

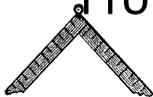


Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897 A.F. & A.M.
897 East Blanco Road • Boerne, Texas 78006



August 2016

From the East



Greeting Brethren,

I came across this in *Morals and Dogma* by Bro. Albert Pike, and wanted to share it.



“The three greatest moral forces are FAITH, which is the only true WISDOM, and the very foundation of all government; HOPE, which is STRENGTH, and insures success; and CHARITY, which is BEAUTY, and alone makes animated, united effort possible. These forces are within the reach of all men; and an association of men, actuated by them, ought to exercise an immense power in the world. If Masonry does not, it is because she has ceased to possess them.

Wisdom in the man or statesman, in king or priest, largely consists in the due appreciation of these forces; and upon the general non-appreciation of some of them the fate of nations often depends. What hecatombs of lives often hang upon the not weighing or not sufficiently weighing the force of an idea, such as, for example, the reverence for a flag, or the blind attachment to a form or constitution of government!

What errors in political economy and statesmanship are committed in consequence of the over-estimation or under-estimation of particular values, or the non-estimation of some among them ! Everything, it is asserted, is the product of human labor; but the gold or the diamond which one accidentally finds without la-

bor is not so. What is the value of the labor bestowed by the husbandman upon his crops, compared with the value of the sunshine and rain, without which his labor avails nothing? Commerce carried on by the labor of man, adds to the value of the products of the field, the mine, or the workshop, by their transportation to different markets; but how much of this increase is due to the rivers down which these products float, to the winds that urge the keels of commerce over the oceans!

=====

What is the role of Speculative Masonry?

Excerpts from the Old Charges

III. Of Lodges.

A Lodge is a Place where Masons assemble and work: Hence that Assembly, or duly organiz'd Society of Masons, is call'd a Lodge, and every Brother ought to belong to one, and to be subject to its By-Laws and the General Regulations. It is either particular or general, and will be best **understood by attending** it, and by the Regulations of the General or Grand Lodge hereunto annex'd.....

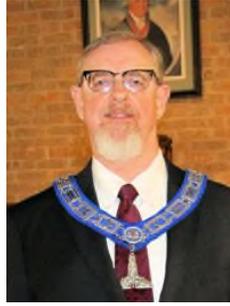
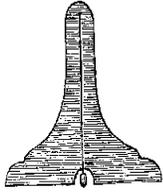
V. Of the Management of the Craft in working.

.....A younger Brother shall be instructed in working, to prevent spoiling the Materials for want of Judgment, and for increasing and continuing of Brotherly Love.

So how do these “Old Charges” apply to Masonry in the twenty first century?



FROM THE WEST



As a follow-up to last month's article, I'd like to take a look at the Plumb. Again, from "Level & Plumb," Short Talk Bulletin, Vol. II, No. 6, June 1924:

The Plumb

The Plumb is a symbol so simple that it needs no exposition. As the Level teaches unity in diversity and equality in difference, so the Plumb is a symbol of rectitude of conduct, integrity of life, and that uprightness of moral character which makes a good and just man. In the art of building accuracy is integrity, and if a wall be not exactly perpendicular, as tested by the Plumb-Line, it is weak and may fall, or else endanger the strength and stability of the whole. Just so, though we meet upon a Level, we must each build an upright character by the test of the Plumb, or we weaken the Fraternity we seek to serve and imperil its strength and standing in the community,

As a workman dare not deviate by the breadth of a hair to the right or to the left if his wall is to be strong and his arch stable, so Masons must walk erect and live upright lives. What is meant by an upright life each of us knows, but it has never been better described than in the 15th Psalm, which may be called the religion of a gentleman and the design upon the Trestle-board of every Mason:

"Lord, who shall abide in Thy Tabernacle? Who shall dwell in Thy Holy Hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness and speak-

eth the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbor, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor. In whose eyes a vile person is condemned; but he honoreth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved."

