



Mount Hermon Lodge 118

A.F & A.M

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 3

The newsletter

MAY 2007

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Masonic Symbols and Emblems



What does it mean? What does it stand for? I doubt if any Mason in this Country has not heard the argument over and over as to the

establishment of the fraternity of Masonry in 1717 by the Grand Lodge of England. Yet Masons in other Countries have their own stories. However, as to the Emblem or Symbol of the Square and Compasses, it has been the Symbol of builders and constructors since the beginning of time, or when man first began to build and construct. Long before the Temple of Solomon on which this Symbol was cut or inscribed also said to be the beginning of Masonry, in the old classic

of China, the book of history, dating back to 2000 B.C., we read " ye Officers of the government, apply the compasses, square yourselves. Ye who would have others serve you uprightly, ye must be willing to serve

upon the level,". Confucius, in the sixth book of his philosophy, said, " A Master Mason, in teaching apprentices, makes use of the compass and square." Also, " ye who are engaged in the pursuit of wisdom, must make use of the Square and Compass". If further proof is required, you may see it upon the famous Obelisk known as Cleopatra's needle. This Obelisk, which was created some 1800 years before Christ, now stands in Central Park, New York City. On it you may see carved the square and compasses, and almost all the ancient signs and emblems. The letter (G) was never part of the emblem until after the Webb Ritual was accepted in the United States between 1808 and 1812. It stands for Geometry. The Square and Compass is one of the oldest symbols. It can be traced far back in antiquity. It has always had the same meaning. However, we have

used it as a Masonic emblem so long the true meaning has been almost forgotten. In the ancient picture writing, " it was a prayer to the Creator of all things." It was originally used much like the corner-

stone of today, yet, because of time and ignorance, it has been forgotten. Most cornerstones have this mark upon it. Most everyone is satisfied just to look at it and say, "the Masonic emblem." The symbol may be found in the ancient hieroglyphics, prior to the Pyramids on which they were carved. At the time, they belonged to the " Sons of Light". Most Masons today don't appear to know the true meaning or care to ask what it meant 5000 years ago. They just pin it on their coat and when asked, just



say, "the Masonic pin". It is no Masonic secret , it means the same now as it did then. It was a prayer to God, asking for his blessing. The square is the working tool of Man. The compass is the working tool of GOD the Creator. They should al-

ways be displayed with the working tool of God resting upon the working tool of man, symbolizing man working under God at all times. May it be a monument or his home. Man builds everything with square, assisted by the plumb and the level. The only time man uses the compass is when he wishes to add beauty and strength to his construction. Of the working tools of man, should any one of them be bent, broken or damaged in any way, you have to toss them away . But, if the working tools of GOD be bent, broken . damaged in any way, it will continue to draw a perfect circle.



The beginning is the most important part of any work.

Mount Hermon Lodge 118
80 Broadway . Asheville
NC 28804

WWW.MASONIC118.COM

STATED MEETING:

1st THURSDAY OF EVERY
MONTH

FOR FURTHER INFO OR
EVENTS CHECK WITH OUR
ONLINE CALENDER

SEE MORE ONLINE

FROM THE EAST

From the East, Greeting My Brothers, Hope all is well with you and yours. Mt Hermon is alive and going strong. I was reading the Feb. '07 copy of the Northern Light and the editor, Bro. McNaughton, 33rd degree, wrote a few things that caught my attention and set my mind working. He began by saying the big three auto makers in the US are in trouble. And that Ford has hired a VP from Boeing Aircraft for their CEO. The new CEO jumped in his new position wide open. He stated in a recent interview that "Time is of the essence. The next few years are critical." He said the biggest priority for Ford was to restore credibility. And then he said something strange. We have to produce some things the people want. Now that is refreshing because it seems, at least to me, they have produced what they wanted us to want. Now does that speak to us as Masons? As the editor pointed out the fraternity has been driving around in a big limousine that was greatly respected and admired in the PAST. Now the old limo has become run-

down and is ragged looking. That old limo needs some attention. And the world moves on and has forgotten who we are. How can we handle this? By taking steps to restore our credibility and holding on to the core values and principles of Masonry. And what should our priorities be? Masons and those who stand in need of our kind offices. I am of the opinion that we spent too much time attempting to maintain the status quo. And trying to maintain buildings that may or may not be relevant. The answer to that is obvious. Please recall the closing charge and how it emphasizes the care we are to have for one another. Brothers, the principles of Masonry are timeless. How we convey these is a matter we need to reflect upon. That old limo needs to be dragged out and repaired, not just patched up. If it needs tuning up, an overhaul, a new paint job or whatever.....lets get it done. 'Till next time, I remain,

Fraternally, Fred K. Morris, Master



FROM THE WEST

I would like to thank everyone that came to the degree team practice on the 12th. We had a good turnout and it went well. We still have a couple of spots to be filled and would encourage anyone that can devote the time to come to the next practice that will be held on May 10th at 6:30pm. A big thanks to Kenneth Lance for his donation to the Mt. Hermon Lending Library. We appreciate it very much. If anyone has any masonic books to donate please bring them with you to the lodge.

