

Trestleboard

Volume 115

October 2003

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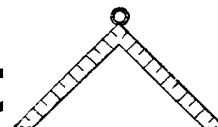
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Please remember our website location
<http://planomasoniclodge.org>



From the East



Brethren,

Once again, Plano is going to be very busy. Be sure to check the calendar for all of our activities. We will be having several degrees, a family night and a Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association Meeting this month, along with our blood drive.

First, we will be having a family night on October 22nd. This will be a covered dish meal, so bring something you like and think others will enjoy. We will meet to eat at 6:30 and the program will start at 7:30. We will have you out by 9:00. We will also have a little pre-program entertainment while we are eating. I am going to keep this as a surprise, but trust me, you will enjoy it.

On October 16th, Plano will not have a lodge function. Instead, we will host the MWSA that night. Again, we will eat at 6:30 and the meeting will start at 7:30. All Masons are invited. RW. Elmer Murphy will present the program. He will discuss the resolutions being brought before Grand Lodge, particularly the ones pertaining to the Masonic Home and School.

Brethren, I am going to see

how long your cable tow is. I need your help. Plano is holding our blood drive on October 25th, from 7:00 am until 3:00 pm at the lodge. We need to get everyone we can to come donate blood. If you are unable to donate, find a friend (or several friends) who can and bring them up. Our Masonic hospitals need our help so they can continue to provide care to the kids at no cost. Donating blood is one of the ways we can all help and it doesn't cost us anything except a little time. Bring your non-Masonic friends so they can see what we do. This is an excellent opportunity to show off for them. Please help me fulfill this worthwhile endeavor. Please call me to set up an appointment. I can be reached at 972/390-1925. If I am not home, please leave a message and I'll get back to you.

I look forward to seeing you at one or all of the activities we have planned this month.

In the Light,

Mike Heidenreich

The Hour Glass and The Scythe

The third section of the Master Mason's degree includes an explanation of the emblems of the degree, nearly all of which is monitorial. Unfortunately, these emblems and their explanations often escape the Mason since they are rarely presented at the time of the degree due to their monitorial nature. Two of these emblems, the hour glass and the scythe, deal with human life and time and are worthy of our consideration.

It is interesting to note that these two emblems are of relative recent origin and primarily found in the rituals of the United States. Indeed, there is no evidence that the hour glass and scythe were used as symbols by operative masons. It appears these two symbols were introduced into the lecture in the late 18th century.

The *Monitor of the Lodge* published by the Grand Lodge of Texas provides the following explanation of these two symbols.

The Hour Glass is an emblem of human life. Behold! how swiftly and rapidly our lives are drawing to a close. We cannot, without astonishment, behold the little particles, which are contained within this machine, how they pass away almost imperceptibly, and yet to our surprise, in the short space of an hour, they are all exhausted. Thus wastes man! Today he puts forth the tender leaves of hope; tomorrow, blossoms and bears his blushing honors thick upon him; the next day comes a frost, which

nips the shoot, and when he thinks his greatness is still aspiring, he falls, like autumn leaves, to enrich our mother earth.

The Scythe is an emblem of time, which cuts the brittle thread of life and launches us into eternity. Behold! what havoc the scythe of time makes among the human race; if, by chance, we should escape the numerous evils incident to childhood and youth, and with health and vigor arrive to the years of manhood; yet, withal, we must soon be cut down by the all-devouring scythe of time, and be gathered into the land where our fathers have gone before us.

These two symbols, as explained, appear to be gloomy, alluding to death. Yet when considered within the whole concept and philosophy of



From the South

Brethren,

It seems that some time ago, a few masons who had motorcycles got together and went for a motorcycle ride. Well it seems that these masons, being good friends and all, liked to ride their motorcycles all over the place. Well, one of these guys got the idea to start collecting teddy bears from all over and decides to give them to needy children. So the story goes, that after a period of time they decided to form a group of masons who had motorcycles and would travel all over collecting teddy bears for kids. It seemed to catch on all up and down the east coast. Being

the good masons and true to the Masonic believe of faith, hope and charity, they organized this body and called themselves the "Widows Sons". This group is recognized all over the United States as being charitable and spreading the good word about masonry.

Unfortunately, the Grand Lodge of Texas does not recognize this group as a sanctioned organization in Texas. Although there are masons in Texas who ride motorcycles, they, however, are not allowed to belong to the "Widows Sons" or any other appended body not recognized by the Grand Lodge of Texas. If they did and/or continue to do so, it would be a Masonic offense and they would be brought up on Masonic charges.

So why, you ask, all this rhetoric about this group? Well, simply, Grand Lodge is meeting in just a couple of short months, the first week in December, to be exact. And, I feel that to have these motorcycle riding masons recognized, Grand Lodge should write an edict recognizing them. So come to Grand Lodge and voice your opinion. I would love to see you there.

As always, I invite all who have not attended lodge for some time to come back and see what you have been missing. All you need is your dues card. The fellowship is still there, now all we need is you.

