	1974
Frank M. Becker III	20	1959	Eugene R. Gobat	31	1961
Francis P. McHugh	21	1987	Max L. Tillman	31	1961
Michael D. Moro	22	1974	Nealis Shreeve, Jr.	31	1963
Stuart A. Wright	22	1986	Edward Williams	31	2007

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
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.....	(323) 254.8529
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

Trestleboard

October, 2008

Wednesday October 1, 2008

Stated Meeting
Dinner 6:30 PM
Business Meeting 8:15 PM

Wednesday October 8, 2008

Officers Practice
TBD

Wednesday October 15, 2008

Officers Practice
TBD

Saturday October 11, 2008

Jonathan Club Dinner
Scholarship Charity
call David Patterson

Tuesday October 21, 2008

Officers School of Instruction
Pasadena Lodge
Worshipful Inspector Gerald Harris Presiding

Wednesdays October 22 & 29, 2008

Officers Practice
TBD

Wednesday November 5, 2008

Stated Meeting Dinner 6:30 PM
Elections- Business Meeting 8:15 PM
Saturday November 8, 2008
Masters Dinner Dance
Hilton Universal 6 PM- Midnight
RSVP- Reservations Please

View From the South

As the summer draws to a close, Wisdom Lodge hit the ground running in September. The first meeting after the summer quiet time was a busy evening. Dinner was accompanied with an outstanding and entertaining musical duo. After that we focused on honoring Brooks Vinson, our recipient of his Golden Veterans Award. Prior to retiring upstairs for the formal program, Brother (County Supervisor) Michael Antonovich presented a certificate from the County. Everyone then retired upstairs for the formal program. Our Inspector, Worshipful Jan Eddy presided over the event. This was followed by various presentations and comments.

The next week saw our annual Constitutional Observance with Worshipful Levon Kesheshian and Worshipful Franz Rodriquez once again organizing an outstanding event to honor our local law enforcement and fire professionals. The biographies of our honorees were in last month's Beehive and the dedication to duty outlined in their biographies clearly show why their peers chose to honor them as their representatives. Dinner was accompanied by a string quartet. This was followed with a keynote address by the mayor of Pasadena, Mayor Bill Bogard. Our attention then turned to those we were honoring and they were presented with various tokens of appreciation and comments. Along with the visitors associated with these dedicated professionals, Wisdom Lodge was fortunate to have two couples visiting from overseas - a couple from New Zealand and Australia who had not met before that night. I had the pleasure of sitting with them and were delightful couples. Their attendance is a case of providing very specific examples of what every Mason in California hears during their 1st degree lecture associated with form of a Lodge (...for in every country and in every clime are Masons to be found) as well as the principle of Brotherly Love (...and causes true friendships to exist among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance).

We will end September with many of us attending the Annual Communication at Grand Lodge. I am sure a report will follow.

Fraternally,

Mark S. Berasley, Junior Warden

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

October Stated Meeting



Goldfinger and Dove

The Master and Mistress of Illusion

What you see is not what you saw! Your mind is easily swayed.

From Monte Carlo to Tokyo, from Las Vegas to Rome, performances around the world have thrilled to the exotic, fast-paced series of the dynamic team of Goldfinger and Dove.

Discover the reasons why this unique team is in such demand. Experience the unforgettable excitement of Goldfinger and Dove.

Their innovative style has influenced countless other teams. The ebullience, spirit, and genuine joy that sparkle in each and every performance is an inspiration and a delight to audiences around the world.

Bring the kids... bring your friends...

Dinner and Show 6:30 P.M.

Business Meeting 8:15 PM

ANNUAL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

You, your family, and friends
are cordially invited to

Wisdom Lodge's

Annual Installation of Officers

on

**Friday evening,
December 12, 2008
7:00 PM**

Dinner served following installation ceremony



Keystone Masonic Lodge Installation - (left to right) Elmer Murphy, III, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Texas, Wisdom Lodge's George L. Matusky, PM on the night of his installation as Master of Keystone Masonic Lodge 1143, Dallas, Texas and Leonard Harvey, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Texas.

A Letter from Brother George Matusky

Well, here I am again as Worshipful Master of Keystone Lodge No. 1143. In June 1993 I was installed as Worshipful Master at Hillcrest Lodge No. 1318.

