

St. John's Lodge No. 9, F. & A. M.

Trestleboard

JANUARY 2019

Jim Russell, editor



Serving Seattle since 1860

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FROM THE EAST

Seann Maria, Master



Brethren,

The New Year has arrived and we have much to look back upon and forward to. We have managed to accomplish a lot this year despite the obstacles that have presented themselves. As I reflect, I am proud of us for starting the 2018 year off with serious discussion following feedback from visitors. This feedback cited our need to be aware of our visitors and engage them on their interests in joining us as equally as our need to share who we now are

as opposed to what St. John's once did. To better understand the world of those outside St. John's we invited EAs from three other Lodges to share their thoughts on what makes a Lodge relevant and inspiring to them. These combined activities would eventually lead us to the successful balloting of two men for the initiation of the EA degree and one plural membership. In the time that these new petitioners were under review, we had over ten members meet with them on over twenty occasions outside the Lodge, and the Grand Lodge of Washington's "Six Steps to Initiation" Program was employed successfully. I hope that as we embark on the years ahead we look to this success and the means we used to achieve it as a model to consider for growing our Lodge – and understanding ourselves.

In the past year we have seen excellent improvements to the Greenwood Masonic Center including a kitchen remodel, additional television installation, locked cabinets on sound equipment, signage on the front door, a return of internet access and, in turn, we have added improvements like audio enhancement, a light box for our MM degree lectures, and a premium firesafe to our own list of assets. We have agreed to take on new programs like hosting large-scale presentation events, considering new formats for presenting stated meetings and degrees, and preparing a re-vised 5-year plan that will set out a curriculum for all Masons to aspire to. During this time we must also recognize that we've seen brothers face new health challenges, take on new family complexities, and, unfortunately, we have had to let some of our closest friends travel beyond this mortal coil. Despite that this year has been difficult in this respect, it is important to recognize just how much more it says about our dedication to the fundamentals of Freemasonry that other brothers have stepped up and made these things happen.

This is where we are brothers. St. John's is on the edge of a transition where not a single one of us can sit idly by and assume someone else will take care of things. This Lodge needs you to offer to perform degrees and teach new brothers. This Lodge needs you to volunteer to lead Lodge improvement projects. This Lodge needs you to bring your Masonic inspiration with you and use it as fuel to feed the Light that comes from this Lodge. This Lodge has very few men to complete the work that's needed, and if you're reading this, then you are likely one of them or a member of its community. Please consider asking the officers what you can do to help make this Lodge live on for years to come.

CALENDAR



- January 8 (7pm): Long Range Planning *Razzis Pizza*
- Jan. 10 (7pm): Officers meeting
- January 16 (6:15pm) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated
- Jan. 21 (7pm): Fellowship Night
- January 24 (6:30pm): EA degree practice
- January 25 (6pm): EA degree
- January 26 (10am): Past Masters Brunch *Jimmy's on Broadway*
- January 26 (4pm): Memorial Service for Darrel Womack *Alki*
- January 29 (7pm): Master Mason Study Group
- January 30 (6:30pm): District 5 Assoc. meeting *Razzis Pizza*
- February 3: Super Bowl 53
- February 6 (7:30pm): Greenwood Lodge 253
- February 13 (6pm): Board of Trustees
- February 14 (7pm): Officers meeting
- February 20 (6:15pm) 7:30pm: St. John's 9 (dinner) Stated
- February 21 (6:30pm): EA degree practice *tentative*
- February 22 (6pm): EA degree
- February 23 (10am): Quarterly Meeting Masonic Service Bureau *Kirkland Lodge*
- February 26 (7pm): Master Mason Study Group
- March 2 (6pm): Dist. 4&5 Reception for the Grand Master
- March 9 (10am-4:30pm): Grand Masonic Day *Vancouver BC*
- March 14 (7pm): Officers meeting
- March 15 – 17 Lodge Leadership Retreat (Pasco)
- March 20 (6:15pm): St. John's 9 Stated Table Lodge
- March 26 (7pm): Master Masons Study Group
- March 27 (6:30pm): District 5 Assoc. meeting (*election of officers*)