What is true of a man is equally true of a nation. The strength of a nation is its integrity, and no nation is stronger than the moral quality of the men who are its citizens. Always it comes back at last to the individual, who is a living stone in the wall of society and the State, making it strong or weak. By every act of injustice, by every lack of integrity, we weaken society and imperil the security and sanctity of the common life. By every noble act we make all sacred things more sacred and secure for ourselves and for those who come after us. The Prophet Amos has a thrilling passage in which he lets us see how God tested the people which were of old, by the Plumb-Line; and by the same test we are tried:

"Thus He Showed me; and, behold, the Lord stood upon a wall made by a Plumb-Line, with a Plumb-Line in His Hand. And the Lord said unto me; 'Amos, what seest thou?' And I said, 'A Plumb-Line.' Then said the Lord, 'Behold, I will set a Plumb-Line in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass them by any more.'"

Dow Mathis
Senior Warden

Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897

Death

Grover C. Carroll Jr.



Almighty Father! Into Thy hands we commend the soul of our beloved Brother.



From the South



From the South,

It is common knowledge within our craft that Masonry is a system of morals wrapped in allegory, but how masonry approaches our moral outlook is not often considered.

There are many theories out there concerning the best way to approach or achieve a moral outlook; to name a few of the major theories out there, there is the consequentialist theory, the nonconsequentialist theory, and finally the virtue theory.

Masonry's approach to achieve our system of morals stems from the virtue theory, that is morality that makes virtue the central concern. The most notable virtue theorist was Aristotle who said "the moral life consists not in following moral rules that stipulate right actions but in striving to be a particular kind of person, a virtuous person whose actions stem naturally from virtuous character". If we apply this statement to the beginning of our journey within Masonry, where we first build a strong foundation from which to become better men, we can easily see the virtuous system in place.

As an Entered Apprentice we learn the four cardinal virtues, which can be found in the monitor, and are Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice. A man learns to use restraint on his passions or desires with the virtue of temperance, which is finding that middle ground between the two extremes of overindulgence and under indulgence. From temperance comes humility, modesty, and gentleness. The virtue of Fortitude gives us "that noble and steady purpose of mind", its finding the middle ground between timidity cowardliness and unjustified aggressiveness. From fortitude comes patience, endurance and perseverance. Next is prudence, the virtue that teaches us to regulate our lives and actions by the dictate of reason and logic. Within prudence we learn to be cautious, or to



think twice before we act. Finally, the cardinal virtue of justice, while it is last on the list it is certainly one of the most important, in fact the ancients considered it to be the most complete of the virtues. Justice is the virtue in which we learn to give to others what is due without distinction; it teaches us to be truthful and obedient.

All of these virtues teach us to find the middle ground between two extremes. Now what do we do with these virtues, how do we apply them to strengthen our base upon which we will build everything else? Building a virtuous character takes time, dedication and discipline; it's developed one application of such virtue at a time which will eventually lead to the development of the ultimate virtue of wisdom.

The more one practices such virtues the easier they become over time. If we do not learn the application and practice of these virtues, they instead become vices over time. It boils down to one simple thing: we develop virtue through our Will, or power of choice, we can either be virtuous moral men or we can succumb to our vices. The practice of virtue is the practice of our moral system.

Next month on the menu for our Stated meeting we will be enjoying lasagna with garlic toast and salad, all prepared by our faithful Stewards. Lastly brethren I would like to remind everyone that we will be having our monthly philosophical round table at Hillbillyz of Texas on August 22nd starting at 6:30pm. Please join us for dinner, drinks and good conversation.