Leonard P. Harvey, Past Grand Master was the installing Master and Elmer Murphey, III, Past Master was the Installing Marshal, Wallace Finrock, P.M. was the Installing Chaplain.

Now, 16 years later in 2008 I was installed again by the same men at Keystone Lodge No. 1143. The only thing that has changed is that Elmer Murphey III became The Grand Master of Masons in Texas in 2005.

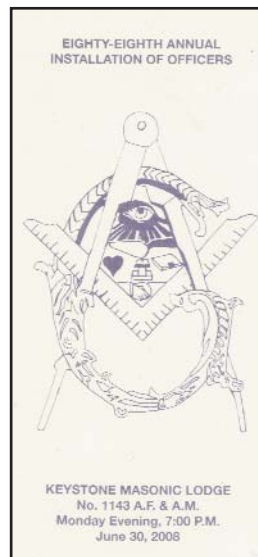
I am still involved with Hillcrest Lodge No. 1318 because the Master of that Lodge asked me to be Chaplain again to do their prayers.

As you remember along with some of the other members of William D. Stephens Lodge I was raised on June 19, 1962 as a Master Mason and I always remember that date.

I am married to a wonderful woman, Sally who helps me with all my work and she is also a Volunteer for the past 14 years at the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children.

I hope to come out to California in the future and visit the Lodge again and the members.

Fraternally and sincerely,
George Matusky, P.M.



Virtue and Vice

By Mark Poliner

Aristotle stated moral virtues are character traits one develops and which become more integral to one's being. Virtuous behavior will lead us to have a happier and more fulfilled life. How do we know what is virtuous or what will make us fulfilled?

Ethics is not a theoretical discipline: we are asking what the good for human beings is. In raising this question—what is the good?—Aristotle is not looking for a list of items that are good. He assumes that such a list can be compiled rather easily; most would agree, for example, that it is good to have friends, to experience pleasure, to be healthy, to be honored, and to have such virtues as courage at least to some degree. The difficult and controversial question arises when we ask whether certain of these goods are more desirable than others. Aristotle's search for the good is a search for the highest good, and he assumes that the highest good, whatever it turns out to be, has three characteristics: it is desirable for itself, it is not desirable for the sake of some other good, and all other goods are desirable for its sake.

“Practical reason is not the same as experience.”

Should we make lists of “good” and “bad” actions? What Aristotle says is to formulate general principles of good character that allow no exceptions. Do not bear false witness is an example that allows no exceptions. However, do not kill allows too many exceptions; self-defense, to stop a worse atrocity (such as one murder to stop someone committing a thousand murders), etc. The point of the virtue-ethics approach is that the person needs to have already cultivated good character to determine when a virtue allows an exception. Emmanuel Kant wrote, once we “seek out and establish” the fundamental principle of morality a priori, then we may consult facts drawn from experience in order to determine how best to apply this principle to human beings and generate particular conclusions about how we ought to act.

Practical reason is not the same as experience. One's ability to learn from experience is how practical experience contributes to the development of virtues. In Aristotle's theory, reason operates on two different levels. Reason tells me how to achieve a value or accomplish a goal. Reason also tells me whether I should have the virtue or goal in the first place. How do I determine the principle a priori when I do not have

the experience to determine them?

Reason can judge the worthiness of a goal relative only to a reference of a pre-determined virtue. In order to determine our reference we need proper emulation by a role-model. The phronemos or person of practical wisdom is one we observe and learn from. This is not a teacher, but a mentor to teach us the fundamentals of virtue wherein we build and learn from this base.

Such as a swordmaster will show us the fundamentals, to become our own master, we need to build experience by observation and practice. So to with virtue we need to become our own master by observance of good behavior and practice. The difficulty lies in determining which person will make a good phronemos pre-supposes we are already sophisticated enough to do so. In other words, if I were smart enough to know who would make a good role-model, I would not need one.

It is possible that only someone pre-disposed to vice would identify a vicious character as a role-model because there is a natural affinity for the character traits. The theory of affinity would not rule out deception. Such a role-model would seem to the unsophisticated to have the affinity he desires, but over time the deceiver would corrupt the virtuous by reductum ad absurdum arguments and rationalizations. Such deceptions would not be able to have basic fundamental virtues that Aristotle seeks.

