

Newsletter Issue No. 07 August, 2021

Congratulations



Brother John Keel



Congratulations



Brother George William Bettesworth



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ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE PHOTO FOR BROTHER JOHN KEEL

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LET THERE BE LIGHT!
BY BRO. BURX NORROD HERNDON LODGE NO. 264 A.F.A.M.
MARCH 6013 A:.L:.

THE TWO ST. JOHN'S

From the East

Masters

I can't believe it is August! My year as Master is over half gone.

Brothers we have been busy this past couple of months, and it is not about to slow down. Since restrictions were lifted, we have done some great work. We have had two Entered Apprentice Degrees and two Master Mason Degrees! So Far! The camp out and degree was quite spectacular this year. We had a presence of about 11 lodges at the degree.

I'd like to specially congratulate our newest Master Mason, Bro. William

Bettesworth. I'd also like to extend my Congratulations to Bro. John Keel, our

newest Entered apprentice. May your Masonic journey be full of light and

guided by good works. I'm proud of the effort being put out by you all!

In addition to completing some repairs and upgrades to our Lodge, we have

also been able to help our community. We have held food drives and helped

the women's shelter when they had a need. I hope we can hold another food

drive soon. Brother Davin is also working with Brother Jonathan to help with

United Way soon. Take a look at the information in another article in this issue

about the Rio Rancho Sunday is Funday event coming in August.

Lets it up!

WM Eric Moses



The MSCLD teaching has continued throughout the Covid shutdown. Our teacher, Marci Easterbrook, has adapted the student lessons to be taught via remote learning. She has been very successful at this and will continue this form of teaching.

We had a short break for the summer and are now back at a full schedule of classes. We have added a few new students in order to maintain our class load of 6-7 students. Over the past year we have had several students complete their course of study and have made room for the new students.

We will plan a formal graduation ceremony for all the graduated students from the past two years sometime this fall. We will let you know and request a good turn out to show our support for these young people who have put so

much effort into improving themselves.

Our fund raising efforts have been limited and we have operated by the generous donations of several longtime supporters and matching funds from the New Mexico Masonic Charities matching fund program. Now that we can once again serve precooked meals at the Temple, we plan to begin our monthly fund raising dinners in September.

The Masonic Family of Sandoval Lodge can take pride in the good we are doing at the MSCLD. The board of directors thank you for all your support.

Dan Irick

President



RIO RANCHO SUNDAY FUNDAY

HTTPS://RIORANCHOFUNDAY.COM/ ONCE AGAIN SANDOVAL LODGE WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN RIO RANCHO'S SUNDAY IS FUNDAY.

This year it is on August 22 from Noon until 4 PM. We will need three types of help.

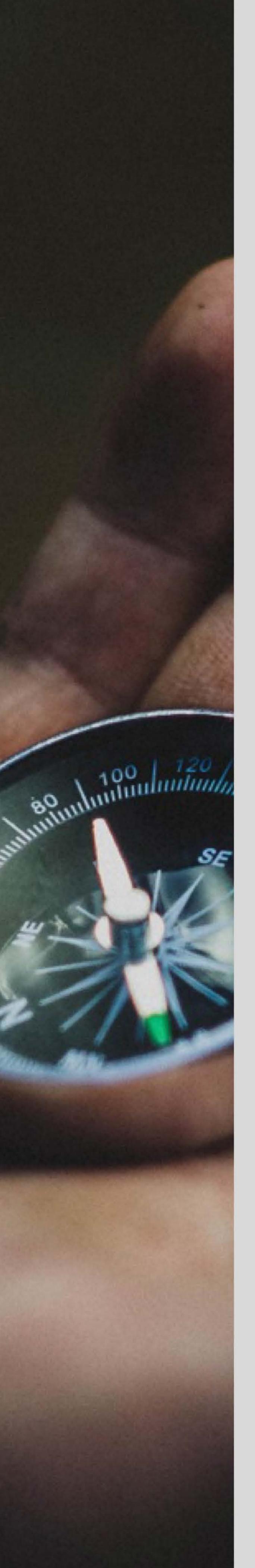
1. THERE WILL NEED TO BE A GROUP TO SET UP, THIS WILL INCLUDE TAKING THE SHADE STRUCTURES, TABLES AND CHAIRS TO HAYNES PARK AND CARRYING THEM TO OUR "BOOTH" LOCATION. THIS MIGHT HAPPEN ON SATURDAY.

