



THE

TRESTLE

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE

NO.

06 JUNE, 2022

BOARD

In This Issue

From the East - Happy Father's Day

From the West - Masonic Historic Calendar

From the South - Accomplishments & Future Events

Job's Daughters Bethel 4 Installation Invitation

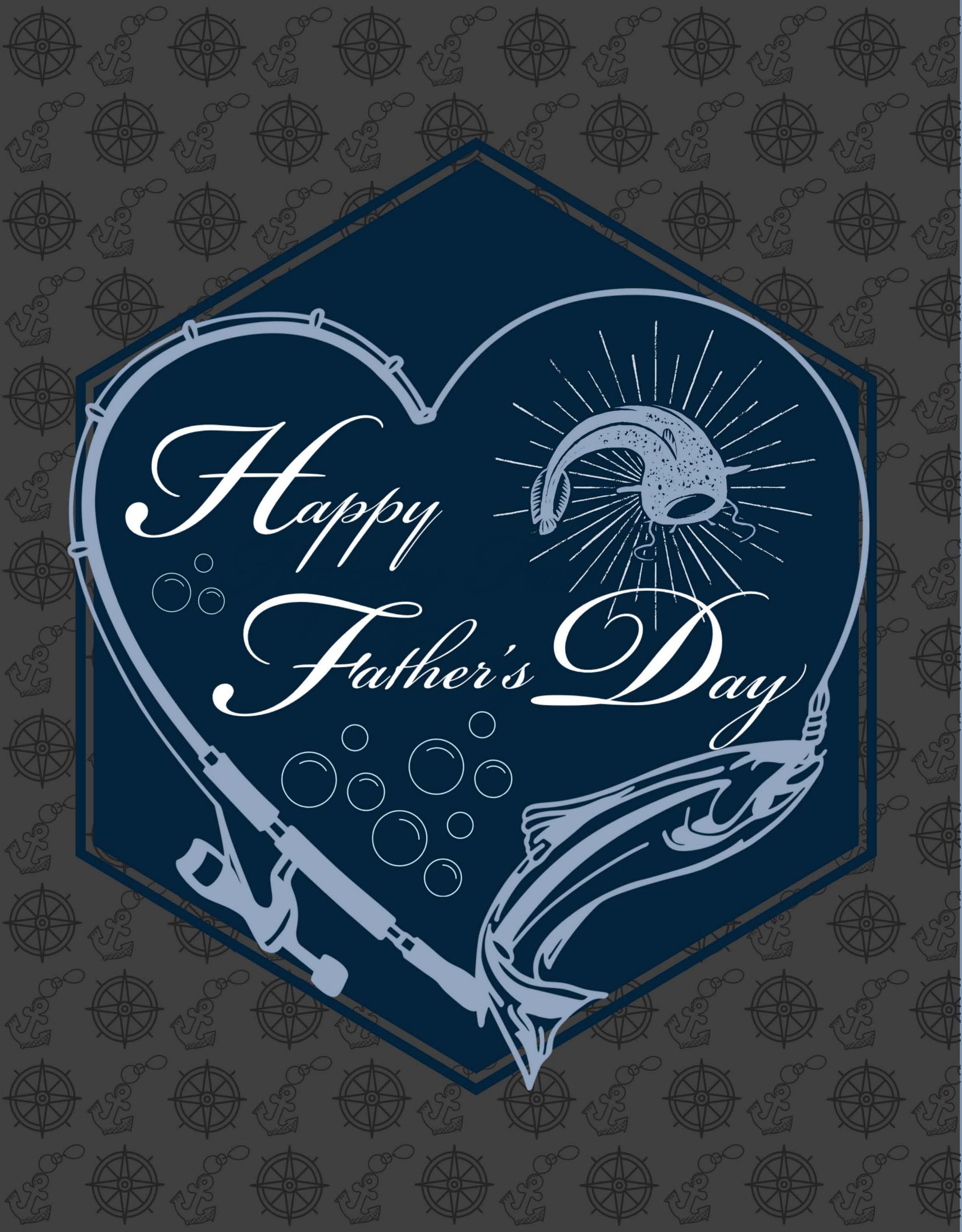
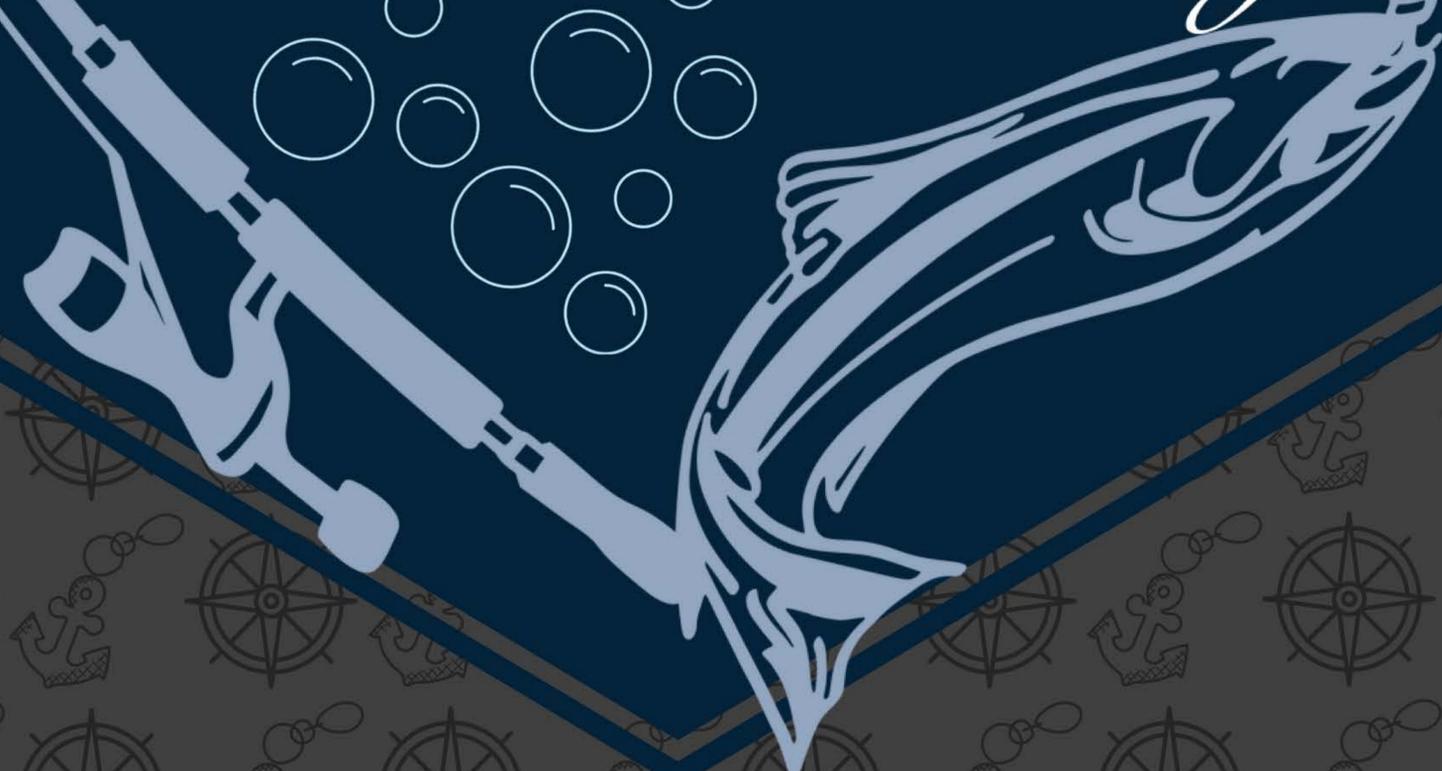
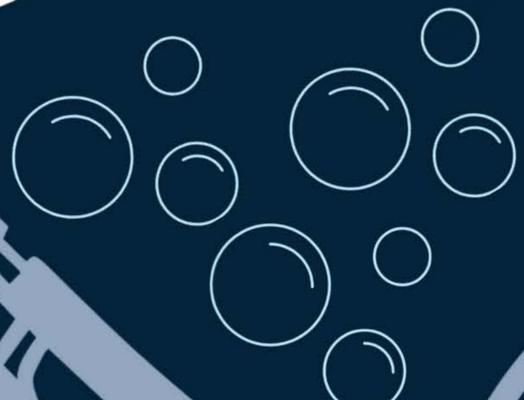
The Badge of a Freemason