Your Junior Warden, Joe Moses

Plano Lodge Blood Drive

The semi-annual Plano Masonic Lodge Blood drive will be held from 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM Saturday October 25th in the Plano Lodge. All members of the lodge are encouraged to come and give a pint and bring with you your family and friends. Let's see if once again we can break a Plano Lodge record!

The needs are real. Together we will change the future for our hospitals. We can make a difference. We all win and no one loses. Now it's up to you. Your participation is essential to make the "Gift of Life" a successful program for the Masons of Texas. When people ask you "What do Masons do?" You can answer that "we provide the blood needs for all the children of Texas".

Plano Lodge Family Night

Plano lodge we be hosting a favorite event among members and families of the lodge; a Family Night on Wednesday October 22nd beginning at 6:30 PM at Plano lodge. This is also an opportunity to invite friends to come and see what Masons do.

Please bring a covered dish for yourself and family and to share. There is usually a full table of eats, (as well as several buckets of fried chicken.)

The WM promises a surprise to begin the evening. The program will be presented by Brother Charles McKay. He has prepared a most interesting presentation on Scotland and Masonry. And, if we are lucky he may just recite for us the Robert Burns Poem that you may find on this page.

Calendar of Events for June

Plano Lodge Events

- October 2 – Stated Meeting
- October 8 – EA proficiency and EA degree
- October 9 – FC Degree
- October 16 – Plano Dark – MWSA meeting
- October 22 – Family Night
- October 23 – EA Degree
- October 30 – Degree

Special Events

- Scottish Rite—Valley of Dallas stated meeting October 13th
- Hella Shrine stated meeting October 16th
- Plano Assembly Rainbow #320, Installation October 4th & Business meeting October 28th
- Plano Chapter #702 Order Of Eastern Star October 20th

To the Brethren of St. James's Lodge, Tarbolton.

Tune—"Guidnight, and joy be wi' you a'."

ADIEU! a heart-warm fond adieu;
 Dear brothers of the *mystic tie!*
 Ye favourèd, *enlighten'd* few,
 Companions of my social joy;
 Tho' I to foreign lands must hie,
 Pursuing Fortune's *slidd'ry* ba';
 With melting heart, and brimful eye,
 I'll mind you still, tho' far awa.

Oft have I met your social band,
 And spent the cheerful, festive night;
 Oft, honour'd with supreme command,
 Presided o'er the *sons of light:*
 And by that *hieroglyphic* bright,
 Which none but *Craftsmen* ever saw
 Strong Mem'ry on my heart shall write
 Those happy scenes, when far awa.

May Freedom, Harmony, and Love,
 Unite you in the *grand Design,*
 Beneath th' Omniscient Eye above,
 The glorious *Architect* Divine,
 That you may keep th' *unerring line,*
 Still rising by the *plummet's* law,
 Till *Order* bright completely shine,
 Shall be my pray'r when far awa.

And *you,* farewell! whose merits claim
 Justly that *highest badge* to wear:
 Heav'n bless your honour'd noble name,
 To *Masonry* and *Scotia* dear!
 A last request permit me here,—
 When yearly ye assemble a',
 One *round,* I ask it with a *tear,*
 To him, *the Bard* that's far awa

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"The Hour glass and Scythe" continued from page 2

Freemasonry, the symbols are not dreary. The two emblems when considered together become symbols of time, profitably spent in the service to God.

The explanation of the hour glass indicates the brevity of life. Time is the only resource men have in equal abundance. Everyday is made up of 24 hours, and each week of seven days. We can use this time for fruitful and profitable purposes or we can squander our time in frivolity and waste. In the Entered Apprentice Degree, we are taught that time is important through the explanation of the twenty-four inch gauge. This emblem taught us to divide our time into parts. The first part being for service to God and our fel-

low man, the second engaged in our livelihoods, and the third for the refreshment and care of our physical bodies. The sand grains slowly but steadily pass through the hour glass and before we know it, time is complete. We should use our lives to serve God and improve society by our deeds and actions. We must utilize our time wisely, as time wasted is time lost.

The scythe alludes to the end of our earthly time. It is an impressive symbol of the certainty of death, which no man will escape. While we may not know the time of our passing, we must be prepared for our demise. We prepare ourselves through our service to God and our fellowman. We must diligently and profitably use the time God provides each of us to improve our-

selves before Him. In this manner we will be prepared to leave this world. The scythe is also a symbol of immortality and as such reminds us of the temporal nature of our earthly bodies and the glorious nature of the soul.

While the explanations of the hour glass and the scythe refer to death in rather foreboding terms, they do provide us with hope. If we use our time wisely to acquire knowledge and understanding, and use that knowledge and understanding to serve God and society, then our reward will be great. We will "be gathered into the land where our fathers have gone before us."

