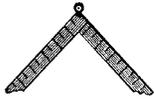




April 2018

FROM THE EAST



On the Level



We make a lot of the term, “on the level.” But what does it mean in our regular lives? Of course, it means to be honest and live an honorable life, and it means letting your word be your bond. When you “level” with someone, you’re telling them like it is, without whitewashing it or embellishing it in any way. However, I think that I found another meaning to it just recently. One evening I was talking to my son, and I found myself saying, for what I swear is the thousandth time, “If you would just do what you must do first, then you can do what you want to do, and nobody will fuss at you about it.” Of course, he said “Yes Sir”, and I know that he meant it and that he’ll try. But I also know that that he’ll likely slip up and do what he wants first instead of his chores, and he’ll get in trouble, and we’ll have to have this same discussion all over again. I went through a similar experience with his brother when he was about this age, and as I remember, it lasted several years.

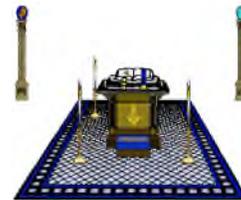
Anyway, in thinking about this “character building” experience, it occurred to me that this is another example of the meaning of being “on the level.” By that I mean consciously doing what you know needs to be done, or should be done, before doing what you want to do. And in some ways, I think that this form of being “on the level” is the hardest. It’s so easy to get sidetracked, especially when we’re engaged on a task that we’d rather have nothing to do with. Whether it’s doing the taxes, or the laundry, any of a number of other activities which we’d rather avoid, it’s important that we keep our nose to the

grindstone and get the “must do’s” done before the “want to’s.”

How do we do that, you ask? Well, as we’re grown, we can’t count on our parents to remind us, nor would most of us want to have our parents finding fault with our actions. No, we have to do this ourselves, or maybe ask the help of a worthy brother to “whisper good council” and guide us back to the path when we wander.

I guess that what I’m trying to say is that, while it’s easy to see when and where our kids drift from the path, it can be very hard to see where we drift. And it’s extremely important to keep a close eye that we always live and act “on the level.” So do the hard thing. Do the unpleasant, but necessary thing. Do the difficult or boring or annoying thing first. That way, you’re doing your best, and you can move along to more pleasant or fun or profitable things. Like I told my son, “If you would just do what you must do first, then you can do what you want to do, and nobody will fuss at you about it.” Live on the level. Always.

Dow Mathis
Master



Kendall Masonic Lodge No. 897 Deaths



Jimmie Charles Adam

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



A MASTER'S WAGES

by Carl H. Claudy
THE MASTER MASON - MAY 1925

WHEN MASONRY was operative, the Fellow of the Craft labored long and earnestly to fit himself to produce his Master's piece, by which he would be enabled to prove himself fit to receive the Mason word - what we know as "the Secret Word of a Master Mason" - that he might go where he would, prove himself a Master and receive a Master's wages.

Now that Masonry is speculative only, many who apply and receive the degrees think that the mere possession of the secret word makes them fit to receive a Master's wages, forgetting that it was not the word, but the fitness to receive it, which qualified their ancient operative brethren for a Master's wages.

But the speculative Mason can no more receive a Master's wages today than in days of old, unless he be truly a Master. Writing "Master Mason" after one's name does not make one such in the speculative sense. Having one's name inscribed upon the by-laws of a Lodge does not make one truly a Master Mason.

Being a Master Mason is wholly a matter of the heart and mind; unless the one be humble, the other eager to learn and willing to study, a man may never truly be a Master Mason - aye, though he take every degree in every Rite and wear a jewel pin for every title he assumes.

In ancient days a Master's wages were paid in coin of the realm. They are no less so paid today, but the realm is of the Inner man, not the world of society. The wages received by a Master Mason who has fitted himself to earn them are paid in that which money cannot purchase. Not by favoritism or influence or high estate can any man win a Master's wages; if he receives them, it is because of what he is, what he thinks, and how he thinks it. From the time a Fellowcraft goes alone to the Altar to make his petition to Deity he stands alone or falls. When he is raised to the Sublime Degree, his brethren and his lodge have done all they can for him; if he is ever to receive a Master's wages, it will be because of what he does for himself.