2. WE WILL NEED PEOPLE TO BE AT THE BOOTH DURING THE EVENT.

3. WE WILL NEED TO TAKE DOWN AND RETURN EVERYTHING TO THE LODGE AFTER 4 PM.

THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO "RAISE THE FLAG" AND LET THE COMMUNITY KNOW THAT WE ARE HERE. IT IS ALSO FUN TO SEE AND BE SEEN. FYI THERE ARE FOOD TRUCKS AND ENTERTAINMENT. COME ON OUT, HELP AT THE BOOTH FOR AN HOUR AND WONDER AROUND AND SEE EVERYONE ELSE FROM THE COMMUNITY

AUGUST 22ND, 2021 12 PM TO 4 PM



× Travels to Honor Harry ×

I was blessed with the opportunity to take a long vacation to Ohio this summer to visit family, but along the way, there were several Masonic objectives to complete. The first was a visit to Temple lodge #28 in Painesville, OH. This lodge was very special to me as although I have never attended lodge there, it was my first introduction to Freemasonry through DeMolay and where I served as Master Councilor. I wanted to check into my DeMolay brothers as well as the Advisors that made it all possible. Of the three, I was able to meet Dad Anspach and Dad Zichurish, but Dad Grinstead's health kept him from the lodge as of recent. Conspicuous on the wall was a picture of my Junior Councilor, Christopher Grinstead who served as State Master Councilor for many years after my departure. Unfortunately, there is no record of him continuing with Masonry. Although some of my brothers were raised, none were currently active in my old lodge. Dad Zichurish, now Brother Zichurish, noted some dismay about how few DeMolays never returned from the lodge. I stated my case that many of us may have, just in other places.

Temple lodge #28 has quite a history. It has been around for 177 years and from all accounts is as strong as Sandoval lodge. It had to move locations in the 1970s due to a recognization of the town square. The new building was to be three stories and include two lodge rooms and a very large dining room. The city would eventually only allow a single storey, resulting in its current form. To be somewhere between the size of Sandoval and Temple 6.

As a fellow Traveler, and a prodigal son, I was greeted with open arms. At my introduction, I thanked the lodge for hosting me as well as sponsoring me during my DeMolay years. I was later provided a 175th Anniversary commemorative plate and a book with the lodge's history. I will share these with Sandoval Lodge for at least I year following my return.

My timing was impeccable as the Ohio lodges go dark in the summer and this was the last meeting prior to the yearly awards ceremony. It took a while to find the Worshipful Master of Solon lodge #757, but I was also able to attend the their last meeting before going dark.

This was a three storey building owned by the lodge. The top floor was the lodge room. 2nd floor was a dining area and two small meeting rooms. The 1st floor was rented to shops (presumably for income) and the basement hosted a fall our shelter. Being three storeys, this lodge was unique in that it hosted many large windows.

After my introduction, I shared the purpose of my travels: to honor the contributions of worship brother Harry Kantz and share the news of his good work, this honors, and the effect that he had on the whole Rio Rancho community. Members spoke of how Harry moved from Kentucky and instantly fit in. I presented the worship with a copy of the letter proclaiming Harry to be an Honorary Master of Sandoval Lodge. Everyone was very thankful and the Woshipful presented me with a challenge a lodge pin. The District Deputy Grandmaster thanked me and Sandoval Lodge for the news and presented me a challenge coin and the State Grand Master's pin.

Only being raised for a few years, and never visiting a lodge out of state, let alone a F&AM lodge, this was an eye opening experience. Being a Mason means being welcome everywhere. Differences in the ritual were interesting, but less than I expected.

While I was saddened to see that the beautiful York Rite building was sold about a decade ago and my Grandfather's lodge in Chardon also disappeared long before, Masonry in Ohio still has significant resources to stage a comeback and start to grow again. It just lack the good men to make better and gain strength in return. Their lodge dues were around \$75 and perpetual memberships cost around \$800. It seems that many hand make light work. I urge us all to seek aggressive, yet careful growth as the alternative is inevitable darkness.