January Meeting to honor fallen brothers; Jobies to Perform

Our January stated communication will be dedicated to several of our brethren whose “weary feet have come to the end of life’s toilsome journey.” We invite all brothers to come to Lodge this month to pay tribute to those who have left us for that Celestial Lodge above. Seven of our brothers no longer grace our St. John’s halls. Three, Bros. Al Thornton, Charles Graff, and Earl Prebezac, we honored earlier this year. Four have since departed: WBros. Jim O’Conner, Herb White, Jim Lumsden, and Darrel Womack.

Also on the program will be the young ladies of Bothell’s Job’s Daughters Bethel No. 77, who will demonstrate a portion of their ritual work – the [closing cross](#).

Worshipful Master Seann Maria announces that the *Master Mason Study Group* will be under new leadership and at a new day and time beginning this month. WBro. Russ Johnson will assume the leadership role previously held by our very able and capable Bro. Paul Doak. The sessions have now moved from Wednesdays to the *last Tuesday* of each month. (Intender sessions will be scheduled according to individual candidate needs and availability.)



Jobies' Closing Cross



Please make your [dinner reservations](#) with the secretary at 206 623-0261 by Friday, January 11, prior to the meeting. If you need a ride, the secretary will be happy to find one for you. Do you know of a brother

who has not attended Lodge in a while? Call him and ask if you can pick him up and bring him to Lodge.

The Washington Masonic Charities Outreach Program is available to assist loved ones, a Brother, or a Widow. The Washington Masonic Charities also invites all Lodges to participate in the Lodge Scholarship program.

HEAVENLY QUARRIES CALL ST. JOHN’S LABORERS IN 2018

In 2018, seven members of St. John’s ceased their earthly toils and joined our Brothers in that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens:



| | Raised | Died |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Alvin E. Thornton | March 22, 1954 | January 31 |
| Charles J. Graff | April 18, 1975 | January 31 |
| Earl E. Prebezac | February 16, 1990 | February 9 |
| James V. O’Connor | December 26, 1959 | August 24 |
| Herbert W. White | March 19, 1982 | October 25 |
| James A. Lumsden | December 22, 1952 | November 30 |
| Darrell L. Womack | April 30, 1990 | December 26 |

“Grief never ends... But it changes. It’s a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith... It is the price of love.”

— Unknown

For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. Job 14:7

ENTERED APPRENTICE TO BE INITIATED

All Brothers of St. John’s are asked to come witness the initiation of (and welcome) Mr. Sylvain Niles. Mr. Niles will be initiated Friday, January 25.

The officers have been doing a little of their own educational preparation on the lessons of this degree to provide the candidate with a greater meaningful experience and enhance his introduction to Freemasonry.



Freemasonry is at its core an initiatory experience. Its primary purpose is to provide initiation through ritual, then to give mentoring to all Master Masons. Indeed, mentoring is an essential component to becoming a fully

realized Mason.

Worshipful Master Seann Maria will open Lodge at 6pm. A light meal and fellowship will be held following the degree. With your attendance and participation, we can make this entry to Freemasonry memorable!

Mr. Louis Turner will receive the EA degree next month, Friday, February 22.

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LET'S LOOK AT THAT A LITTLE CLOSER



Our January stated communication will be dedicated to several of our brethren whose “weary feet have come to the end of life’s toilsome journey.” We invite all brothers to come to Lodge this month to pay tribute to those who have left us for that Celestial Lodge above. This is an appropriate time to consider our obligation to our fallen brethren.

The Masonic Funeral Service

Let us examine the more important aspects of our Masonic Funeral Service. For it is not our Masonic Law, but our actions and deeds that are of any real significance when the Great Architect of the Universe calls one of our Brothers to the Celestial Grand Lodge on High.

