



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



March 2017

From the East



Greetings Brethren,

The Age of Enlightenment brought about the concept of the universality of men in a society where ones religious and political beliefs does not affect the rights of an individual. Freemasonry can be said to be freedom from an antiquated idea of feudalism and servitude. Masonry is more than just a fellowship event, it provides a fantastic concept of ethical and moral obligation to each other passed thru the rituals of our fraternity. Circumambulation is a powerful and easy to understand symbolic method of conveying Masonic ideas and lessons. Each Brother will see within the ritual that which he wishes or needs to see.

The practice of circumambulation can be traced to the rituals of the priest in King Solomon's Temple. This religious practice is derived from a shared source in ancient history. Circumambulation is a symbolic of the ancient priest walking around the alter three times that they might pay respect to what is on the alter as well as to prepare themselves for to receive "LIGHT." Always traveling from West to East by way of the South, the purpose of this act was to prepare oneself for a harmonious interaction with the universe, veneration and purification.

The purpose of this practice in Masonic Ritual may serve to incorporate some or all of these purposes and preform these rituals as the ancients Priest of King Solomon's Temple. We emulate these ancients Priest of King Solomon's Temple, by moving in a clockwise direction from West to East by way of the South.

The process could be described as preparing and purifying the uninitiated so that he might receive light. We do this quietly and with solemnity and respect of the ritual. Every part of our rituals are purposefully selected and intended to convey hidden symbolic meaning. Human nature is fundamentally familial in character

and our rituals reinforce the sense of our Masonic community in a profane world.

There are many common themes in Masonic and Jewish rituals symbols, and words.

- Belief in God, prayer, immortality of the soul, charity, and acting respectfully to all people are essential elements of Freemasonry.
- Statements of ethical standards, teach that we must discipline ourselves and keep our passions in check.
- Provides for the greatest respect and support for freedom of individuals. Judaism teaches that everyone is capable of good or evil and attempts to help us use our free will to choose the righteous path. Masonry teaches that those who are morally fit can find "light" if they desire it of their own free will.
- Contrast the holiday of Chanukah with the use of light in Masonry, where it represents the Divine spirit, religious freedom, and rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem and of the spiritual Temple within us all.
- One of the fundamental symbols of Masonry is the Temple of Solomon, King Solomon, one of the greatest figures in Jewish history, is also one of the most important figures in Masonic rituals.

"Rabbi Yochanan and Rabbi Yonathan traveled one day together; they came to two roads, one of which led by the door of a place devoted to the worship of idols, and the other by a place of ill fame. Upon which one said to the other, "Let us go by the former, because our inclination to the evil that waylays us there is already extinguished." "Nay, rather," said the other, "let us go by the latter, and curb our desires; so shall we receive a reward in recompense." In this resolution they went on, and as they passed the place the women humbled themselves before them and withdrew ashamed into their chambers. Then Yochanan asked the other, "How didst thou know that this would occur to us?" He made answer, "From what is written (in Prov. ii. 2), 'Discretion (in the law) shall preserve thee.'"

+ + +

Albert G. Mackey

The Symbolism of Freemasonry

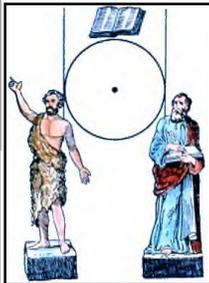
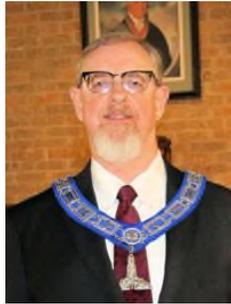
<http://www.sacred-texts.com/mas/sof/index.htm>



FROM THE WEST

“In the name of God and the Holy Saints John.”

Part II: St. John the Evangelist



St. John the Evangelist, with St. John the Baptist, are considered the patron saints by the fraternity. The festival of St. John on December 27th is the beginning of the lodge year in many jurisdictions, and is marked by special commemorations.

A special reverence and interest is attached to St. John the Evangelist — 'the disciple whom Jesus loved.' The only disciple of Christ to not forsake him in the hour of His Passion at the foot of the cross and he was the first to reach the tomb; when he met the risen Lord at the lake of Tiberius, where he was the first to recognize Him. He is also attributed as the writer of the Epistles of John, and the book of Revelation.