Fraternity your, Bro. Brian Borawski

From the South

MENU For August 9th, 2021 Egg rolls & Fixin's



August Birthdays
Robert Kho - 8/2
Jeremy Tiesi - 8/3
John Nelson - 8/4
Kevin Dupre - 8/12
Martin Millenbach - 8/13
Lawrence Miller - 8/14
Ronald Evans - 8/19
David Bachman - 8/27



August Masonic Birthdays

Justin Kellog - 8/12/1996 Eric Moses - 8/11/2014 Steve Kronstedt - 8/22/2016 Brian Borowski - 8/31/2019

THE BLUE SLIPPER

Author: Clyde
H. Magee, 32°

http://www.myfreemasonry.com/threads/the-masonic-blue-slipper.27354/

Are you familiar with the Masonic blue slipper? It is a small lapel pin in the shape of a blue slipper. Over the years it has been my habit to ask my wife and my daughters to wear one of these slippers on a coat or dress when traveling alone away from home. What is the meaning of this blue slipper and why should female relatives of Masons wear one?

Some 50 or 60 years ago, while I was still living at home, a widowed lady who was a cousin of my Dad's came to visit our home. She vacationed with us for several weeks every summer. She always wore this type of pin-The Blue Slipper. Her doctor husband was a Mason. The pin that she wore made a lasting impression on me. Through my curiosity and questioning, she told me it was a Masonic pin and served to identify her as a Masonic widow. She declared that Masonic men gave her extra attention while traveling, especially on the railroad (conductors, etc.).

To find out the meaning of this pin, let us go back in history to Boaz' time-the Book of Ruth. It will be remembered that Elimelech, his wife, Naomi, and their two sons, Mahlon and Chilon, fled to the land of Moab to escape the famine in their homeland of Bethlehem-judah. Things went well for a while. Then life fell apart for them. Elimelech died. The two sons married Moabite girls-Orpha and Ruth. Again tragedy struck. Mahlon and Chilon died. This left Naomi a widow in a foreign land with two widowed daughters-in-law from the land of Moab.

In time of trouble, people think of home and more importantly of God.

Naomi found out that the famine back home had subsided, and there was grain and food again. So she confided with Orpha and Ruth that she would journey back home and be among her kinsmen.

Certain laws, rules, or customs governed her thinking at this time. Of first consideration was the fact that Naomi was too old to bear a son for her daughters-in-law to marry. Even if she could, the daughters-in-law would not wait for the son to grow up. So the girls should remain among their own people. The girls resisted and started to go with Naomi. Orpha was finally convinced she should stay in Moab. But Ruth remained steadfast and went with Naomi to her homeland.

Continued on the next page

From the South

THE BLUE SLIPPER

Author: Clyde H. Magee, 32°
Source:http://www.myfreemasonry.com/threads/the-masonic-blue-slipper.27354/





Naomi and Ruth arrived back in Bethlehem-judah at harvest time. The Scripture passage on which this is based is well-known. "And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me." This passage of Scripture is unsurpassed as a declaration of love and devotion of one person for another. It has been said that it would made a good marriage vow. But, to me it is a different type of devotion.

Naomi also had to take into consideration another law. When Elimelech died, his next of kin was duty bound to redeem his possessions and take care of his widow and her family. Since Naomi was getting old, Ruth tried to earn a livelihood. While gleaning in the fields, she was seen by Boaz. And when he found out about her (that she was Naomi's daughter-in-law, etc.), he arranged special treatment for her. She could work with his girls in the field, and the young men were warned not to bother her. Since Boaz was not married and was kin to Naomi, Naomi decided that she should somehow make Boaz understand his duty to Elimelech's family. So Naomi advised Ruth to bathe and anoint herself and go to the threshing floor after dark and lay at the feet of Boaz. Boaz awoke at midnight and discovered her there. So as not to create a scandal, he gave her some barley and asked her to leave before dawn so that watching eyes would not recognize her.