A Master's wages are paid in the knowledge of the human heart; its dependence upon love and friendship, its eagerness to give for the love of giving, its humble hope of receiving for the simple human joy of being

beloved. They are paid in knowledge which girds a man in armor through which misfortune, hard times, ill luck, cannot pierce. They are paid in the security which comes from certain knowledge of millions of brethren sworn to your aid and support - and make no mistake about this, my brother; though you may never need to make appeal, though no man spreads his call for help throughout the whole Masonic world, no matter where that call echoes, there will be some who hear and heed. A Master's wages are paid in friends of the heart; friends who make life rich with its fairest treasures. The sentimentalist sings of the friend of his youth. It is true that friendship deepens with time; a common past is the foundation on which many a friendship is based. Freemasonry supplies such a past. Men linked in the Mystic Tie can think, symbolically, of their friendship beginning thousands of years ago! The friends made in Masonry are of tested steel; there are none better. A Master's wages are paid in the knowledge of closeness to and communion with the Great Architect of the Universe. In the practice of Freemasonry a Master Mason draws close to God. The All Seeing Eye to him is a friendly one. No man spends time in a lodge without having his faith strengthened; in days when mental confusion, doubt, debate and argument undermine beliefs less solidly founded, the firm foundation for simple beliefs which comes from Freemasonry is surely not the least of the coins in which a Master receives his wages.

And a Master's wages are paid in strength to endure, in courage to proceed, in hope of the future and in joy in the present.

These are wages worth working for! These are coins besides which those of minted gold show themselves to be the dross they are! For these are the wages given to character.

Freemasonry gives us wages according to our labor; and if we work faithfully, we may be sure, as in the parable, we shall receive each man his penny. But Freemasonry, like any other institution, pays in a sliding scale according to the worth of the labor given; the Apprentice receives less than the Fellow of the Craft, and he less than a Master. See to it, my brother, that you are a Master in fact as well as in name; so shall you learn the real meaning of the Word by which some day you will travel in a far, far country, where there is neither gold nor silver, and where, indeed, the only coins which can be used are those you here fit yourself to receive - a Master's wages.



FROM THE SOUTH



Brethren,



Barriers and or obstructions

are those unpleasant things you see or think of when you are derailed with an unexpected incident, a challenge or an unfavorable encounter. Usually, we lose focus and we no longer see our initial goal or are having a difficult time seeing it. We tend to get submerged with our emotions and have to really be careful of how much to entertain those thoughts when we don't focus. One of the best, most efficient ways to stay where you are or even go backward is to focus on those barriers and or obstructions. They are the distractions that prevent us from becoming the best we can.

When we take on a challenge and accept what needs to be done, we test ourselves. At this moment, you have taken the responsibility and acceptance of failure or cutting your losses. Once you step out of your complacent zone, you are now willing to accept the critiques of those involved, those watching and those who will learn about it later on.

"Yet, Masonry teaches us to be dissatisfied - discontent - with the status quo. Freemasonry challenges us to reach for the ideals of justice, brotherly love, and improvement - individually and as a fraternity."

More so than any, one has to begin this within himself first before he can start sharing what he has achieved. You have to go through and conquer whatever it is you are going through before you can assist anyone going through something similar, don't you think? Your result on how you handled your situation may even surprise you. Thus, you may get a better understanding of yourself.

I am a big believer in things do not happen

"just because", by chance, or "that's just how it falls". I truly believe all things happen for a reason. In doing so, the lessons are there to be learned. To me, we all have three life questions which are: (1) how much are we willing to accept and learn?, (2) how much are you willing to invest to learn those lessons and (3) can you be true to yourself when doing so?

Looking at experiences from different perspectives can teach so much if one can be open-minded enough. These include both positive and negative experiences. This is where perspective comes in because a negative experience can teach something positive. I will share a recent example.

Last week, I was involved in a leadership meeting with my Scout Troop. During this meeting, the Scouts were discussing what they didn't like on a camping trip they had one time and discussed the negative encounters. One Life Scout said it was a complete waste of time, nothing worked out right and it was a complete waste. During the continued discussion, I used the Scout's words and shared the idea of a different perspective. In his encounter was a great teaching experience of what he can do better the next time he is placed in a similar situation. He had a great example of what not to do or let happen, if within his presence and capability. His response..."I never thought of it like that."

It is so easy to get distracted and lose focus when the rain starts pouring on us. Improve yourself and your situations, so as a Mason, we can lead those today for tomorrow. As I have recently told my son," We have hard storms to appreciate the rainbows afterwards, so let's lean into the wind!"

Ovidio Flores

Junior Warden



SECRETARY'S CORNER



Brethren... 25% of the calendar is and 75% if the Masonic years are gone. We had **two (2) Entered Apprentice Degrees** and have **one (1)** planned for **April 9th at 7:00 PM**. This one is going to be a Graded Degree with Committee on Work Member Keith Reynolds doing the grading. If you have never attended a Graded Degree then come sit in lodge with us while the Degree Team puts on the degree.

OH, and I **still** have more than a few **2018 dues cards** in my office. **Send your due\$ in** and I'll get your card to you.