Bro. Dumigron gave a very interesting program for April about the square and compass. May's education program will be about some of the history of our ritual...if my computer continues to work. I look forward to seeing everyone at the stated.

Fraternally, Mark Bloomfield



FROM THE SOUTH

Well.....Life as a Mason...

Is the best thing that has ever happened to me...With everything I have been through...The meeting, the dinner, and then my vote.....Everything has been a wonderful time. As a Mason I have learned so much about giving back to your fellow man. Being kind to others even though you do not know them.

The simple part of Masonry is the Brotherhood I have received. Every member of my lodge is like blood to me, and at any time I would step in front of a bullet for them. I am so happy to be part of this wonderful journey and I am mostly proud of the fact I am part of the worlds Biggest and oldest Fraternity of Men

Sincerely

Brother Emmanuel Dumigron JW

THE HISTORAN CORNER

Mount Hermon is located in the Anti-Lebanon mountain range on the border between Syria and Lebanon. The summit is 9,230 and under Syrian control with the southern and western slopes of Mount Hermon under the control of Israel as a result of the Israeli victory in the 1967 Six-Day War. The mountain is actually a cluster of mountains with three distinct summits, each about the same height. The mountain forms one of the greatest geographic resources of the area. Because of its height it captures a great deal of precipitation in a very dry area of the world. Mount Hermon has seasonal snow which covers all three of its peaks for most of the year. The melting water feeds springs at the base of the mountain, forming streams and rivers which merge to become the Jordan River. Mount Hermon is called the "gray-haired mountain," or the "mountain of snow." It is also called "the eyes of the nation" in Israel because its altitude makes it Israel's primary strategic early warning system. The mountain served as the northern boundary of the Promised Land (Deuteronomy 3:8) and also was the northern limit of the Joshua's Conquest (Joshua 11:17; 12:1; 13:5). The high places of Mount Hermon were apparently used by the Canaanites in mythological rituals. They referred to the mountain as **Mount Ba'al-Hermon** (Judges 3:3). It is also called "Mount Sion". The Gospels tell of Jesus and his disciples journeying north from Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee to the city of Caesarea Philippi at the southern base of Mount Hermon (Matthew 16:13; Mark 8:27). There, Jesus revealed to them his purpose to build his Church and to go to Jerusalem to die and be resurrected (Matt 16:18-21). Mount Hermon was a possible site of the Transfiguration, where Jesus took three of his disciples, Peter, James, and John, up on a high mountain for prayer. Before their eyes, Jesus was transfigured. In the Book of Enoch (1 Enoch 6) in the Deuterocanon, Mount Hermon is the place where the Grigori ("Watcher") class of fallen angels descended to Earth. They swore upon the mountain that they would take wives among the daughters of men and return. Mount Hermon houses Israel's only ski resort, including a wide range of ski trails at novice, intermediate, and expert levels. The Syrian government has recently unveiled plans to develop a multi-billion dollar ski resort on its slopes.

Brother Lance Grunge

THE TREASURERS COVE



We have received about 85% of the 2007 dues as of April. A reminder for any brother who needs partial or full assistance, you must contact, by any means available, the master, an officer or any brother concerning their needs. Our resources to provide financial assistance are available, but limited. Also, the deadline for submitting applications for scholarships is June 15, 2007.

Excellence is an art won by training and habituation. We do not act rightly because we have virtue or excellence, but rather have those because we have acted rightly. We are what we repeatedly do.

Curious Masonic Words : Definitions revealed

Anciently the word "TOKEN" (from the Anglo-Saxon tacn, a gesture, a sign and art) was properly used as we use it Masonically. But through the years it has changed, in common parlance; now may be an offering of flowers to a lady or a box of cigars to a man. In Biblical days the word was used to signify a memorial or other reminder of a covenant or promise as the rainbow was "a TOKEN of a covenant".

