

# Trestleboard

Volume III

June 2003

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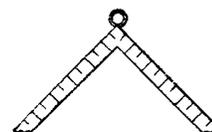
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## Pray for our military!



### Lodge Officers

• Worshipful Master	Larry Burton	972 618-7472
• Senior Warden	Mike Heidenreich	972 390-1925
• Junior Warden	Gene Blackmore	972 222-7879
• Treasurer	Warner Richeson	972 422-4268
• Secretary	Harry F. Powell II	972 424-7153



## From the East

Please remember our website location <http://planomasoniclodge.org/>.

Be sure and bookmark this site in your favorites and check it often for recent updates as to events and changes.



I have mixed emotions regarding the close of my Masonic year as master of the lodge. On one hand I hate to retire as your master as I have really enjoyed the past 12 months and really like being involved in the activity and responsibility which the job offers. On the other hand I get to belong to a very elite group of past masters and come to lodge and just enjoy the activities without any preparation

I would like to formally thank the following people for giving me additional lodge light:

**Ed Ochs** for having the patience and perseverance to work with me and teach me the ritual. (If I made any mistakes I can blame Ed)

**Tiny Powell** for keeping me on track and ensuring that our meetings are properly administered and especially for all of the hidden

work that he does to make our lodge click (I did not realize the extent of the work he does until I became Master of the Lodge)

**Gene Blackmore** for providing the transportation (truck and utility tailor) during the Forth of July Parade

**Cliff Martin** for his advice and guidance and inputs

**Mike Heidenrich** for managing the Blood Drive and his assistance

**Joe Moses** for keeping me on track

**Mike Murphy, Lewis Fetzer and Gary Taylor** for their service of Chaplin on a moments notice.

**Bob Foster** for his questions and great ideas

**Charles McKay, John**

**Creel, Bob Foster, and Tom Masters** for presenting the distinguished Lamar awards to our local high schools.

**Al Drew, JJ Miller, Chris Rhodes and David Starr** for all the wonderful meals and a fantastic George Washington's birthday BarBQ

**Carl Jones** for the great entertainment at the GW BarBQ

**Fred Smith and Mac McGriff** for all the work they provided in getting the Trestleboard edited, formatted, sorted, and mailed to everyone.

**And especially to all who made this year a pleasurable experience!**

## The Winding Stairs

The Winding Stairs forms an important tradition in Freemasonry and is the focus of the lecture of the Fellowcraft degree. While being prominent within the lecture, there is very little reference to this staircase in Biblical accounts of King Solomon's Temple. In I Kings 6:8 one reads, "The entrance to the lowest floor was on the south side of the temple; a stairway led up to the middle level and from there to the third." (NIV) Out of this limited reference, Freemasonry has constructed an allegory that can only be interpreted from a symbolic standpoint.

The allusion of the Winding Stairs leading to the middle chamber of the Temple is apparently a veil to divert the mind from many interesting symbols along the way that are overlooked unless the Mason carefully considers the journey into the

middle chamber. In the Biblical account, nothing is said about the two columns at the foot of the stairs; no reference to the globes upon the columns; nothing to show the number of steps contained in the stairway; or that the steps were divided into three series of three, five, and seven steps. There is nothing to suggest the three degrees of initiation, nor imply the five steps represented the five Orders of Architecture or the five human senses, nor indicate that the seven steps led through the liberal arts and sciences.

The two columns and the globes thereon are symbols belonging to the Entered Apprentice Degree, the three steps are symbols belonging to the Master's Degree, while the five and seven steps are essential elements of the Fellowcraft Degree. The symbol as a whole can be thought of as depicting the new initiate emerging from the

profane world about to begin his journey from darkness in search of moral, mental and spiritual light. If he succeeds in completing his journey, and in acquiring the lessons along the way, he has the hope of attaining a special understanding of his relationship to God that he could not obtain without careful introspection.

The Entered Apprentice begins his symbolic journey in search of Masonic light and knowledge at a point between replicas of the two columns, which undoubtedly represent the columns of Jachin and Boaz of King Solomon's Temple. The First Degree in Masonry is designed to be only a preparation and purification for a nobler and higher purpose. The lessons are primarily intended to prepare the recipient for the mental, moral, and spiritual light that is to be achieved in the succeeding degrees.

