



Lafayette Lodge # 83 AF&AM

3rd QUARTER 2014

Masters Corner

Brethren,

We have so far had a very productive year with 8 Brothers raised to the degree of Master Mason, A great big welcome to all our new Brothers. We still have work to complete this year and I ask for everyones help in doing this. Any Brother who wants to participate in the Lodges degree work is welcome to do so. Our nights of practice for our degree work is open to all Mater Masons not just the Breathern in the line, come join in. Please remember it takes all of us to make a successful Lodge.

Sincerely
WB Charles Roby

Welcome

2014

Brothers

Entered

Apprentice

Bro. Stephen
Mann

Fellow Craft

Bro Joshua
Humphrey

Master Masons

Bro. Kelsey
Gonzales
Bro.

Christopher
Jones

Bro Theodore
Poulos

Bro Eric Cook
Bro. Scott
Loworn

Bro, Bolivar
Guillen

Bro. Ernest
Lynn

Bro. James
Simpson



Secretary's Desk

Brethren,

2014 Dues should be paid. If your dues card has 2013 on it please remit your 2014 dues.. 2014 dues are higher - Per Capita has gone up \$3.00 and our new Lodge dues are \$80.00 making a total of **\$100.00**.

Fraternally

Bro. Robert

Necrology Report

Bro. Dalton Lee born on September 15 1930. He was initiated on August 28th 1956, passed on September 19th 1956, raised on September 29th 1956 in Lafayette Lodge #83. He entered the Celestial Lodge Above on August 6th 2014.

Items of Interest

Tentative dates for Onslow County Lodges Installation of Officers

SeaSide Lodge# 429 December 13 2014

Semper Fidelis Lodge #680 January 3rd 2015

Richlands Lodge #564 January 10th 2015

Stump Sound Lodge #733 January 17th 2015

Lafayette Lodge #83 January 24th 2015



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The Masonic Ring

The ring is a symbol of the Covenant entered into with the order, as the wedding ring is the symbol of the Covenant of Marriage, is worn in some of the higher Degrees of Freemasonry. It is not used in Ancient Craft Masonry.

In reference to the rings worn in the higher Degrees of Freemasonry, it may be said that they partake of the double symbolism of power and affection. The ring, as a symbol of power and dignity, was worn in ancient time by kings and men of elevated rank and office.. In the Bible (Genesis 41:42) we note that Pharaoh took off his ring and bestowed it to Joseph as a mark of the power he had conferred upon him. It is in this light that the Inspectors General (33rd Degree) of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry wear rings as Sovereigns of the Rite. But, those who receive only the Fourteenth Degree, in the same Rite wear the ring as a symbol of the Covenant of the affection and Fidelity into which they have entered.

While on the subject of the ring as a symbol of Masonic meaning I do not believe it would be irrelevant to refer to the 'magic' ring of King Solomon of which both the Jews and the Mohammedans have abundant tradition. The Mohammedans have a book on magic rings entitled "Scalcutal", in which they trace the ring of King Solomon from Jared the father of Enoch. It was by means of this ring, as a talisman of wisdom and power, some say, enabled Solomon to perform the wonderful acts and accomplish those vast enterprises that have made his name so celebrated as the wisest monarch of the earth.

While there may not be as many versions of the Masonic ring as there are Masonic lapel pins, there are several, most notably the square and compasses and the so-called Tubal-Cain sign. The ring can be found crafted from many materials and the Masonic symbols have been placed on stones, or artificial replicas of stones, that are red, blue and black. Some of the myths surrounding these rings are that the red setting indicates a brother under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, while the blue setting is for those lodges that evolved from the United Grand Lodge of England. The black is just excepted. I have never heard anyone try to associate it with Prince hall masonry or lodges that are predominately comprised of Black brethren such as Equity #106, on the Register of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

Probably the greatest myth and one which I have seen debated in earnest by well-meaning brethren, is the proper way to wear a ring which depicts the square and compasses. My Brothers how could there be a proper way to wear a ring which has not been officially sanctioned as a jewel or symbol. As far as I can determine only one Grand Lodge has ever attempted to rule on the subject. The Grand Lodge of North Carolina has ruled that a Mason should wear the ring so the tips of the compasses are pointed towards him. But, you will note, that even this ruling is a suggestion and not mandatory.

The consensus is that if a Masonic ring is worn to advise those who see it that the wearer is a Master Mason, the tips of the compasses should be pointed towards the tips of the fingers. If the ring is worn to remind the wearer that he is a Master Mason, the ring should be worn with the tips of the compasses towards him. The choice is yours to make!

A word of caution Brethren. Do not take the wearing of a ring as "lawful Masonic information". These rings can be bought anywhere, at any time, by anyone!

THIS PAPER WAS PREPARED BY R.W. BRO. BILL MARKS, GRAND HISTORIAN, GRAND LODGE OF NOVA SCOTIA, AND WAS DONATED TO THE BOARD OF MASONIC EDUCATION WHILE BRO MARKS WAS ITS CHAIRMAN (1990-1993)



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