There are few occasions when Freemasons may perform their public ceremonies, e.g., cornerstone layings, open installation of officers, the periodic public educational program, and so on. By far, the most common is our Masonic Funeral Service. It is at this time that most non-Masons are introduced to Freemasonry – perhaps, for the very first time. It is at and during that somber service that most people present will form their opinion and perception of our Fraternity. Not being members of our Ancient Craft, and generally knowing very little about Freemasonry, they are often very curious as to who we are, what we stand for, and what is it that we believe in as an organization.

Conducting Masonic Funeral Services is as old as the Fraternity itself. In the days of Operative Masonry, stonemasons buried their own with great solemnity and reverence. The deceased Brother was a man they had worked with side-by-side for years – perhaps, even their entire lives. They extolled his virtues and the contributions he had made to the Craft’s work. They spoke of the Eternal Life after death, and the need to perform “goode worke” toward all humanity throughout the course of a man’s life. The entire guild and all of their families turned out in force to mourn their Brother’s passing, and to express their sympathies to the Brother’s family. This tradition has been carried forward for centuries to our present day Speculative Masonry.

The first thing any non-Mason will observe is the size of the turnout. If it is small, they may conclude that his Lodge did not hold the deceased Brother in very high esteem. Or, even worse, that Freemasons are much too busy with their own private lives and interests to practice the tenets of Charity and Brotherly Love of which we so loudly boast. In other words, they may conclude that we do not practice what we preach. If the turnout is large, the non-Mason is likely to come away with a very different impression of both the Fraternity and the deceased Brother.

Always remember that a Masonic Funeral Service is the final tribute we can pay to our fallen Brother. That is the appropriate time to thank the Brother’s family for

allowing him to share his time on Earth with our Fraternity. No, you may not have known the Brother personally, but if he was a member of your Lodge, he certainly deserves your presence at his funeral service. If he was a Brother, then he is entitled to all of the “lights, rights and benefits” of being a Freemason – and that certainly includes a well-attended Masonic Funeral Service. Attending these services are, in many ways, just as important as attending Lodge meetings – perhaps, even more so, because, as we can do nothing more for our Brother, the Funeral Service is really for the benefit of the deceased Brother’s family and friends, and it exhibits our genuine care and concern for one of our own.

For those that may have forgotten, the Masonic

Funeral Service is one of the most beautiful pieces of literature ever written. Simple, honest, and straightforward, it offers each of us an opportunity to reflect upon our own mortality, and to reaffirm our individual faith in the Supreme Grand Master of Heaven and Earth. It draws forth its inspiration and words of comfort not only from our Volume of Sacred Law,

but also from many of the world’s greatest literary geniuses. No one can listen to our service and not be impacted by the gentle, yet powerful, words that touch the heart of every person present – both Mason and non-Mason alike.

Consider the uplifting passage from our Masonic Funeral Service: “So with the knowledge that all is indeed well with this Brother, we leave him in God’s eternal peace. Soon we, too, shall arrive at the temporary end where joy seems to cease, the clouds to lower and gloom to reign; but in this seeming end there will be, as now, the rich undertone of a great hope, the consolation of a sublime faith, the knowledge of a love that embraces a boundless charity; and, sustained and soothed by a promise of eternal life, we shall go into the great darkness undismayed and unafraid, knowing that the night of death shall give way to the glorious morning of the resurrection, that sorrow shall be turned into joy and this mortal put on immortality.”

One day, and we know not when, each one of us will be that Brother who has passed from sight. One day, each one of us will have ended our journey in this life. As your then cold and lifeless body is commended to the grave eternal, will you want your Masonic Brethren to be present and among those that mourn you, and to offer comfort and consolation to your loved ones?

As stated in our funeral service, you can do nothing more of a material nature for the departed Brother. Next page



Nevertheless, you can cherish his memory, and offer the tribute of respect and love to the late Brother's memory. Of even greater importance, you can be there to extend our fraternal sympathy to our Brother's deeply afflicted and sorrowing family in their bereavement. We must tell his loved ones, and demonstrate it by our physical presence, that our promises to be true to them are not hollow or empty words. We owe our Brother something, and this may be the very last opportunity we will ever have to repay that debt.