Business among the tribe of Bethlehem-judah took place at the gate of the city. So Boaz sat down at the gate the next day because he knew there was a kinsman more closely related to Elimelech than he. So when the kinsman came by, Boaz called him aside and asked 10 men of the elders of the city to sit with them. Boaz bargained with his kinsman. The kinsman said he would redeem Elimelech's property. But, when he found out that he would have to take care of Naomi and Ruth, he reneged and told Boaz he would not redeem or protect Elimelech's interest. He would leave it to Boaz. The passage from Scripture for these events is the following: "And the kinsman said, I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem it., Now this was the manner in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a man plucked off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbor: and this was a testimony in Israel." So the kinsman drew off his shoe and gave it to Boaz. Boaz held it up for all in the gate to see. He asked them to be witnesses that he became Naomi's protector, Ruth's husband, and a redeemer of Elimelech's property. Thus, today we have the little blue slipper as an emblem of the protective influence of Masons for their wives, widows, and daughters.

PGM Dan's Diaries 3

While I was in the Grand Lodge line I participated in the ceremony at the Scottish Rite Temple when the Grand Lodge of New Mexico and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of New Mexico formally signed the compact that established full masonic relationship between our two Grand Lodges. It was a long overdue event and one that has proven to be very successful at uniting all the Masons in New Mexico. While Grand Master I attended the Prince Hall Grand Lodge Meeting in Roswell. I was very well received and enjoyed the fellowship and friendship. I was introduced to the ladies of the Price Hall Order of the Eastern Star which held their Grand Chapter at the same time. The work of the Grand Lodge was very enjoyable to watch as the officers wore tuxes and white gloves.

Jody and I attended the banquet dinner and we were seated at the head table with the Prince Hall Grand Master and other dignitaries. He asked me to give a talk to those in attendance. I told of my association with a colored man named Danny Milton. Danny was a quadriplegic who had been shot in the neck by his wife and was now bound to an electric wheel chair that he drove using his chin. He was living in a nursing home, a very unpleasant place to be for a 30 year old man. I had developed a handicapped typing system for my cousin which Danny had heard about and wanted to try. He was able to use it by sucking on a tube to select letters to type. Our friendship continued long after he decided that the system could not be used in his situation with three other bed bound people in his room.

I often brought him home in his wheelchair in the back of my truck and in my horse trailer. He would spend the day with us and then be returned to his room. One Christmas season he asked if we could take him to his mother's home in the south valley of Albuquerque which was beyond the travel limit of the city transportation system. That Christmas day my father, Bro. John Irick, and I used the delivery truck from the place I worked to transport Danny to his home for the day with his family. We picked him up at the end of the day and returned him to his nursing home. Three months later he developed an infection that took his life. I attended his funeral service. That summer his mother invited my dad and me to come over for dinner one Saturday as a way of saying thank you for what we had done. We did so and enjoyed a nice dinner and visit with the family. While there my father who was running for Governor of New Mexico got a call from U. S. Senator Pete Domenici with some campaign business. When done, Dad handed the phone to Danny's mother so she could talk with her Senator. I ended the talk by expressing to the people at the banquet how I was inspired by Danny Milton and his desire to improve his condition. After the dinner I had several of the Masons come up to me and tell me they also knew Danny and were at his funeral. That had been over 18 years earlier. What a small world we live.

Let There Be Light!

By Bro. Burx Norrod Herndon Lodge No. 264 A.F.A.M. March 6013 A:.L:.

There are numerous articles on various Masonic topics I am in the process of writing, inspired by my many thoughts and illuminations of the Craft as they progress. Because there seems to be no one 'cookie cutter' answer to the explanations of its' symbolisms, the individual must study these mysteries on his own accord to and then realize for himself what Light is being bestowed upon him. Having read many books and countless online articles thus far on the teachings of Freemasonry, I've come to conclude that having done so was just the door opener for an understanding that to duly & truly understand Freemasonry, one would have to start from the beginning with the Catechisms. Simply reading an entire book on Freemasonry may leave you with still a bit of wonder, as the teachings are philosophical in nature, and is not so transparent - and it's interpretations will vary from book to book, and from person to person.

The Catechism, as defined by the Mentor's Manual, is: "a series of questions and answers that is intended to teach each initiate the language of Freemasonry, to fix in his mind the teachings of the degree, to impress upon his consciousness the facets of the obligation he has assumed, and to enable him to prove to his satisfaction and that of his Brethren that he is a Mason."