It is therefore in the Second Degree

## Plano lodge programs for 2002-2003 A Success

Looking back on my year as Master I feel good. I only wish that I could have done more. We had many degrees; we had guest speakers from most of the appending bodies that include:

**Shrine** by Wally Wallace, Potentate of the Hella Temple

**Eastern Star** by Eric Young;

Worthy Patron, Plano Lodge,

**York Rite** by Louis Hopkins, Most Excellent Grand High Priest of Texas,

**Scottish Rite** Larry Kester; KCCH Valley of Dallas,

**Rainbow assembly** Worthy

Advisor\_Jarah Foster and the Mother Advisor Cindy Madding,

**DeMolay** Brother Bruce Bailly; Dallas Area Governor

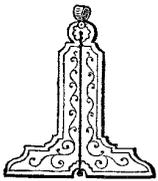
**Grotto** Monarch Jerrel Jones (yet to come)

### A Certified Fellowcraft Degree planned for June 12th

A certified Fellowcraft degree will be planned for June 12<sup>th</sup>. This degree will be a graded degree and if our lodge receives a satisfactory grade we will gain recognition during the next Grand Lodge. If you have not seen a certified degree I highly recommend you attend as this very special opportunity. It is amazing how quiet and somber a degree can be when it is being graded. I'm confident that we will all be impressed how well we can do and it will be a lot of fun.

We will start practice on the Masters degree right after our certification. If you are interested in participating in the degree work, contact Tom Masters at (972) 243-2020 or Joe Moses at (972) 509-1834. We will need a lot of resources for the master's degree so now is the time to learn our

# From the West



Brethren,

I would like to thank all of you for the confidence you have shown in me by electing me as your Worshipful Master. This is quite an honor for me. When I was raised as a Master Mason, becoming Master was the furthest thing from my mind. Over the last several years, I have found out what a wonderful fraternity we have. I will do everything in my power over the next year to justify your faith in me. Your new officers will try to make Plano Lodge a place where you want to be. We are going to try to make things exciting. There will be some new things done along with trying to make the old things better. Please re-

member, this is YOUR lodge and we, your officers, are just the caretakers. If you want things to be different or better, we need your input and your help to accomplish it. Don't hesitate to call on any of us with suggestions or ideas. We want to hear what you want.

You are all invited to an open Installation on June 28, 2003, at 2pm. We will close the Lodge of Sorrow for the past year at 1pm. I hope to see all of you there.

Again, thank you for electing me Worshipful Master. I am looking forward to the coming year and hope you are also.

Your Senior Warden,  
Mike Heidenreich

## Adopt a Chair

This program is still open and there are still many chairs of the 88 chairs to be purchased.

The chairs may be purchased by any Mason or a member of an affiliated Masonic organization, i.e. Easter Star or Rainbow. If you are a member of this Lodge and have not purchased a chair you should consider doing so. This is a wonderful way to leave a legacy and contribute to the building fund at the same time.

The purchase of a chair entitles you to dedicate the chair and have the engraved brass plaque attached to the chair.

All chairs are \$100.00. See Larry Kester.

The program has raised more than \$4000 for the lodge build-

## Calendar of Events for June

Plano Lodge Events	Special Events	Plano Mutual Cemetery Director and advisors elected
June 5th stated meeting	• Plano Eastern Star Installation June 7th	Lewis Robinson was elected to the Directors Board and also get Ed and Mac on the Advisory Board for the Plano Mutual Cemetery. Many members may not be aware of the property entrusted to the members of Plano Lodge is now valued at approx ONE MILLION \$\$\$\$. Each member in good standing is entitled to a burial space for himself, his spouse and any unmarried dependent children ... all free of charge. Mac McGriff will address the Lodge in more detail about our role and responsibilities as "trustees" of the Masonic Section at our next stated meeting. Cliff
June 7th EA degree (Saturday @ 8:00AM)	• Plano Rainbow Installation June 14th 4:00 PM	
June 12th Certified degree (FC)	• Scottish Rite—Valley of Dallas stated meeting June 9th	
June 14th EA Degree (Saturday @ 8:00AM)	• Hella Shrine stated meeting June 19th	
June 19th Master Mason degree	•	
June 26th Master Mason degree		
June 28th Installation 2:00 PM		

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*“The Winding Stairs” continued  
from page 2*

that the real intellectual work begins. The candidate finds stretching out before him the winding stairs, a symbol of discipline and instruction, inviting him to ascend, and teaching him that he must commence his real Masonic labor. Here he enters upon those glorious yet difficult researches in the laborious task of self-improvement now placed before him as a duty. He cannot stand still if he is a true Mason. His Masonic destiny requires him to ascend the winding stairs, step by step, until he has reached the summit, where the treasures of knowledge await him. For the faithful performance of this task a reward is promised. The reward is improvement of his intellectual facilities; the moral and spiritual elevation of his character; and the acquisition of knowledge and wisdom.

Here he proceeds onward and upward through the liberal arts and sciences where he will find divine laws by which the Great Architect creates, preserves, and rules the wonderful universe in which we are fortunate enough to live.

Thus it appears that the Winding Stairs represents the progress of an inquiring mind and a sincere heart, through toils and labor of the intellect, in acquiring an understanding of the sciences displayed upon the steps. This is a preliminary step toward the attainment of divine truths, which every Mason should pursue in his quest for self-improvement, on a journey that never ends.

## Name Tags

If you desire a name tag with your name and Plano Lodge # 768 on it. Please see Larry Kester. He will have it prepared. The Cost is \$10.00 per name tag and the color will be Blue.