

Back East

Lodge Officers

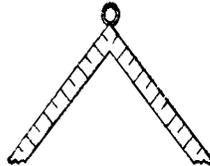
- Worshipful Master Gene Blackmore 972 222-7879
- Senior Warden Joe Moses 469 450-2964
- Junior Warden Fred Smith 972 342-0813
- Treasurer Warner Richeson 972 422-4268
- Secretary Harry F. Powell II 972 424-7153

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Visit our website at:

<http://Planomasoniclodge.org>



Brethren:

We are coming into the holiday season with Thanksgiving starting it off. This is a busy time of the year for Masons with Grand Lodge coming between Thanksgiving and Christmas, but lets not forget all the things we have to be thankful for and the responsibilities that go along with them.

I am thankful for Masonry and Plano Lodge and the chance to be a part of such a great fraternity. We all took the same obligations at the alter and must live by those solemn vows.

I am thankful for this great country we live in. We are granted by our forefathers a responsibility to take part in our government by voting and being active participants at the city, state and federal levels to see that our rights are upheld and our freedoms preserved. Support our military men and women who so valiantly go to war and put their

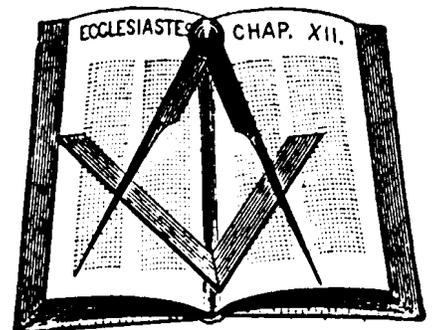
lives on the line for us.

I am thankful for the health my family and I enjoy. We are all responsible for acting prudent to protect and preserve our health and to offer aid and assistance to those less fortunate. Remember our kids at Scottish Rite and the Shrine Hospitals in your prayers and with your donations. Remember our sick and failing brothers in their time of need.

This list could go on forever, but time and space doesn't allow. Think about all you have to be thankful for and the responsibility attached to for each gift you have received.

In the Light,

Gene Blackmore



Down South

This is the month when we count our blessings and one of the things that I am thankful for is that I am a brother and an officer in Plano Masonic Lodge.

Recently, I attended the Wardens Retreat. One of the purposes of the Warden's retreat is to learn from others who are responsible for governing the Lodge. This is done several ways: by formal group discussions, by informal chat around the dinner table and maybe some relaxed conversation in the evening at the watering hole. I learned some very interesting things.

The number one problem of almost every lodge representative that I talked to was how to interest young men in our fraternity. And they were all amazed to hear of our successes. Many wished for a more active degree calendar, some working in degrees only once or twice a year. And, again they were envious at Plano's success. Others had heard of programs such as "Community Builder"

or "Gift of Life" or "Lamar Medal" but had never tried to put them in action.

I am thankful for the historic building that houses our lodge. Even though it may fall down someday, visitors often comment on how charming it is and how warm they feel to work in the place where our brothers have worked for a seventy-five years.

Many lodges have a light snack of sandwiches at their stated meeting and serve nothing if they have a called meeting. I am very thankful for our Stewards and the very hard work and many hours that they give to us serving us full suppers every time we meet.

But, I am especially thankful for my brothers in Plano who never fail to extend that right hand in token of brotherly love and affection.

Your Brother,
Fred Smith

The Chuckwagon



November is a month to take some time to be thankful for our many blessings... like Stewards who know how to cook well.

November dinner menu:

- 4 Turkey & dumplings**
- 11 Red beans & rice**
- 18 Smoked brisket**
- 25 Break out the family recipes**

Scripture for November

The Israelites pass through the Red Sea:

Exodus 14

Moses plans the tabernacle:

Exodus 25

The tabernacle's supports, covering, and so forth:

Exodus 26

Workmen of the tabernacle:

Exodus 31

Erection of the tabernacle:

Exodus 40

Calendar of Events for November

Plano Lodge Events

- Nov 2** - Presidential Election
- Nov 4** - Stated Meeting
- Nov 11** – FC degree
- Nov 18** – MM degree
- Nov 25** – dark for Thanksgiving

Events for the Super-Mason

- Scottish Rite Valley of Dallas stated meeting Nov 8th.
- Hella Shrine stated meeting Nov 18th.
- Plano Assembly Rainbow #320, Nov 9th & 23rd.
- Plano Chapter #703 Order Of Eastern Star Nov 15th.
- Plano Shrine Club meeting Nov 23, 6:30 Los Rios CC

Masons in History “The suppression of Freemasonry in Nazi Germany.”

PART 2 of a 3 part series

Source: The American Mercury , Volume LII, No. 206, published in **February 1941.**

The Annihilation of Freemasonry

by Sven G. Lunden

II Why does this implacable and fanatic hatred of the Order obsess the totalitarian mind? The answer is in the whole history and temper of Freemasonry. For more than two centuries its leaders have been consistently on the side of political freedom and human dignity, reaping a harvest of persecution at the hands of tyrants. Before going into that, however, we must distinguish clearly between two things: Freemasonry and Freemasons. The chief trick of mason-haters through the generations, a trick followed by the Nazis, is to direct their accusations not against Freemasons personally but against the whole Masonic Order.