Thus, my suggestion is an exercise that can be alluded to by any Mason, regardless of Degree. Learning the Catechisms is vital to the Freemasons' education. It's not designed to simply enable one to be a parrot by learning how to recite these words by memory, but rather to have a blueprint to be able to reflect on. I would challenge any Brother to start from the beginning, with the Entered Apprentice's Catechism, and pick out words or phrases that he does not truly understand, research it, and then write a paper about it. It doesn't have to be long or eloquent at all ... about as long and as informal as this article I'm writing now.

Being able to write the report, and if possible, present it to the Brethren in the Lodge, will certainly enhance ones' own proficiency in the Craft, and help to expand the thought horizons for those in attendance. Being a Freemason isn't simply one of occasionally coming to the Lodge as a social club member, wearing a ring, or other paraphernalia, but rather a lifetime of study and reflection. It's being able to understand the revelations of its' signs, symbols, and allegories, and then being able to interpret them for yourself to utilize in your everyday life. In this day and age, with the amount of books written and online sources available, an Observant Mason must know more than the average non-Mason who's simply read the book 'Freemasons for Dummies' - an excellent book by Chris Hodapp.

While there are numerous esoteric books that provide Masonic truths - I find that if the reader is not a philosopher by nature, that book will not be read. However - all Freemasons have a philosophic subconscious as there would be no other way to explain one's participation wanting to learn meanings behind symbols & such.

This is more especially becoming important as the current average age for men being initiated into Freemasonry is 37 years old. In this Anno Lucis year of 6013, it is the age of the internet - where simply 'googling' a question will pull up an answer, even those on Freemason topics. If this is the case, what would be the reason one should even attend Lodge meetings if one can find this information online?

Digging deeper - I discovered that one would attend the Lodge Communications in the same way one would attend a religious service, even though the Bible or other Book of Sacred Law is already out in the open for all to read. What draws in the Brethren is being in a surrounding of like-minded thinkers, and the environment of the Craft's atmosphere.

I would challenge those who are reading book after book on the Craft to desist, and to start writing about what the Craft means to you, subject by subject. The hundreds of thousands of books and online articles exist for a reason, they're all written by those who have had a belief in what the Craft means to them - and along the way had published their findings. We must not let one man's truths become our own, for this is what kills the internal spirit. If the Supreme Architect Of The Universe wanted soul-less creatures, he would have created those who did not have the power of thought.

There are those who may say that there's not enough time in the day to put a paper together, or to even write their thoughts out, much less read a Masonic book. To those I will ask, is that TV Show being watched or video game being played more important than learning about the Tenants of our Institution?

Many of the new generation of Masons are being intrigued by the Craft due to the mysticism that surrounds it, partly due to works such as Dan Brown with his published books and movies. Pure fiction - but representative of a Masonic truth. The thoughts of it being an ancient philosophical order shrouded by secrecies is another. Thus, it is equally important, more now than ever, to become well-informed Brethren.

If you are a Master Mason, ask yourself - do you understand all 3 Catechisms, and how to explain them to a new Catechist if asked? If not, get started!

Just a few topics among many to consider researching: What does 'Free' in Freemasonry mean to you? Why do Masons wear an Apron?

Who are the Holy Saints John? What are the Ancient Landmarks?

What does being an Observant Mason mean? Exactly what is Freemasonry?

Why is the Symbolic Lodge called the Blue Lodge? You get the idea. In just a minute I could rattle off over a dozen more Masonic topics that are not truly understood by most in the Craft. While these may appear to be elementary for a few learned

Brethren, it's light that hasn't yet been illuminated by most.

This short report is designed by nature to encourage the individual Mason to begin his journey in the Craft by learning what goes on in the Craft for himself. Thus, he will render himself deserving of the honor which has been conferred upon him.

For these reasons, there must be no recruitment or encouragement for others to enter Freemasonry. The Lodge room will always be filled to its' capacities when it contains those who are being observant of its philosophies and illuminations - not with warm bodies, but with warm hearts heated by the burning fire of Masonic Light.

Let there be light!