What the Mind Can Conceive to Believe

Past Master's Master Mason Degree

Happy

Father's Day



From  West

Historic Masonic Calendar

June

× In 1752 ×

Bro. Benjamin Franklin flew a kite for the first time to demonstrate that lightning was a form of electricity.

× In 1845 ×

Bro. Andrew Jackson -- a proud Mason who became seventh President of the US -- died at Nashville, NY. He became a national hero when as a major general in the US Army he was ordered to defend New Orleans in the war of 1812. He was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee October 7, 1822, and again in 1823, serving until October, 1824.

× In 1947 ×

Bro. and US Secretary of State George C. Marshall, speaking at Harvard University, outlined an aid program for Europe that came to be known as the famed Marshall Plan. Bro. Marshall had received many decorations and high honors including the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953. General of the Army and Brother George C. Marshall was the recipient of the New York Grand Lodge Distinguished Achievement Award in 1945 ... the highest honor that can be bestowed on a Mason by this Grand Lodge. The same year this high honor was also presented to Admiral of the Fleet and Brother Ernest Joseph King. Bro. Marshall was made a Mason "at sight" on December 16, 1941 by Ara M. Daniels, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of District of Columbia, in the Scottish Rite Cathedral of the District. Distinguished leaders from many states were Present. Bro., Marshall's father had been an active Freemason at Allentown, PA, being High Priest of Union Chapter No. 165, (RAM) in 1889. and Commander of Uniontown Commandery No. 49, (KT) in 1883.

× In 1776 ×

Bro. Richard Henry Lee of Virginia proposed to the Continental Congress a resolution calling for a Declaration of Independence. He was a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1769 and prominent in defending colonial rights. He was a Virginia delegate to the Continental Congress when he moved the resolution that "these united colonies are and ought to be, free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved." This was adopted by the Continental Congress on July 2, 1776. Bro. Lee was believed raised in a lodge near Nailers, VA, across the Rappahannock river near Hobb's Hole. He later became a member of Hiram Lodge No. 59, Westmoreland County, VA. He died June 19, 1794

× In 1770 ×

Bro. and Captain James Cook, as Captain of HMS Endeavor, "Discovered" Australia's Great Barrier Reef by running aground onto it. This renown explorer was killed by natives February 4, 1779 in Hawaii during a scuffle over a stolen boat. Though no proof exists of his membership he is constantly referred to as a member of the Craft.

× In 1717 ×

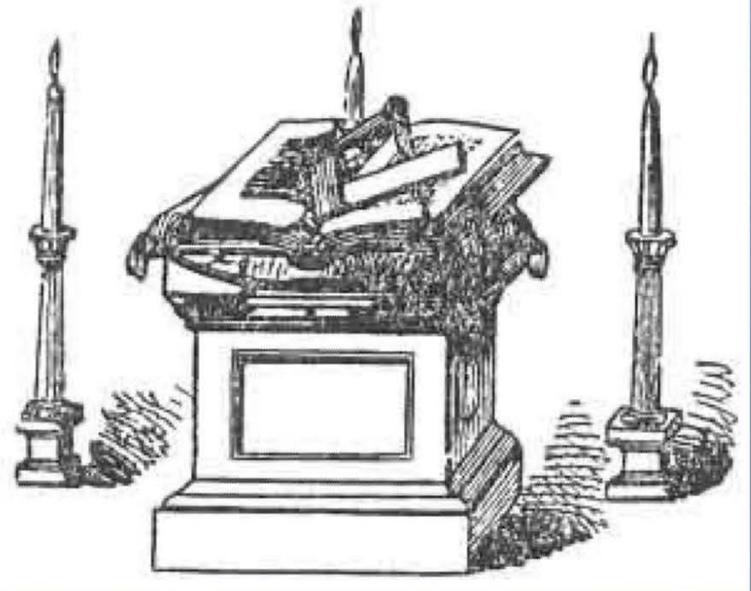
Founding of the United Grand Lodge of England