December 27th is Saint John the Evangelist day, which is the 2nd feast day in the year to celebrate the Holy Saints John. The placement of the holiday also marks the winter solstice, which is directly opposite Saint John the Baptist’s day at the summer solstice in June making a notable completion in the cycle of the solar year. While the actual dates are slightly off (the winter solstice falls between Dec. 20-23, and the Summer solstice between June 20-22), the symbolism is obvious. Among all the nations of antiquity, the equinoxes and solstices were ever regarded as seasons of great importance, and the winter and summer solstice, the shortest day and the longest day of the year, were commemorated with great ceremony. The well-known Masonic symbol, the point within a circle bounded by the two parallels - refers to this - the point, the sun, the center of the solar system; the circle, the earth's orbit around the sun; the parallels, where they touch the circle, the winter and summer solstice, the limit of the sun's apparent course to the Northward and Southward of the Equator.

The Masons, finding the St. John's day of the church occurred about the time when they had been in the habit of enjoying a festival season for ages, chose to call it St. John's day, and so observe it; until those who have inherited their Masonry, having overlooked the true Masonic reason for the celebration at this season of the year, have very generally ceased to celebrate it, even as the anniversary of one of their patron Saints.

We regard it as very much to be regretted that Masons fail to celebrate the day of the Evangelist St. John. It is a loss to Masonry. It is a surrender of an opportunity to direct the minds of the Fraternity to the origin of their Institution, antedating the times of Christ and the Evangelist, antedating the times of the ancient Druids, who in celebrating the great winter festival were merely commemorating a season which had been observed by men and Masons from the beginning.

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St._John%27s_Day,_Masonic_feast
- <http://www.thebookofdays.com/months/dec/27.htm>
- http://www.themasonictrowel.com/Articles/Symbolism/st_johns_files/the_festival_of_st_john_the_evangelist.htm

Ibid.

<i>March Birthdays</i>	
Brother	Date
Fred L. Waterman	3/3
David K. Clerico	3/4
Charley A. Taylor	3/8
Robert E. Magers	3/8
Daniel J. Basarich	3/9
L.D. Martin	3/11
Robert M. Tucker	3/11
Larry D. Ross	3/12
Mark E. Morley	3/13
Dow C. Mathis	3/15
Lyndon R. Herridge	3/19
James E. Berne Jr.	3/21
Joseph E. Sill	3/25
Alexander H. Zogheib III	3/25
James W. Gooden	3/31
Gavin D. Waldeck	3/31



Core Values
Matt Hite

Core values are defined as the fundamental beliefs of a person or organization. They are those guiding principles that dictate behavior and action. Core values are the hallmark of any organization that has stood the test of time. One of the most notable Masons in American history is our beloved brother, George Washington. In addition to being the first Commander in Chief, and President of the United States, General Washington had a long association with the then Continental Army prior to becoming President. This fledgling military body rapidly evolved from an amalgamation of local militias, into a world class military force that would ultimately defeat the most powerful army in world at the Battle of Yorktown in 1781. General Washington was able to transform this grouping of colonial militias into a credible, and cohesive military force through training, discipline, and establishment of core values. While the Army has evolved since that early victory at Yorktown, one thing that has remained, is a reliance on core values. General Washington recognized the importance of core values during the formation of the Continental Army. These fundamental beliefs that guide an organization, could be applied equally to any institution, from the newly formed Continental Army, to Freemasonry. While the core values of the present day United States Army have evolved over time, they are still guiding principles that dictate behavior and action.

The current Army core values, Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage, and are taught to new Soldiers using the acronym LDRSHIP. Each of these core values can be applied not only to modern profession of arms, but also to the fraternity.

Loyalty: In Army values, this means to bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, and other Soldiers. In the fraternity, this could be applied by being loyal to the fraternity, and to brother Masons, and also being that quiet, and peaceful citizen referred to in the charge of the Entered Apprentice degree.

Duty: From a military perspective this means to fulfil your obligation. Accept responsibility for your own actions, and those entrusted to your care. Find opportunities to improve oneself for the good of the group. The parallel with fulfilling an obligation is readily apparent to Masons. The idea of improving oneself to benefit the larger group is at the very heart of Freemasonry.

Respect: For Soldiers, civilians, and Masons, this means following the Golden Rule. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. How we regard, and more importantly, how we treat others, reflects upon each of us, both as an individual, and as a member of any group.

Selfless Service: In the profession of arms, this

means to place the welfare of the nation, the Army, and your subordinates before your own. This value leads to organizational team work, and encompasses discipline, self-control, and faith in the system. In Freemasonry, this core value is first inculcated with that very important lesson in charity taught during the First Degree. Placing the needs of others before self is one of the first lessons taught, and speaks directly to importance placed on this value in the fraternity.

Honor: Live up to all of the Army values. However, this value can be applied in equal measure to any organization one may be a member of. A profession, religion, fraternity, etc. This value speaks directly to character. The actions of one, can often be attributed to an entire group of which the one is a member.

Integrity: Do what is right, morally, and legally. This is often explained to Soldiers as doing the right thing, especially when no one is looking. It is also explained as the ability to choose the harder right, over the easier wrong. This value can be applied to any aspect of one's personal, or professional life. It is the relentless inner voice. It is the moral compass.