Brethren, if you receive a call from your Lodge or see a Masonic Funeral Notice in your local newspaper, take the 20 or 30 minutes out of your busy lives to make this final act of respect and tribute. No, you may not have personally known the Brother, but he was your Brother and that alone is enough to justify making the effort to attend and to demonstrate to the world that we Freemasons do, in fact, sincerely care about each other – both in life and in death.

Each of us will one day cross death's threshold. After spending years in the Masonic Fraternity, how would you feel if most of your Lodge Brothers were too occupied with their own self-interests to attend your Masonic Funeral Service? How will your loved ones feel about the organization you belonged to for so many years cannot even muster more than a small handful of members to stand around your casket?

This is one obligation and commitment that each of us should earnestly strive to fulfill even if we cannot always attend Lodge meetings. Let us demonstrate before the world that we are men who practice Brotherly Love – all the way to the grave's edge.

St. John's contributes memorial to WB Lumsden

Our departed brother WBro. Jim Lumsden passed to the Celestial Lodge November 30. A public memorial service for WBro. Jim was led by VWBro. Neil Quinn, with VWBro. Jim Russell and WBro. Hans Wehl serving on the memorial service team. His passing will be remembered in our January stated communication, along with other brothers who have passed this year.



**James Lumsden
1923-2018**

As a memorial to his devoted service, the Lodge contributed \$500 in his name to The Max Foundation, which WBro. Lumsden and Greenwood Secretary WBro. Ken Weyant served as members of its Board. The Max Foundation is a non-profit global health organization that believes all people living with cancer deserve access to the best treatment, care, and support.

In 1997, The Max Foundation was established in honor of Maximiliano (Max) Rivarola and his legacy inspires a vision for a world where all people facing cancer live with dignity and hope. WBro. Lumsden was one of the inspired founders of the Foundation.

Past Masters Brunch

All Past Masters of St. John's are invited to attend our quarterly brunches not only for a good time but also to keep up with how things are going at St. John's. Brunches start at 10am and close shortly after noon at Jimmy's On Broadway - just north of Madison at the Silver Cloud Hotel. See you Saturday, January 26. *Free parking.*

Bothell Job's Daughters to Perform in January

The young ladies of Bothell's Job's Daughters Bethel No. 77 will be demonstrating a portion of their ritual work at this month's stated communication. These girls have been our able dinners servers the past four months.



In order to apply for membership in Job's Daughters, one must be a girl between the ages of 10 and 20. The original age for membership was 13-18, but has been changed several times over the years. Until August 2015, the girl must be related to a Master Mason or Majority Member. Now, she may be sponsored by a Majority Member and Master Mason if no relation is found.

Members are not required to practice any particular religion, but they must believe in a Supreme being.

If a daughter reaches the age of 20 or marries, and is in good standing in the Bethel, she is considered a majority member. Majority members are not allowed to hold an office or vote on Bethel affairs; however, they are encouraged to remain active in their respective Bethel. At age 18, they also are eligible to join the Order of Eastern Star, Order of the Amaranth, or The Daughters of the Nile.

Start Earning your 2020 Wages Now!

If you haven't paid your 2019 annual dues (\$38 for most members) by now, they've already increased by \$5. ***Payments postmarked after December 31 are assessed an additional \$5 per month.***

Members may pay their dues by cash, check, Certificates of Masonic Labor, or a combination of these. Certificates of Labor (valued at \$20 each) are issued at each stated or special communication (degree or officer installation). So – come to Lodge and receive your Certificate of Masonic Labor good toward the payment of ***next year's*** dues.

Procrastination is not rewarded!