From the South

Past & Future Events

Monday June 13th

We will be having a Fellowcraft Degree so please come join us as we pass Brother Carver and Brother Whelchel to the degree of Fellowcraft. Dinner starts at 6:00pm and the degree starts at 7:00pm



Order of DeMolay Installation of Officers

The Mesa Chapter, Order of DeMolay Installation of Officers for this term was a great success. Both Rainbow Girls and Job's Daughters were in attendance to show their support for the new installed Master Counselor; Aiden Leon.



MEJA
CHAPTER

GRAND LODGE OF NEW MEXICO AF&AM
PRESENTS:

MASONICon

2022

A Singular Opportunity to Share Masonic Light in New Mexico

Ballut Abyad Shrine

6600 ZUNI RD SE ALBUQUERQUE NM 87108



Table Lodge is Back!

Starts Friday July 29th

Cocktails 6pm

Table Lodge Dinner 7pm (Prime Rib, Baked Potato, fixings, \$25 per plate) Mason's Wives and Significant others are welcomed!

Saturday July 30th

Gate opens at 6:30am

Grand Master Opening remarks 7:30am

Lunch \$10

<https://sites.google.com/view/nmshrines/events/masonic>

Everyone will need to register and pay by July 22

Schedule to follow soon

If you are interested in speaking or presenting please reach out to WB Harry Jenkins @ hwjenkins2@gmail.com or Br. Davin Teague @ dbteague50@gmail.com

MASONICon - July 29th and 30th
at the Ballut Abyad Shrine Temple
in Albuquerque.

Table Lodge is Back! If this is new to you, come check it out!
Masonicon is two full days of Masonic light & education & brotherly camaraderie.
Copy the link below into your browser to purchase your tickets!



INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS



FRIDAY JULY 1ST



6:30PM



SANDOVAL LODGE NO. 76

1420 BARBARA LOOP SE
RIO RANCHO, NM 87124



"Out of his mouth go burning torches; Sparks of fire leap forth. Out of his nostrils smoke goes forth as from a boiling pot and burning rushes. His breathe kindles coal, and a flame goes forth from his mouth."



The Badge of a Mason

By Bro. Burx Norrod

It's been a decade since I first learned the Catechism of the Entered Apprentice - where we hear the Apron we're given is "more ancient & honorable" ... and a "badge of a Mason", etc. ... and that more importantly - it's been presented to us "without spot or blemish" - and that it's hoped we "wear it with pleasure - and honor to the fraternity".

For some odd reason however - this very Apron we're given becomes an item that we're immediately to safekeep ... and to store away, for the next time to be worn in death (something I was told anyway after being given it). Reason why so often the cloth or other temporal Aprons at the Lodge designed to be loaned to traveling Brethren or those who may have forgotten theirs becomes automatically the one used each time to gain entrance into a Stated Meeting.



What I would like to do - is to use my influence to induce brethren to wear the Aprons they were given at their initiation ... it's a Lambskin Apron ... worthy enough to be worn at each and every Meeting that requires an Apron. If you didn't already know it - I want to be the first to tell you that it is ok for you to wear your Masonic Apron at initiation ... and that this does NOT need to be placed in a sock drawer - closet - or some other part of your house where one day it becomes forgotten, and is not even used when it's time to go to that Celestial Lodge.

I say this from experience. I've been to numerous Masonic funerals ... and can probably count on one hand the number of brethren I've seen being buried with their own Masonic Aprons they were given, only to be later presented with the Brother's Masonic regalia by his family members ... letting the Lodge know what should be done with such items - to include the Apron!