Personal Courage: To Soldiers, this has several meanings. Most obviously, it is the ability to face fear, danger, or adversity, which is central to the profession of arms. The ability to "run to the sound of the guns", despite the natural fear, or thoughts of self-preservation involved is expected of Soldiers. To the fraternity, this applies more to moral courage, than to fear of physical danger. It is the ability, along with integrity, to do what is right, despite influences or pressures to the contrary.

Core values, those fundamental beliefs of a person, or organization that dictate behavior and action are often applied without thinking. They are so deeply ingrained, that they are applied without conscious thought. The next time you face a difficult decision, or find yourself facing an ethical dilemma, consciously think about your personal core values, and those of the fraternity, and you will be pleasantly surprised how quickly the right choice becomes apparent. While it may not necessarily be the easiest, or most pleasant choice, it will be the right the choice.

Building Preservation February Donations	
<i><u>Donor</u></i>	<i><u>In Memory/Honor of</u></i>
Billy Lemmons Jr.	Bro. Billy Lemmons Sr.
Bob Easterling	Tina Easterling
Kyle Jackson	Chad Shirley
David Vaughn	897



From the South



Brethren,

Are you a traveling man? If your answer is yes, our journey this month takes us to the East. Having traveled in a Westwardly direction we have explored the virtues of such Religions. The journey has taken us through the three Abrahamic Religions thus far, namely Judaism, Christianity and finally Islam, but this month we will be examining the virtues of the oldest known religion in the world: Hinduism.

For this month's article, I journeyed to India, or a smaller version of it; located on the Northwest side of San Antonio sits the Hindu Temple of San Antonio. Although located in San Antonio, the Hindu Temple of San Antonio was a place apart from the City. The Temple rests on top of a hill overlooking Helotes and with a very beautiful and serene atmosphere it definitely stirs a peaceful feeling within. Once inside I met with a gentleman who explained much of the religion, or rather way of life, before I even met with the priest who better directed me on specifics of the Hindu belief system.

Hinduism is really a Western term for a collection of Indian cultures and traditions that long ago were brought together to form a loose religion with a variety of philosophies. A more accurate term used to describe Hinduism is *Sanatana Dharma* or "the eternal law", and is a diversity of ideas relating to Spirituality. One of the biggest misconceptions about the practice of Hinduism is that it is a polytheistic religion, when in fact it is monotheistic, or a belief in One God. An example of this can be found in the *Rig Veda*, Book I, Hymn 164, verse 46, "to what is One, sages give may a title." Although those that practice Hinduism often worship three Gods, Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva, called the Trimurti, or Trinity, these three Gods are in fact the manifestation of the different characteristics of the One God. In fact, for the Hindu religion, it does not require a worship of their specific deities, a person could maintain belief in their chosen deity and practice Hinduism in their daily life; all paths to God are valid according to the Hindu philosophy. Another Hymn found in their brochure illustrates this: "Just as rain water, regardless of where it falls, eventually reaches the ocean, salutations to all Gods eventually reach the One God".

It was an interesting experience overall, from the beautiful surroundings and temple, to learning about the many philosophies contained within the Hindu belief system; but what are their virtues we seek to learn about?

To understand virtues important to Hinduism we first

have to look at the word *Dharma*, which has multiple meanings and can be a somewhat elusive concept to lock down. In short *Dharma*, according to Hinduism, is an individual's duty fulfilled by practice and observations. *Dharma* is itself a totality of the moral law, and encompasses many of what we would call virtues that enables one to fulfill their duty. With respect to morals, in short, anything that helps a person reach God is *Dharma* (virtue), anything that hinders that path is *adharma* (a vice). As a guide to practice the observance of *Dharma* the saga *Manu* wrote ten observations that closely resemble what we would call virtues, they are: "patience, forgiveness, self control, honesty, sanctity, control of senses, knowledge or learning, truthfulness and absence of anger." Now that we have some understanding or sense of *Dharma*, (which already seems as if we have examined the Hindu virtues) we can examine the five virtues or what Hindus term *yoga's* (paths), most important to living a moral life. For convenience, I will list them in bullet form as I have done in previous articles.

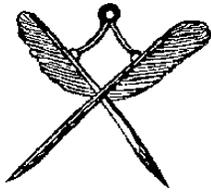
- Bhakit yoga – path for devotion
- Jnaana yoga – path of knowledge
- Karma yoga – path of action
- Raaja yoga – path of control over mind and body
- Kama yoga – path of desire, passion or pleasure

Together with the understanding of *Dharma*, an individual practicing Hinduism will be heading toward a virtuous living reaching the ultimate goal of *moksha* or liberation of *samsara* (cycles of life), and ultimate unification with God.