Your wallet may contain a membership card, but unless you received a receipt or thank you for promptly paying your 2019 dues, it might not be valid. For the next couple of years or so you'll be using the same plastic card that you received last year. But, if you failed to pay your 2019 dues, it won't "scan" as current if challenged by the Tyler. This year's dues are only \$38, but if you missed the December 31 deadline, they've gone up to \$43. Want to miss again in January? Sorry, that'll be \$48 in February! Mail your check today to PO Box 30069, Seattle 98113

Senior Warden Message

Bro. Blair Neumann

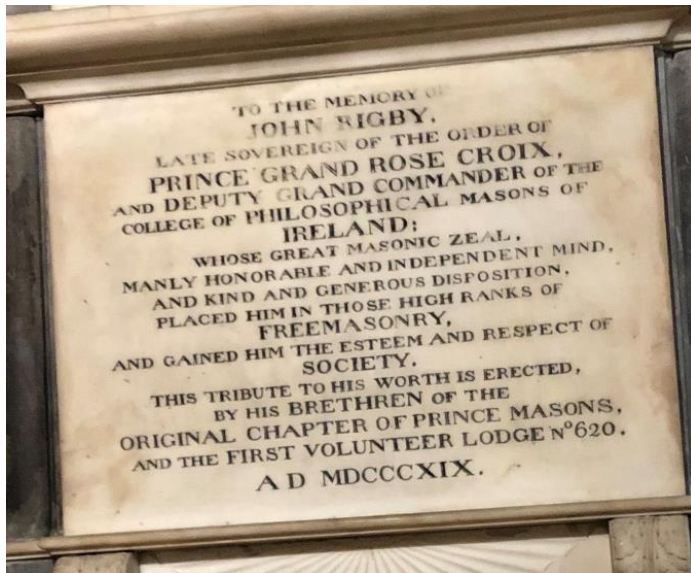


(Message not received)

Jim,

In Dublin with the family and while touring St. Patrick Cathedral Jeff came across an epitaph shown in the attached photo. **WBro. Rich Hawley**

(Born in 1758, John Rigby established his fine firearms company, John Rigby and Co., in 1775 in Dublin, Ireland. Rigby served as a Grenadier Captain in the Independent Dublin Volunteers—the Irish militia that rose to defend Ireland after British soldiers left the country to fight the Revolutionary War. John Rigby was also an active Freemason and excellent marksman.)



How are we doing in the Market?? At market close December 28, we dropped 13% from prior (3rd) quarter, roughly matching the S&P 500. A sizable chunk of this quarter's losses came during a violent December. The indexes all dropped at least 8.7 percent for the month. The Dow and S&P 500 also recorded their worst December performance since 1931 and their biggest monthly loss since February 2009.

Visit Our District Brethren

| <u>District 5 Lodges</u> | <u>Next Meeting</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| St. John's 9 | Wednesday, January 16, 2019 | 7:30pm |
| Eureka 20 | Monday, February 4, 2019 | 7:30pm |
| University 141 | Monday, February 4, 2019 | 7:30pm |
| Daylight 232 | Saturday, January 19, 2019 | 10am |
| Lafayette 241 | Thursday, March 7, 2019 | 7pm |
| Queen Anne 242 | Thursday, January 10, 2019 | 7:30pm |
| Esoterika 316 | Tuesday, January 22, 2019 | 7:30pm |

Junior Warden Message

VWBro. Ashley Brinkley



With great sadness the end of the year brought the death of two well respected Masons and my very dear friends, Jim Lumsden and Darrel Womack. The Supreme Architect of the Universe has called these fine brothers to do more important work. I remember Darrell as we travelled around the state with Grand Lodge and he was constantly taking photos everywhere we went. He was even good hearted enough to come to my home and photograph Lisa's grandmother's 85th Birthday party. He was a great friend to all and he will surely be missed.

Brother Jim Lumsden was highly regarded by all who knew him. I used to tease Jim Lumsden that he was my cousin because he had the same last name as my grandmother's maiden name and the Lumsdens came from Scotland. Jim used to say that two brothers came from Scotland, so we all came from the same family. He was one of the kindest people I knew.

