



The Traveler

WILKERSON
COLLEGE
LODGE NO.
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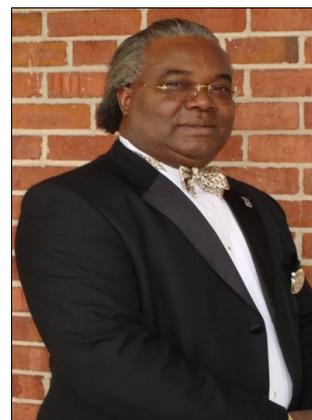
Volume 4, Issue 3

Fall 2010

Faith & Godliness

By: WB Joseph Adegboyega, PM

In my previous discussions about why I joined masonry; I have discussed what impressed me about Freemasonry. (In 1996, I attended an open-house event at the West Gate Lodge # 734 GRC in Miss. Ontario, Canada. At the Altar; were three Holy Books namely : The Holy Bible, The Torah and The Holy Quran. Once it was explained that Freemasonry is open to any male candidate provided he believes in The Supreme Creator, I was sold on freemasonry!). From there on, I trusted that I can become a better citizen of the world, through Freemasonry. It is said that Freemasonry takes good men and makes them better. The Soul is thus transformed, via Freemasonry - the inculcation of social and moral virtues - from a Rough Ashlar into a Polished Ashlar; figuratively.



WB Joseph Adegboyega

My friends and brothers, it is said that Knowledge is Power.

To live in this God's-own country (USA) is to enjoy freedom of speech, freedom of association and freedom of religion. In any country, some people gladly embrace the pursuit of enlightenment, whereas a certain fraction prefer to dwell in darkness. The Souls who chose ignorance and darkness condemn themselves into perpetual sufferings. A man could attend church 24/7 and still dwell in darkness because of he lacks godliness. This is where Freemasonry comes in; as a vehicle for practical Godliness.

Remember the motto : "Ask 1 to be 1". The candidate must desire light and then petition for membership. The candidate who is, supposedly, in darkness is therefore seeking light through freemasonry.

Faith, Religion and Politics in freemasonry : In most Grand-Lodges, all over the world, discussion about religion and politics amongst brothers, during Masonic gatherings/functions, is strictly prohibited. Politics is divisive. Faith is one thing and godliness is closely connected to it. Religion is of a lesser importance. Religion is simply complimentary to faith. Religion is the social aspect of faith and godliness. Religion divides people. Religiosity breeds unnecessary conflicts. Man has fought wars and killed one another in the name of religion. Whereas religion, through ignorance, prejudice and rivalry, amongst religious leaders, fuel division and conflict, faith in the Same and Only God and Creator, on the other hand, is more unifying and tolerant. This is why freemasonry creates a level playing-ground for the children of the same Only God and Creator. Freemasonry teaches and promotes Faith, Hope and Charity.



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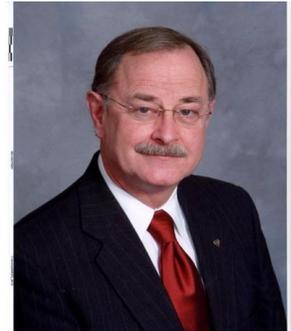
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Chaplain's Corner

By: WB Rick Smith, PDDGM

The storm interpretation is not open to this objection, and certainly it is far more in keeping with the magnificent poetry of the words. Think of a windy day, with clouds and rain; towards evening it begins to clear, and the heavens turn black again as the "clouds return after the rain." This was a signal for caution if not for terror in Palestine. Men and women and children feared the thunder storm, probably because it came so seldom. Doors were shut in the streets.



WB Rick Smith, Chaplain

The strong guards who stood before the houses of the wealthy were afraid, and trembled, for they might not leave their places. The little mills with which the women ground grain eventide ceased; few would remain at their tasks in the face of the storm. Women in upper rooms drew back into the dark. Those outdoors became nervous; no one sang; the black thunderheads flourished their white tops like the almond tree; everyone feared the lightening and the thunder which was on high; even a little weight which kept a man from running to shelter was a burden.

Here the admonition is to remember the Creator before the terror of death, which is worse than the terror of the storm. The rich man with his golden water bowl hung on a silver chain must fear it. The poor man with his earthen pitcher who must send his women to the well for water is in terror. Even the man strong and rough as the crude wooden wheel which drew the skin bucket to the top of the well shook with fear. Death is the same for all, and feared alike by all.