Please join us this month brethren for our quarterly philosophical round table meeting at Hillbillyz off FM 473. Our meeting starts about 6pm on March 6th and is filled with good food and good conversation. If you are interested in attending please contact the Lodge or myself for specifics if needed.

Finally, our OES will be hosting our Stated Meeting in March, please join us for a wonderful meal and our monthly meeting that follows.





SECRETARY'S CORNER

Brethren... We're preparing to confer two (2) Master Mason Degree's and two (2) Entered Apprentice Degrees in the next few weeks. We conferred a Fellowcraft Degree in February. Where were you? There is still a lot of year left and things for you to help with. So before we get ahead of ourselves, here are some of the things going on this month.

Also... to be in good standing in 2017 you need one of the dues cards which say, "Exp Date 12/31/2017" in your wallet. I notified all Brethren by email that have their email address on file with the lodge. If we don't have yours, then please send it to me at the lodge at kendall897@gvtc.com. Thanks!

First let me thank those of you who helped purchase, prepare, cook, serve, and attend our **Sweethearts Luncheon on Saturday, February 18th**. We had five (5) Sweethearts and five (5) of our wives who attended, ate lunch with us, and enjoyed the program by Pastor and Past Master Joe Walts. I will mention one observation. **Out of almost 220 members, most within a short drive of Boerne, we had nine (9) Brothers present to honor these ladies. Not our best showing.**

I would also like to congratulate "**Lucky**" **Stevenson of Toyota of Boerne** who was truly lucky and won our Fall Raffle Prize of a His & Hers Handgun Set with a semi-automatic .40 caliber Glock for him and a .38 Special Taurus Ladies Revolver for her along with CHL classes for each. Thanks to everyone who purchased a ticket as all of the money goes to our scholarship fund.

March may be a windy month, but tie these to your calendar:



Saturday, March 4th at 8:00 AM Brethren will meet at the Firefighter's Museum to march to Alamo Plaza for the Alamo Observance wreath laying at 9:00 AM by the Grand Master of Masons in Texas, :.M.: W Jerry N. Kirby. At 11:00 AM there will be a Masonic Youth Brunch at the San Antonio Shrine Auditorium (Tickets will be \$10.00). Grand Lodge will begin registration at 12:00 PM and the Grand Master's Conference will start at 1:00 PM.



Monday March 6th at 6:30-8:30 PM there will be a **Philosophical Round Table** held by Junior Warden Matt Archilla at **HillBillyz of Texas** at 1931 FM 473, Brother Billy Lieck has invited the Brethren to come out to his establishment and enjoy food and an evening of Masonic discussions. We've had great turnouts so come on again!.



Monday, March 20th, will be our **March Stated**

Meeting with Dinner starting at 6:30 PM, Food and Fellowship lasting until 7:20 PM or so, and our Stated Meeting starting at 7:30 PM. Boerne Chapter No. 200, Order of the Eastern Star will be providing our dinner in honor of the Masons of Kendall Lodge this evening. 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.

PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:

Saturday, April 1st at 11:30-2:00 PM will be our annual **Kendall Lodge Fish Fry**. Tickets will only be **\$10.00** again **this year for fish, sides, drinks, and dessert**. We've had great turnouts so come on again!

Saturday, April 8th at 9:00 AM will be the **Committee on Work Forum** and starting at **1:00 PM** the **Certificate Exams** will be held for A, B, and C certificates. Kendall is hosting the Forum this year with newly elected Committee on Work member Keith Richards overseeing the work.

Brethren Remember: It is important to get together and socialize with the Brethren from time to time and rekindle that fuel that first brought you to Masonry in the first place.

Gary L. Bausell

Secretary
March 2017

<i>March Service Anniversary</i>	
Brother	Years MM
Charles W. Lloyd Sr.	57
William D. Hammett Jr.	59
William R. Lemmons Sr.	57
Thomas E. Carnes	54
Maurice R. Rose	53
James H. Alston	51
Gene C. Worthington	49
Marvil L. Agold	49
Thomas F. Sawyer	48
Charles B. Dreyer	43
Steven C. Marsh	43
Terrance J. Degrood	36
Jeffery R. Christoff	35
Ronnie D. Pfeil	32
William B. Scales	14
Eric B. Viereck	13
Aaron D. Matherly	9
Tyler G. Smith	6

Kendall Masonic Lodge

FISH FRY!

Saturday
April 1, 2017
11am — 2 pm
897 E. Blanco Rd
Boerne, Texas 78006
(Next to the Post Office)
(830) 249-8917



Fried Fish
French Fries
Coleslaw
Hushpuppies
Dessert
Ice Tea



Suggested Donation **\$10**