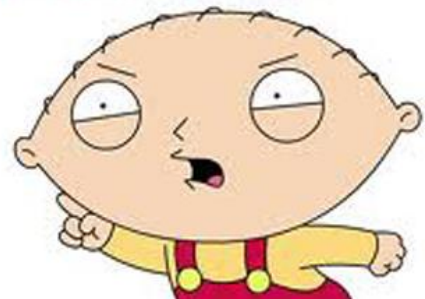
The job of the Junior Warden is to guard against intemperance and excess. But I think the job of the Junior Warden is to have fun, and I think that is what we need to do to start this year ... Have fun!

I have 2 questions to test your mental acuity. The answers will be revealed at refreshment on the 16th.

1. Our Brother George Washington was Master of what Lodge?
 - a. Alexander Lodge 22
 - b. Alexander Washington Lodge 39
 - c. Fredericksburg Lodge 4
 - d. American Union Lodge 1
2. Our Brother George Washington was Grand Master of?
 - a. Virginia
 - b. Pennsylvania
 - c. New Jersey
 - d. Was not a Grand Master

To make this game a little more fun, please put your answers in writing and hand them to the Junior Warden prior to dinner. The winner might just win a great prize or...get to eat dessert first!

**WHERE IS MY MONEY MAN?!!
WHERE IS MY MONEY?!!**



Don't forget to pay your 2019 Lodge dues!!!!

GRAND MASTER VISIT TO DISTRICT



District 4 & 5 brothers will meet and greet MWBro. Jim Kendell, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Washington at the Greenwood Masonic Center, Saturday, March 2nd.

All St. John's brethren, especially the officers, are requested to be present.

SHORELINE LODGE CHARITY: FIGHTING ALZHEIMER'S

Bro. Todd Beam, Shoreline Lodge No. 248, visited our Lodge last month and reported that his Lodge is supporting research to defeat Alzheimer's disease and has forget-me-not lapel pins for sale to support the effort.



Researchers have determined that nutritious food, exercise, sleep, socializing and other positive aspects of life are good preventive medicine for Alzheimer's. One study showed that life changes can reduce your chance of developing Alzheimer's by 35 percent.

Socioeconomic factors, including education, income and even where you live, play a role in whether Alzheimer's takes hold. Race matters, too: African Americans are twice as likely to develop Alzheimer's as Caucasians; Hispanics are 1.5 times more likely.

Masonic Widow Pin Presentations Text Grand Lodge of Washington

"This pin was created as an emblem to symbolize our continued concern and honor for the widows of a Brother Master Mason, a Brother whose name added luster to the Craft as he labored with us in The Quarry.

Now that his name has been entered upon the Roll of the Celestial Lodge, we cannot forget those things which he loved so deeply, nor can we be unmindful of our duty to him.

It is my distinct privilege to present this emblem to you that you may wear it with great pride.

It is our desire that it be to you a reminder of your ties to us; a relationship wherein you will find friends who will assist you in times of need, join with you in times of gladness, and welcome you to a continued association with us as we continue our labors of Friendship, Brotherly Love and Truth.

You are not alone. When moments may cause you to doubt, look at this emblem and be assured that we are there and we care.

This Masonic Widow's Pin was created with the hope that it would be worn by the widow of a Master Mason on all appropriate occasions, especially when traveling, so that she may be recognized, greeted, and assisted when necessary, by Masonic friends throughout the world.

It is an emblem of honor and should be worn separately, and not in conjunction with other jewelry.

May she who wears this emblem find that she is not alone. We are there and we care."



OPERATION KID SMILE: report card

Operation Kid Smile went well on Sunday, December 15. We were able to make the season a little brighter for several military families including about 20 children.

This year's Santa Claus WBro. John Louderback was assisted by MWBro. Al Jorgensen and Lady Nancy Jorgensen, WBro. Seann Maria and Lady Alicia, WBro. Russell Johnson, VWBro. John Adamson, Mr. Sylvain Niles, Mr. Louis Turner, Mr. Mike Fehlauer, and Lady Mary Louderback.

We received this note from Sabina Wagner of the VA: "Mary and John – Please tell everyone that the Veterans were so very thankful. One of them called me and was tearful, she said her children were overwhelmed and appreciated it very much!!