In Freemasonry the TOKEN is never a thing, always an act.

THE MONTHLY LODGE

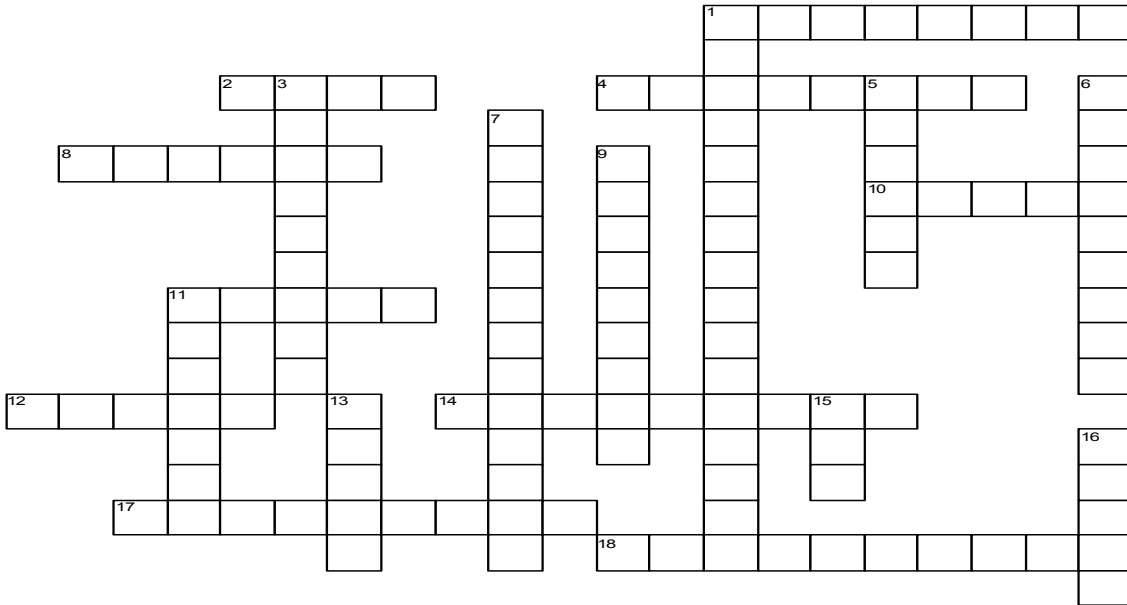
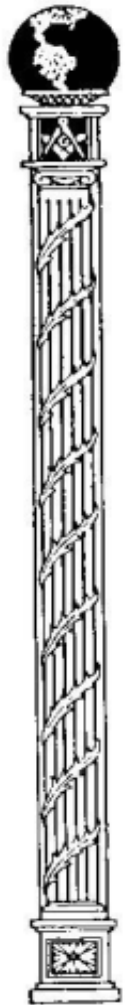
We attended Black Mountain #663 on March 18 2007 and helped to raise Bro. John Robert Yarnall. He was welcomed to the lodge by the Master Fred Morris.

The newsletter has been a problem since the School of Graphic Arts has taken the job over. The cost has been higher then they quoted and they don't seem able to mail it anywhere near on time. Brother Emmanuel Dumignon has done an excellent job with the newsletter but the School of Graphic Arts has not been able to meet our needs. Bro. Emmanuel Dumignon made a motion to discontinue using the School of Graphic Arts and start using a local printer and mail the newsletter ourselves .

Brother Mark Rogers .

Answers : April crossword puzzle





www.CrosswordWeaver.com

ACROSS

- 1 ornamental finish on a pillar
- 2 formed by the combination of the duad and triad
- 4 absense of "lux" or absense of knowledge
- 8 through the porch to the middle chamber
- 10 from the east from which it springs
- 11 sacred or profane measure
- 12 will be in the shadows at the hour of meridian
- 14 our inheritance as the "sons of light" are called
- 17 "latin " signifies the first principles of a science
- 18 title formerly given to the degree of FC

DOWN

- 1 according to the course of the sun
- 3 not to be spoken or expressed
- 5 will be found by a sign that is known
- 6 and endless triangle with 5 points" latin"
- 7 taking off shoes as a token of respect
- 9 taking up arms against a sea of trouble
- 11 new name given to the EA ,old custom
- 13 give not that which is holy unto the dogs
- 15 a symbol of silence and circumspection
- 16 germanic word " gipfel" also called a "Hiram"

Asheville Masonic Bodies

Mount Hermon Lodge 118

80 Broadway , Asheville NC 28802

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