St. John the Evangelist

The Two Saint Johns

Source: http://mastermason.com/WallerLodge/stsjohn.htm

St. John the Baptist



Among American Freemasons there are two festivals in the Masonic calendar. The Feast of St. John, the Baptist, is celebrated on June 24th and the Feast of St. John, the Evangelist, on December 27th.

The two dates fall at the time of the summer and winter when the sun attains its greatest north or south declination when it apparently stands still for a short time before turning in its course. These are know as the summer and winter solstices.

Why is it that Masonry has chosen these two men as patrons? Why are Masonic lodges dedicated to them? Why do Masons hold celebrations in their honor each year? Were the Saints John Freemasons?

Before answering these questions, let us review a bit of ancient history. Before the days of Christianity the early Greeks and Romans dedicated their temples and sacred things to some god. To the ancients the sun was the source of power. They observed the course of the sun through the year and knew that at one period the sun brought them warmth, new vegetation, bountiful crops and with it all, a new source of energy and hope.

Then the sun, after a fruitful season, left them and they felt the cold, the grains in the field failed to flourish, and all nature seemed to sleep. The ancients knew that, after due time, the friendly sun in its cycle would come back to them bringing again light, warmth, food and hope. Is it any wonder that these people worshipped the sun as a god? Even today people the world over, revere the sun and welcome its warmth, and even travel to follow it during the cold and dark winter months.

It is significant to note that the two festival days of the Saints John fall at these two seasons - first when the sun is nearest, and second, when the sun has reached its northern-most summit and again turns toward the south.

People in the early ancient days had their organizations and guilds even as we do today and dedicated them to a pagan god for protection. The worshipping of the sun or other deities had so permeated mankind that when Christianity was introduced to the world the church found it was impossible to stop the people from such pagan celebrations. It was natural to feel the need for adopting some patron for protection.

The church therefore consecrated its churches to God and wisely substituted the names of its saints as patrons.

Other societies and organizations followed the same practice.

St. John, the Baptist

Why did the Freemasons choose St. John, the Baptist, as patron? One would suppose that they would name some outstanding person. But, St. John, the Baptist, was a humble man, a plain man who held, above all, his obligations to God and, with almost unbelievable steadfastness, met martyrdom. He continually preached repentance - and virtue - and humiliation.

Yes, the early freemasons chose well in selecting such a man as St. John, the Baptist, as a patron of Freemasonry!

St. John, the Evangelist

For a long period only St. John, the Baptist, was patron saint of Freemasonry. It was not until after the 16th century that St John, the Evangelist, was also adopted as a patron. The "Old Charges" of Freemasonry speak of St. John, the Evangelist, as a "Saint of the Craft." He was constantly admonishing the cultivation of brotherly love. Of all the gospels, The Gospel of St. John is the most Masonic for the central theme is LIGHT. It portrays

Lodges Dedicated to the Holy Saints John

God as "the Light of the World."

Lodges then came to be dedicated to the Holy Saints John and it is interesting to note that the early Masons were called "St. John's Masons" or "St. John's Men."

It matters not whether the two Saints John were actually members of the Masonic fraternity. But they have been called the patrons of the fraternity down through the ages because they have exemplified the principles of Freemasonry in their daily lives by their deeds and their words. These two humble men did not engage in any of the pomp and glory of the world.

It is because Masonry regards the character and internal qualifications of a man - not the exterior appearances

- that these two men are fittingly called the patrons of this great fraternity. They possessed those internal
qualifications that made the TRUE MAN. Masonry honors them above all others for they were the living examples
of the Golden Rule, the practice of virtue, love for their fellow-men and love for their God.

Albuquerque Scottish Rite Club Meeting

Monday August 2nd, 2021 Master Craftsman Classes 6:00PM Presentation 7:00PM

We will be holding an in person meeting at the Ballut Abyad Shrine Ball Room. 6600 Zuni Rd SE, Alb. NM 87108, A Zoom Meeting Link is provided in the description above



Presentation of the Evening "The 7 Secrets of Solomon"
Presented by Bro. Burx Norrod



Antient & Accepted Scottish Rite, S.J., El.S.A.

-Albuquerque Scottish Rite Club-

Orient of New Mexico, The Valley of Santa fe