Thank you again for thinking of our Veterans that may otherwise not be able to provide a holiday gift to the child(ren)."

B. Franklin's birthday 1/17/1706

How Ben Franklin Gave St. John's Lodge A Little Push

by Midnight Freemasons Contributor

Todd E. Creason



Almost everyone knows that Benjamin Franklin was a Freemason, but not so many know the interesting way Benjamin Franklin came to join the Freemasons.

Benjamin Franklin very much wanted to join St. John's Lodge of Philadelphia, but *at that time, you had to be invited to join the Freemasons*. He had a difficult time getting invited to join, and he hadn't been subtle in dropping hints that he'd like to join. He valued many of the same values the Freemasons respected. Much like Franklin, the Freemasons were dedicated to civic works and fellowship. They held a nonsectarian policy about religious toleration which mirrored his own beliefs. And without question, Franklin also saw membership as a step on the social ladder.

In hopes of currying favor with the Freemasons, he began to publish small, favorable pieces about the Freemasons in his newspaper. But that didn't work, so he tried a slightly different tactic. In December of 1730, he published a long article in his paper claiming to have uncovered some of the secrets of the Freemasons. He claimed one of these secrets was that many of the so-called "secrets" were actually hoaxes. And he claimed he would begin publishing those "secrets" in a series.

That got their attention!

Within a couple of weeks, Benjamin Franklin was initiated into the St. John's Lodge. Shortly after his initiation, his newspaper printed a retraction of the article and put in its place a glowing piece about the positive influences of Freemasonry.

Brother Benjamin Franklin became a Master Mason at St. John's Lodge in Philadelphia in 1731.

Todd E. Creason, 33° is the author of several books and novels, including the [Famous American Freemasons](#) series. He is member of Homer Lodge No. 199, and a Past Master of Ogden Lodge No. 754 (IL). He is a member the Scottish Rite Valley of Danville, the York Rite Bodies of Champaign/Urbana (IL), the Ansar Shrine (IL), Eastern Illinois Council No. 356 Allied Masonic Degrees, and Charter President of the Illini High Twelve in Champaign-Urbana (IL). You can contact him at: webmaster@toddcreason.org

MASONS PRESENT CHECKS FOR SHOP WITH A COP



The fourth annual "Shop with a Cop" initiative received a financial boost, thanks to a local fraternity in Laurinburg, North Carolina.

The Freemasons of Laurinburg Lodge 305 presented two checks in support of the local Shop with a Cop program at Lodge 305.

The money will go toward giving children in need a better Christmas. Law enforcement officers take the children to Walmart, where the child can choose their gifts for Christmas with the money allotted.

"There is nothing like seeing the smile on a kid's face," said Police Chief Darwin "Duke" Williams.

Williams added that Hurricane Florence affected the program because they normally raise money for the cause in October.

"In the past three years we always had a softball tournament and we would raise our own funds for it, but the hurricane kind of derailed us," said Williams. "We understand that the need is growing and we will try to accommodate as many kids as we can."

The program's target is to serve 20 to 30 children each year.

He stated that small kids and teens may get up to \$200 to get toys or electronics for the holidays.

Outgoing Lodge Master Michael Nobles presented the checks to Williams, Sgt. Van Horn and Scotland County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Lloyd Goins.

Goins said any money left over from their Shop With a Cop program goes to the Are You OK program. It deals with elderly people who are shut in or maybe do not have any family in the area. We have a system that calls them throughout the day," said Goins. "It's a well-being check."

DUES

In Latin *debere* meant to owe something; it is preserved in our familiar, too familiar, "debt," in debit, indebted, debenture, duty, dues, etc. Related is the French *devoir*, often employed in English, meaning a piece of work one is under obligation to do. The same idea appears in "duty," which means that which is due, or that which is owed, in the moral sense. Dues represent one's fixed and regular indebtedness to his Lodge which he placed himself under obligation to pay when he signed the by-laws.