Back in 2014, while still a Virginia Mason, there was a group email sent out to Brethren asking who may have an 'extra' Apron - as one was to be used for a Brother of another Masonic jurisdiction who we were to do a courtesy Masonic funeral service for. I immediately gave up my own Apron that I was initiated with - as that Brother needed it more than I did because he was already in his coffin. And so - the Funeral Service was given. A week later however - I get a call to say that there was some things left behind at the Funeral Parlor - one being the Apron - of course with my name on it. Apparently - it didn't even make it's way into the Brother's burial ... I don't know if it was the fault of the worker at the funeral parlor, but it didn't seem as if folks understood that this Mason was to actually be buried with the Apron. Someone may have thought it to be a simple prop.

What the Mind Can Conceive to Believe ...

By: Bro. Burx Norrod

Freemasonry has been often described as being a 'peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegories & illustrated by symbols'. The question becomes - who came up with these allegories in the first place?

One large benefit of learning our Ritual Work - is that your vocabulary can and will expand. I know it has for me ten-fold. I remember having to look up online for definitions of such words as "conflagration", "inundation", "celestial", "terrestrial", "cable-tow", "circumambulation", "discalceation", and yes ... even the word "allegory"!

Time in the Masonic quarries indeed has not only changed my vocabulary due to having a strong interest with our ritual work - but also with my thought process. As a matter of fact the 'Free' in Freemasonry to me is a 'freeing of the mind', for better or worse. It's made me to come to question more than I ever did ... not just with ritual work and why it is we as Masons do what we do - but with life in general.

This opening of my senses and overall learning has inspired me to be able to summarize the allegory of the lessons within our Blue Lodge for myself that may or may not jive with others. Then again - it's what my OWN mind conceives to believe ...

While I've gone down the path of the rabbit hole of esoterica ... learning about Gematria, and a slew of occult sciences that could, to the naked eye - make one seem waaay out there - I am still a realist. I know that due to numerology, with numbers that are commonly found in Freemasonry ... these are also used to explain 'symbols' or other 'truths' that may or may not truly exist. Sadly - if one person comes up with an idea - and put such thought into a book ... it becomes 'truth' to those who've not taken it upon themselves to question what they're reading.

For example - I've seen books and various articles that spoke about the 'symbolology' of the Masonic Apron with its triangular flap and squared bottom. It's been illustrated that the 3 sides for the flap and the 4 sides of the square equal to the number 7 ... which is the number of Masons who form a Lodge of Entered Apprentice Masons ... or maybe the 7th day of the week God rested ... or the 7 liberal arts & sciences, Albert Mackey himself wrote that "Seven is a sacred number in Masonic symbolism" in his Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry.

But the reality is ... the Apron got its style after the 1870s ... after the American Civil War, when fraternities thrived - and many of them adopted the Apron as a symbol of sorts. It wasn't just Freemasons - but also the Elks, the Order of Odd Fellows, Free Gardeners, etc. The apron was at this time being made by many who weren't necessarily skilled with making them - so they were handed a template of sorts ... to make these aprons now with straight edges - instead of the rounded or other shaped aprons of old. This cookie cutter template allowed for less mistakes for making them in the first place - as well as helped to save on the lambskin or other material that was being used to make these. Painting being added to these to create branding sparked how and why Masonic Aprons look today - and nothing about specific symbolism.

Don't get me wrong - I appreciate one's explanation of symbolism of sorts ... I just have to have an understanding of where something originated from in the first place for me to be able to understand where it's evolved to.

Ultimately - it's what one's mind can conceive to believe ... or in other words ... perception is reality. Do yourself a favor brethren ... and gain an understanding of our ritual work or why we do what we do in Freemasonry in the first place by asking questions and gaining the Light for yourself /G\

Burx Norrod, Master Mason
Sandoval Lodge No. 76



*Sandoval Lodge No. 76
Entered Apprentice Degree
Bro. Mike Patrick
May 23rd, 2022*



*Congratulations
Brother Mike Patrick
and
Welcome to the Fraternity*