**Fraternally,
Matthew Archilla
Junior Warden**





<i>August Birthdays</i>	
Brother	Date
Cecil L. Noah	8/2
Ovidio M. Flores	8/4
Ronnie D. Pfeil	8/5
Herman W. Floyd	8/5
William H. Carder III	8/6
John W. Angle	8/6
Garil D. Allerkamp	8/8
Charles B. Dreyer	8/8
James J. Lyssy	8/10
John L. Eaton	8/11
James E. Davies	8/12
Jeffrey Prasel	8/13
Donald W. Jones	8/15
Donald D. Sharp	8/15
Thomas C. Williams	8/19
Richard L. Wackerman	8/20
Gaylin E. Kinsey	8/20
Eugene Wall	8/22
Antonio Hidalgo	8/22
Gene C. Worthington	8/23
Arthur B. Williams	8/27
Mark D. Dalpiaz	8/29
Jay M. Miller	8/29

<i>August Service Anniversaries</i>	
Brother	Years MM
Daniel J. Basarich	58
Howard H. Hutsell Jr.	67
Eugene Wall	56
Rudolph Aue III	55
Terell E. Norris	52
Donald W. Jones	47
Richard D. Baggs	39
Mark D. Dalpiaz	35
Douglas R. Babbitt	34
Darrell S. Noah	32
Gary L. Bausell	14
Brent W. Berry	14
Robert B. Beseth	12
Robert B. McGill	11
William H. Carder III	9
Curt G. Campbell	7
Todd J. Caron4	4
Charles L. Clark	2



<i>Building Preservation July Donations</i>	
<u>Donor</u>	<u>In Memory/Honor of</u>
Billy Lemmons Jr.	Bro. Billy Lemmons Sr.
Robert Easterling	Margie Hoops
Abb Kestler	Bro. Dan Mason
Gary Bausell	
Dow Mathis	
Billy Lieck	
Margie Hoops	Bob Easterling
David Bruton	David W. Bruton



SECRETARY'S CORNER



Brethren... We are picking up where we left off last year. We balloted on a new candidate in July's Stated Meeting and will soon be performing an Entered Apprentice Degree for him. At the same time we're investigating another candidate who will be balloted on at August's Stated Meeting.



We certainly could use your help and presence in the degree work. **So come to the practice, refresh your knowledge, and hone your skills in degree work.** We're here Monday evenings at 7 PM, Wednesday and Saturday mornings after 9 AM. We won't throw you in until you're ready.

On a sad note Past Master Grover C. Carroll Jr. passed away on Saturday, July 16th, and was interred at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery on Thursday, July 21st. Please keep his Son, Marty Carroll, and the family in your thoughts and prayers. Brother Carroll had over 60 Years of Masonic Service.

Here are a few things to put on your calendar for July:



Monday, August 15th, will be our **August Stated Meeting** with Dinner starting at 6:30 PM, Food and Fellowship last until 7:20 PM or so, and our Stated Meeting starts at 7:30 PM. Some of our wives stay in the Banquet Room during the meeting so bring your wife and/or other family members and come to the dinner and meeting.

In other Fraternal Bodies:



The 51st Masonic District's M. C. Holman Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association will meet in Medina on August 24th with a light dinner at 6:30 PM and the Stated Meeting at 7:00 PM. During the last two months we've had Brothers Gary Mossmeier and Paul Underwood, respectively, come to the June and July Meetings. They are running for the Grand South during the next Grand Communication in January 2017. This month Brother

Bob Coldwell will address us with his vision of the future in the Grand Lodge of Texas. Other candidates will follow. All Masons and guests are welcome to attend.

The Order of the Eastern Star will hold Grand Chapter in Tyler from September 1st – 3rd.

Brethren... I know it's summertime and vacations take us away. However, if you're home then come to our Stated Meeting dinners and sessions on the third Mondays. We eat at 6:30 PM and meet at 7:30 PM. We have great family-time fellowship. We want to see YOU!

Don't say that there is nothing going on at the lodge for you. We always have something going on that you can be a part of.

Gary L. Bausell

Secretary

August 2016

You are cordially invited to attend the unveiling of

**THE LEGEND,
THE LORE,
THE LAW**

A monumental bronze by 3rd generation sculptor

DUSTIN PAYNE
Mason A&A

Saturday, August 13, 2016
10:00 am

Texas Rangers Heritage Center
1618 East Main St, Fredericksburg, TX
Refreshments provided.

The life-size bronze depicts the history of the Texas Rangers on horseback from 1823 to present day.

For more information regarding the bronze or the Former Texas Rangers Foundation, contact 830-990-1192.

www.TRHC.org