THE BEEHIVE

In our Twentieth Century America, the word “industry” denotes manufacturing and factories classified as heavy industry and light industry; and connote machines and factory workers. When the Beehive is said to be an emblem of industry the word is not used in that sense, indeed, is used with an almost opposite meaning, for it is used in the sense of centuries ago, which was the true sense.

Industry was the employment of a very large number of men, tens of thousands in many instances, on one undertaking at one place and at the same time, and they might or might not use machinery. It was the method by which in the ages before heavy machinery vast building enterprises were accomplished, some of which have so long mystified modern men: the building of the pyramids, of the ancient Egyptian canals, of the hanging gardens of Babylon, of the Ziggurats, of vast Hindu temples, of the Chinese Great Wall and grand canal of the Mayan City of Chichen Itza, etc.; the same method by which in World War II the Burma and Ledo roads were constructed as well as great airfields in the remote hills of China; and the method by which from Caesar’s time until modern times the Dutch have built their hundreds of miles of dikes.

The Beehive is the perfect emblem, or typical instance of the power of industry, because what no one bee or succession of separate bees could accomplish is easy where hundreds of them work together at one task at one time.

The Medieval Freemasons did not study and think about the same subjects that architects and builders do now except in fundamentals, did not secure the elements of a building ready-made from factories, had no steam or electric or magnetic tools to use. Chemistry and physics were forbidden sciences, and could be studied by the initiate only in secret or under a heavy camouflage of symbolism. They had two great subjects: materials and men. A modern architect knows far more about materials than the Medieval builder because he has universities, literature, laboratories, and factories to draw on; but he knows far less about men, indeed, he knows almost nothing about men.

Where a modern builder looks to machines as the means to accomplish his results, the Medieval builder who had no power-driven machines had to look to men. For this reason the Medieval builder knew far more about work than his modern counterpart because work is nothing other than a man making use of himself as a means to get something made or produced or accomplished. Where a modern foreman thinks of himself as a supervisor of a building full of machines the Medieval foreman thought of himself as a Master of workmen. By the same token a workman had to know himself, instead of a machine,

because he was his own machine. Skill is the expert use of one’s self.

It was for such reasons that Medieval Freemasons thought much about and had a wide knowledge of the forms of work. There are some fifty-two of these.

Industry itself is one of them, the most massive and most dramatic, but not the most important. Where a man makes everything by himself from the raw materials to the finished product, is another. Where a number of men work in a line at the same bench and where the first does one thing to the “job,” the second does another, and so on until the “job” is completed by the last man, so that it is the job and not the men who move, is another form of work. Where one man completes one thing, another, perhaps in another place, completes another, and so on, and where finally a man combines a number of completed things to make one thing, is another form of work; etc., etc.

The general organization of a Lodge is based on the principle of forms of work; so are the stations and places of officers. Though as an emblem of the form of work called industry – the Beehive symbolizes only one in particular – it at the same time represents the system of forms of work, and is, as it were, an ensemble of them; and from it a sufficiently well-informed thinker could think out the system of Masonic Philosophy. In our Craft the whole of fraternalism is nothing other than the fellowship required by the forms of work, because the majority of them require men to work together in association, in stations and places, and therefore in co-operation.

It is strange that in its present-day stage of development the so-called science of economics should concern itself solely with such subjects as wages, machines, money, transportation because these are but incidentals and accidentals. Work is the topic proper to economics; and the forms of work are its proper subject-matter. Any scholar or thinker who chances to be a Mason could find in his own Fraternity a starting point for a new economics, as fresh and revolutionary and revealing as was the work of Copernicus in astronomy, of Newton in physics, of Darwin in biology. A beehive itself is a trifle, and scarcely worth ten minutes of thought; what it stands for is one of the largest and most important subjects in the world, and up until now one of the least understood.

- Source: Mackey’s Encyclopedia of Freemasonry

The lectures teach us that at the building of King Solomon’s Temple there was “not heard the sound of axe, hammer, or any tools of iron.” The circumstance has been appropriated in Freemasonry to symbolize the entire peace and harmony which should prevail among Freemasons when laboring on that spiritual temple of which the Solomonic Temple was the archetype.