Kant and Nietzsche would argue that virtue and morality are not constant as Aristotle claims, but relative to your perspective. Machiavelli states the ends justify the means. Would murder or perjury be justified by the virtuous, or can we never have fundamental virtues?

Masonry gives us a framework we can build our fundamental virtues by observation of our fellow brothers. Our fraternity has become one huge phronemos wherein we build virtue. As all Masons know, a solid foundation will build a strong tower of virtue.

*Sloth, like rust, consumes faster than labour wears;
while the used key is always bright.*

*-- Thoughts by Benjamin Franklin from Poor Richard's Almanac,
or from his letters, on life and prosperity*

Wednesday October 1, 2008

Stated Meeting

Dinner 6:30 PM

MENU

Chicken Breast w/Madeira wine sauce

Garden Rice

Vegetable Medley

Garden Salad w/poppy seed burgundy vinaigrette

Fresh Baked Dinner Rolls

Desert and Coffee

Entertainment

Magical Act

Goldfinger and Dove

Business Meeting 8:15 PM

Black Fraternal Society

By JON GAMBRELL - Associated Press/AP Online

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. - The history of the Mosaic Templars was believed to have drawn to a close in the 1930s, when the Great Depression swallowed one of the largest benevolent societies for blacks in the nation and likely the world.

Its finances ruined, the organization created by two freed slaves in the wake of the Civil War left little behind other than its iconic brick building in Little Rock's black business district. But even that relic is now gone, left in disrepair until transients trying to stay warm burned it down in March 2005.

However, 2,500 miles away in the tropics of the West Indies, a lodge still bears the Templar's name - one of the chapters that had once popped up in 26 states and six countries - and has kept the society's fire going while all others faded out.

"One seed was planted and from that seed, much fruit has been reaped," said Angelina Thornhill, a member of that surviving Mosaic Templars' lodge on the island of Barbados.

Members of the Barbados chapter came to Little Rock to attend the grand opening Saturday of the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, a new building on the site where the organization's headquarters once stood. The new center offers a museum detailing black Arkansan history and the society.

The Mosaic Templars was founded in 1882 by John E. Bush, Chester W. Keatts and 13 others. It offered financial protection for many blacks during a time that saw the beginning of Jim Crow laws across the South, offering both burial and life insurance policies.

The fraternal society initiated its members through a series of eight secret ceremonies, based on the story of Moses and his deliverance of the Israelites out of Egypt, said John William Graves, a professor at Henderson State University who has extensively studied the group.

Graves said the stories carried a strong resonance for blacks struggling out of the servitude of slavery.

"For most of them, the experience of bondage would still have been a vivid memory," Graves wrote in an introduction to a book outlining the group's history.

As the group grew in prominence and financial security, and chapters were started elsewhere, it operated a building and loan association, a publishing company, a business college and a hospital.

Then came the Great Depression, which wiped out its finances as members pulled back on paying dues to focus on providing for themselves and their families.

Eventually, an Internet search by members of the chapter in Barbados, curious about their roots, reconnected them with the parent they never thought they had.

"We were standing alone," said Hilary Bruce, the Grand Mosaic Master of the Barbados chapter, formed in 1928.

The Barbados chapter still focuses on helping the sick and injured. Burial insurance slowly drifted away in the age of prepackaged funeral arrangements, but those who followed the chapter's initial flock of police officers, sailors, teachers and business owners still focus on its priorities, Bruce said.

The Mosaic Templars "teaches that we are all created as one similarly," he said. "There are no differences in us. If we are going to be brothers, we have to treat each other as brothers."

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

Constitutional Observance Program - Wednesday, September 10, 2008



Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael Antonovich provided certificates that were presented to the honorees.

Honorees

Kevin Jackson
Pasadena Police Department

Lisa Derderian
Pasadena Fire Department



The Carved Eagle that was presented to the honorees from Wisdom Lodge.



Worshipful Sal Sciortino presented Lisa Derderian with a carved eagle from Wisdom Lodge.

Keynote Speaker Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard presented the honorees with certificates from the City of Pasadena



Honoree Kevin Jackson (left) with Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard



Pasadena Fire Chief Dennis Downs congratulates Lisa Derderian.

Pasadena Community Orchestra String Quartet provided the evening's entertainment.