Such an interpretation almost equals the poetry of expression. But read it how we will, the majestic awe-inspiring poetry rings home the solemn warning with a shake of the head and a shiver up the spine. . . Remember "now" thy Creator - "now," before the fearsome storms of life. or the decay of old age are upon you; wait not until "fears are in the way" to cry for help to the Almighty. Delay not until toothless, sightless, white haired age asks for help from on high because there is no help left on earth! Remember "now" thy Creator, while limbs are strong and desire ardent, while life pulses readily and the world is all before.

Such is the intention of these ringing sentences, and such do they mean to Freemasonry. Every Master Mason learns so that he can never forget, when he who had received the benefit of lodge prayer had now to pray for himself. He who had been taught to fear not while in the hands of his brethren, stands at last, in allegory, in danger and alone.

No man thinks of his Master Mason's degree but hears again in his heart at least the beginning and ending of this sermon in poetry. "Remember now thy Creator, in the days of thy youth - then shall the dust return to the earth as it was, the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." The solemn strokes on the bell which is Ecclesiastes and the soul-gripping drama of the legend of Hiram Abif are never to be known apart by him who met them together.

The theme set forth by this Scripture for the candidate desirous of attaining the sublime degree of Master Mason is that death awaits us all. Just as Solomon expressed throughout the Book of Ecclesiastes, all earthly ambitions are but vanity and there is no real happiness to be gained in this world except in the nurturing and development of our soul through love of God and obedience to His will.



RITE VOICE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club

3002 Cameron Blvd., Durham, NC 27705

**Auction & Banquet
October 3, 2010**

Auction 5:30PM • Banquet 7:00PM
\$70 per person



**Golf Tournament
October 4, 2010**

Four-Man Captain's Choice
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Happy Birthday to the Following Members

October

Dick Lyon - 17
Jonathan Phillips - 2
Lloyd Wilkerson - 31
Walt Clapp - 27



November

Bill Brunk - 17
Billy Dill - 2
Harry Sinclair - 19
Joe Brown - 24
Joe Knox, Jr. - 10
Kevin Wood - 4
Mark Conner - 16
Mike James - 4
Ray Hall - 4
Ron Sortino - 13
Steve Smith - 29

December

Bob Ferris - 2
Ed Lawing - 2
Frank Ortiz - 12
Joseph Adegboyega - 21
Nigel Hawkins - 19
Steve Viers - 27
Tom Dolinger, II - 15

Our First "Dinning Out"

By: WB Larry Thompson, PDDGM

The first Wilkerson College Lodge semi-annual "dining out" was held at the Chapel Hill Country Club on June 12th and, by all accounts, it was a great success! Those who opted to attend the dinner that followed our regular business meeting and educational program were treated to a dining experience that was definitely worth much more than the \$30.00 tariff that was charged.



WB Larry Thompson

I have to admit that, even though I handled the arrangements for the meal, I was really worried that our dinner would like many other meals that I have had which could be characterized simply as "institutional food". I wanted this to be a really pleasant experience and, thankfully, it was!

A special thank you goes out to W. Brother Mike Daniels who agreed to provide the musical entertainment while our guests socialized prior to dinner. Brother Daniels is a multi-talented classically trained guitarist who also fancies himself as being somewhat of a comedian as well (those who attended will recall his twist on "Old MacDonald"). Comedic talent aside, his repertoire included several different guitars and musical styles which was impressive to say the least!

While the music continued to play in the background, our members and guests were treated to an elaborate cheese tray and various hot hors d'oeuvres which were followed by a mixed green salad. Our main course was a perfectly cooked filet mignon accompanied by asparagus and garlic mashed potatoes (I can honestly say that this was one of the better steaks that I have had the privilege to sample). Dessert and coffee followed the main course and the open bar was available until everyone departed.

We seated 32 for dinner and the feedback received was very positive. Our meeting was one of the better attended meetings that we have had in quite some time and we hope to repeat this success on December 11th in Greensboro where we will have our second dining out at the Print Works Bistro in the Proximity Hotel. I hope you will consider joining us!



Secretary's Corner

By: WB Ray Hall, PDDGM & PDDGL

Brethren, by the time you get this newsletter I will have mailed Official Notices of Delinquency to all members who have not paid their 2010 dues. If you received such a notice please take due notice thereof and govern yourselves accordingly. If there are reasons you cannot pay your dues please contact me by phone (336) 292-4633 or e-mail secy76@yahoo.com.