3rd Degree October Anniversaries

		Robert L. Eckman	Oct. 19, 1978
Mike A. Baulch	Oct. 5, 1976	Lionel Sutton	Oct. 22, 1963
Carl E. Jones	Oct. 6, 1981	Larry V. Nelson	Oct. 22, 1998
Cullen Herrin	Oct. 9, 1952	Gene Blackmore	Oct. 22, 1970
John T. Bailey	Oct. 10, 1951	Frank Smith	Oct. 22, 1998
Guy H. Wilson	Oct. 11, 1975	Charles J. Schero, III	Oct. 22, 1992
Roy L. Brannon	Oct. 12, 1948	Richard James Grubb	Oct. 23, 1997
William L. Gipson	Oct. 12, 1967	G.A. Davidson	Oct. 23, 1967
Alden B. Sparman	Oct. 12, 1954	George S. Simons	Oct. 24, 2002
Ira D. Allen	Oct. 14, 1980	Ben S. Augustine	Oct. 26, 1994
John T. Land	Oct. 14, 1971	John E. Luttrell, Jr.	Oct. 26, 1996
David A. Fogle	Oct. 15, 1959	Clifton Orr	Oct. 26, 1996
David J. Sam	Oct. 15, 1998	Harry Powell	Oct. 26, 1967
Benny Don Ferguson	Oct. 16, 1997	Clarence A. Samford	Oct. 27, 1994
Ross E. Jones	Oct. 17, 1996	Lewis J. Robinson	Oct. 27, 1955
David B. Matthews	Oct. 17, 2002	David A. Starr	Oct. 29, 1992
Scott M. Shaeffer	Oct. 18, 2001	James H. Key, II	Oct. 30, 1997

October Birthdays

John Browning	October 2	James H. McCown	October 21	David A. Delaney	October 30
Gordon L. Trosper	October 5	Joe D. DeWeese	October 21	Charles Schero,	October 30
Bobby Johnston	October 8	H. P. McGriff	October 23	Greg B. Valera	October 31
Jeffrey Forrester	October 12	Forrest Eubanks	October 24		
Ken D. Reeves	October 12	Ronald Nicholas	October 25		
Leo R. St. John	October 13	Raymond Snow	October 25		
Gordon Garst	October 14	Gerald Crawford	October 26		
Authur Kirkwood	October 18	David J. Sam	October 26		
James G. Latham	October 20	Raymond Ballard	October 28		

3rd Degree November Anniversaries

Gerald S. Callaway, II	Nov. 8, 1991	Jerrel Jones	Nov. 18, 1993
Daniel R. McCullough	Nov. 8, 1962	Steve W. Baker	Nov. 19, 1994
Isaac N. Davidson, Jr.	Nov. 9, 1972	Jeffrey N. Forrester	Nov. 19, 1998
Sam Tiner	Nov. 9, 2000	Randy J. Carr	Nov. 19, 1998
Walter L. Haire	Nov. 9, 1961	Jeffery S. Rowland	Nov. 19, 1992
James Fredrick Roberts	Nov. 10, 1994	Bobby Martin	Nov. 19, 1970
Oscar Hartline	Nov. 11, 1965	Dan Keels	Nov. 20, 1975
Larry D. McNamara	Nov. 12, 1966	Warren S. Hartley	Nov. 20, 1996
James L. Griffin	Nov. 12, 1964	Thomas W. Plunkett	Nov. 20, 1982
Bruce Weaver	Nov. 12, 1992	Douglas E. Sam	Nov. 20, 1986
Philips W. Jennings	Nov. 13, 1969	Wilfred D. Cain	Nov. 21, 1974
Chandler R. Snow	Nov. 14, 1996	Maurice J. Tebcherany	Nov. 23, 1963
David H. Pace	Nov. 15, 2000	Bob Sova	Nov. 23, 1982
Gerald R. Crawford	Nov. 15, 1973	William B. Brayton	Nov. 29, 1984
L.B. Moore	Nov. 16, 1967	Kerry A. Weeks	Nov. 29, 1966
Jeffery W. Haines	Nov. 16, 1995	Charles P. Conrad	Nov. 29, 1979
Manning O. Bozeman	Nov. 16, 1961	Leonard A. Forbes	Nov. 30, 1967
Benjamin J. Elkins	Nov. 17, 1994	James Richard Barth	Nov. 30, 1978
Lonnie J. Turner	Nov. 18, 1971		

November Birthdays

Carl E. Jones	November 2	Luther G. Jones	November 9	Shelby Barger	November 21
Dan R. Cone	November 2	Joseph H. Smith	November 10	Earl R. Griffin	November 23
Thomas K. Williams	November 4	Bill Woods	November 11	G. A. Davidson	November 23
Richard James Grubb	November 5	John M. Allen	November 11	John A. King	November 27
John D. Bain	November 6	Joseph W. Dalton	November 11	Jerry N. Toler	November 27
Jerrel Jones	November 7	William Chapoton	November 14	Nathan White	November 28
Bill Boyd	November 8	Chris A. Shaw	November 15	Tom M. McKamy	November 29
Keith Hollingsworth	November 8	Byron Anderson	November 16	John Luttrell, Jr.	November 30
Ralph S. Johnson	November 8	Ryan N. Lambert	November 17		
Sam Shields	November 8	Dick Lee	November 20		
James B. Pate	November 9	George Easterling	November 20		