Freemasonry is made up of Masonic bodies: lodges, Grand Lodges and other groupings. All of these scrupulously refrain from meddling in politics or any other subject not directly related to Masonic matters or

charity. The Constitution of the Order stipulates that every member must be a loyal citizen of his country, and it professes adherence "to that religion in which all men agree" -- that is, belief in a Divine power, in morality and in charity. In contrast to narrow nationalism, it believe in serving Humanity as a whole. That is all that the Masonic Order itself professes and is interested in. What individual Masons do as citizens of their respective countries to serve the ideals they personally believe is, is their own business.

This attitude is no subterfuge. On the contrary, the enlightened Freemason not only admits but prides himself in the fact that modern democracy and human progress owe so much to the heroism and idealism of individual Freemasons. Unless he is a very naive person he will also admit that the lodge is a place where congenial people meet to gather that moral strength which they need to stand up for the ideals of liberty and equality outside the lodge. At the same time, however, to true Masons the lodge is

hallowed ground, and inside its gates politics and the other concerns of the marketplace are taboo.

Some of the less critically-minded Masons like to trace the origins of the Order back to ancient Egypt. But in its present form, Freemasonry originated in England, probably in the Seventeenth Century, while the first Grand Lodge was founded in London in 1717 and the regulations, by-laws and constitutions of Masonry were laid down in what is known as Anderson's Constitutions in 1722-23. The spiritual elements underlying these precepts were decidedly "advanced" for their time, emphasizing as they did tolerance for other men's religions and the brotherhood of all human beings.

The intellectual and spiritual foundations of modern democracy, including the American Revolution and the American Constitution, are to be found in large part in the teachings of Jean Jacques Rousseau and in the ideas cemented into the great first Encyclopedia. And it is a fact that most of the authors of that epoch-making Encyclopedia -- Diderot, D'Alembert, Con-

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

VOLENTEERS NEEDED at the Maurice Barnett. Geriatric Wellness Center. 401 West 16th Street. Plano, TX Tel 972-941-7335.

Saturday November 20 (8:30AM – Noon) join us in a fix-up clean-up of the wheel chairs, walkers, bed tables, portable potties, and other equipment. This equipment is for loan to anyone who needs it.

Donations of equipment that can help the infirm and shut-ins would also be appreciated. That unused equipment or left over “senior” supplies, no longer needed by our families, could be put to good use by those who really need it. The Wellness Center serves all of Collin County.

The Center’s storeroom is full and needs to be organized, equipment cleaned, equipment repaired, and generally put in order so equipment loan requests may be more quickly responded to.

Bring your tools, oil can, small containers to hold spare parts, paper towels, Lysol, and nuts, bolts, and washers if you gott’ m. Also there is a small desk they would like to find a new home for.

Thanks,

Warner Richeson 972-422-4268

Help Support Our Troops in Iraq

The Rainbow Girls are gathering supplies and donations for care packages to send to a Marine Unit in Iraq. If you are interested in contributing please bring your donation to the lodge by November 11th. They need baby wipes, razors, playing cards, chewing gum, games, snacks (beef jerky, cheese & crackers, popcorn, nut mixes), pens, stationary, coffee, non-aerosol bug repellent, CDs, DVDs, waterless hand sanitizer, and anything else you can think you might enjoy if deployed.

Thanks for your support.

Plano Masonic Lodge #768
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dorcet, the famous Swiss philosopher Helvetius, etc. -- were Freemasons. The envoy to France from the rebellious American colonies, Benjamin Franklin, also was an ardent Freemason. So ere George Washington, sixty among his generals, John Hancock and a great many of his co-signers of the Declaration of Independence. Both Washington and Franklin long held the post of Grand Master. The most distinguished among the Masonic lodges of Paris in the Eighteenth Century was the "Lodge of the Nine Sisters" -- that is, the nine Muses -- and its membership included the intellectual cream of France. When Voltaire paid a visit to Paris in the year of his death, at the age of 79, he was initiated into Freemasonry in this lodge. The climax of the ceremony came when Brother Benjamin Franklin of Philadelphia handed to Voltaire the Masonic apron which the great Helvetius had worn before him. Voltaire raised the apron to his aged lips.

Six years before that memorable day,

something even more memorable happened in Boston. It has come down in history as the Boston Tea Party. And it is no

(Continued on page 4.)

secret that the "Indians" who dumped the cargo on December 16, 1773, had emerged from the building which housed the St. Andrews Lodge, the leading Masonic body in Boston. Their job done, the "Indians" were seen to troop back to the lodge building -- and no Indians ever again emerged from the lodge. Instead, a lot of prominent Bostonians, known to be Masons, did emerge. And in the book which used to contain the minutes of the lodge and which still exists, there is an almost blank page where the minutes of that memorable Thursday should be. Instead, the page bears but one letter -- a large T. Can it have anything to do with Tea? It is perhaps the only instance in the History of Freemasonry where a lodge, as a body, has taken an active part in politics.

(Part 3 of 3 coming next month.)

Interesting facts:

On March 15, 1931 (the Ides of March) the Nazi Party issued: The Guide and Instructional Letter for Functionaries to Nazi Party Officials which stated within it:

“The natural hostility of the peasant against the Jews, and his hostility against the Freemason as a servant of the Jew, must be worked up to a frenzy.”

During Hitler's rise to power, he systematically eliminated all political parties as well as the civic organizations offering the most resistance to Nazi tyranny.