WB Ray Hall

During the latter stages of this year I will mail out dues notices for the year 2011. Your prompt attention to this enables the lodge pay our bills promptly and carryout the work of the lodge. By far, the major portion of our expenses occur during the first half of the year. It is during this time that we must pay our Grand Lodge assessment, give out our scholarships and make our major contributions to charity. If we do not receive your dues payments promptly we may be forced to cut back on some of our philanthropic work. On a lighter note, I hope you have had a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing all of you either at Grand Lodge or a WCL meeting in the near future.

Upcoming Meeting in Oxford

Our guest speaker for the October 2nd Stated Communication at Orphans Lodge No. 761 will be W. Brother Cliff Porter of Enlightenment Lodge No. 198, Colorado Springs, CO. The program will be:

"The Hidden Psychology of Freemasonry"

We will be discussing the hidden psychology of Masonry, a deeply rooted tradition dating back to the ancient mystical traditions. We will also discuss how this ancient tradition was born into Masonry and how, in this modern world, such ancient and archaic teachings are still extremely applicable in our lives and how they still prove relevant in an ailing world.

W. Brother Porter is the senior homicide and major crimes investigator for the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. He works as the department's senior lie detection examiner. Detective Porter has been involved with several cases that have gained national attention to include the Shadow Man rapist and the Wedding Dress rapist and is recognized nationally in the field of Interviewing and Subconscious Communications.

He is a recognized lecturer and keynote speaker within the government, law enforcement, business and spiritual arenas in the area of understanding human personality typology as it relates to communication and the secret psychology of self within the ancient mystical traditions.

Brother Porter has been featured on Dateline NBC with his lodge and the Biography Channel series "The Interrogators" for his efforts. He is the author of "Masonic Baptism: A Postmodern Ritual for an Ancient Craft".



WB Cliff Porter

The lodge will open at 11:00 AM and the program will immediately follow

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The next issue of the "Traveler" will be published on or about December 21. Anyone wishing to contribute, please contact Editor Gary Handy or Asst. Editor Larry Thompson.

Wilkerson College Lodge will hold its annual meeting and election/installation of officers on December 11, 2010. Also, this will be our second dining out experience of 2010.

Please make plans to join us at "Pint Works Bistro" in the Proximity Hotel in Greensboro, beginning at 6:00 pm after the meeting, which will begin at 4:00 pm. More information concerning this event will be forthcoming.

Wilkerson College Lodge's Mission Statement

The mission of Wilkerson College Lodge is to foster a flame of brotherly love and friendship that will surpass all differences, envelope all similarities and consistently travel that level of time in search of how to make good men better. As speculative Masons, education will be our greatest tool, so as to instill in our future Masters qualities of leadership, responsibility and compassion.

Faith & Godliness Con't....

Godliness, Politics and Patriotism : Is it possible for someone to be godly and patriotic at the same time. Which is more important; Godliness or Patriotism? Godliness is what will save the Soul. The benefits of godliness are thus everlasting. Politics and Patriotism on the other hand are temporal and less important. Man created nations, political parties and patriotic sentiments. Man is only here for a short period of time and thus temporal. So, also, are political parties, nations and empires; they rise and fall! Just as man's life is numbered by God, so also is the life of a nation and the life of an empire. Patriotism is dangerous and vain whereby it causes one to torture or kill : e.g. Germans who tortured and killed Jews during WWII. In accordance with Psalm #1 (Holy Bible and Torah) as well as Sourate #1 (Holy Quran) every soul shall reap the benefits of godliness and the lack thereof. Psalm 24 claims that God created the Universe or everything around us. Whether you believe in one life to live, or in the reincarnation of the Soul, there will be consequences for failing to obey the most important of the commandments of God. Our Lord Jesus Christ (or the Greatest of all Prophets - Prophet Yisa in the Holy Quran) said : "Believe that there is only One God, love Him with thy whole heart and love thy neighbor as thyself."

Conclusion : The design and constitution of our country was led by Freemasons and thus godly men. They were men of honor and God-fearing patriots. It is my belief that a man could be both patriotic and godly at the same time. To be a good freemason is to be faithful, hopeful and charitable.