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



On **Saturday, April 7th at 8:00 AM** Masons will meet at **Rising Star Lodge No. 429 for the 2017-2018 51st Masonic District Forum & Certificate Exams**. The Forum will start at **9:00 AM** and break around lunchtime. ***This is not a test!*** During the Forum **R:W: Keith Reynolds** will show us how certain parts of the esoteric work should be done. **R:W: Bob Tucker** our District Deputy Grand Master will also be there to lend a hand. The Certificate Exams will start just after lunch and generally takes 3 hours or so. ***This part is a test!***



On **Monday, April 9th** we will welcome **R:W: Keith Reynolds** to Kendall Lodge to conduct a Graded Degree for one of our new candidates. As I said above if you have never sat in on a Graded Degree, please come and do so. It will start at **7:00 PM** following a light dinner.



On **April 14th** from **11 AM to 2 PM** or whenever we run out of fish, Kendall Lodge will host hundreds of members and guests who come to eat our famous meal at the **Spring Fish Fry**. If you don't have your tickets then call the office or come on and we'll sell you one at the door. They're the same price. If you leave hungry it's not our fault. We will also have the **South Texas Blood and Tissue Bloodmobile** here for the fundraiser. The Worshipful Master says that if you donate a pint of blood, you will get a ticket for the fish fry. So come and roll up your sleeve!



Kendall Lodge also wishes to express our thanks

to the Sisters and Brothers of Boerne Chapter No. 200 of the Order of the Eastern Star for their cooking and serving our Stated Meeting Dinner during the month of March. The BBQ from Associate Patron Gene Carnes was delicious and we filled up on the many salads and desserts. Many thanks from the Brethren of Kendall.



Monday, April 16th, will be our **March 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. **Come on and join us!** 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.



Shriners International

Nobles of Boerne Shrine Club and families. Our **Stated Meeting for April** will be at **El Rio Mexican Restaurant on South Main in Boerne**.

We meet at 6:00 PM for Fellowship and have a short business meeting at 7:00 PM. If you are a Noble and don't belong to the Boerne Shrine Club then come and eat with us. You might want to join. If you're a Master Mason who is interested in the Shrine and our philanthropy, then come eat with us and we'll tell you what you have to do to join Alzafar Shrine and the Boerne Shrine Club.



Shriners International

Nobles of the Boerne Shrine Club. On **Saturday, April 21st** our Club will have their **annual City of Boerne Collection Day**. We will meet in Kendall Lodge's Banquet Room between **8:00 AM and 8:30 AM**, have a little breakfast, and go out on the streets and WalMart by **9:00 AM**. We expect that we will be back at the lodge between **12:00 PM and 1:00 PM** for a light lunch, count the money, and take it to the bank. So if you're a Shriner then come by and join in with us.



The **M. C. Holman Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association of the 51st Masonic District, M:W: Grand Lodge of Texas** will meet on **Wednesday, April 25th, 2018** at **Bandera Lodge No. 1123 in Bandera, TX** and you can come and join us. We have a light meal at 6:30 PM and a short Business Meeting at 7:00 PM. All Masons, their wives, and other visitors are welcome to attend.

We're here and we always have something going on that you can be a part of and make a difference.

Gary L. Bausell
Secretary



<i>April Birthdays</i>	
Brother	Date
Duane J. Garza	4/2
Terry J. Reagan	4/7
Steven D. Fisk	4/8
Roland L. Peckne	4/8
Nelson R. Davis Jr.	4/10
Roger W. Hall	4/10
Kenneth O. Booth	4/11
Kenneth L. Fitzpatrick	4/14
Herbert A. Rittimann Jr.	4/15
Eddie R. Perez	4/16
Brent W. Berry	4/18
Thomas B. Johnson	4/18
Don E. Herald	4/24
Samuel E. Offer	4/26
Jerry D. Walker	4/29
Alvis R. Mathison	4/29

<i>Raised In April</i>	
Brother	Years Ago
Alfred G. Gray	63
William H. Mayo	59
Gerald C. Shows	48
Jimmy I. Miller	45
Donald F. Hoose	43
Earl L. Noah	36
Gavin D. Waldeck	35
Gordon S. Waldeck	35
William R. Kendrick Jr.	31
Jerry D. Tilley	30
Brian H. Rittimann	22
Roy L. Dwyer	22
Koyle D. Knape	13
Gregory B. Tom	8
Sermet D. Agolli	8
Dow C. Mathis	7
Randall J. Stahl	5
Austin L. Roberts III	4
Eddie R. Perez	2
Parker W. Archilla	1

Kendall Masonic Lodge

FISH FRY!

Saturday
April 14, 2018
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

Building Preservation March Donations	
<u>Donor</u>	<u>In Memory/Honor of</u>
Billy Lemmons Jr	Bro Billy Lemmons Sr
Bob Easterling	Robin Cybert
Abb Kestler Jr.	Bro. Abb Kestler Sr.



Fish Fry Fundraiser
 Kendall Masonic Lodge #897

Saturday
April 14, 2018
11 am - 2 pm

897 E Blanco, Boerne, Texas (830) 249-8917

Donation: \$10



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