SHEKINAH LODGE No. 58

Free and Accepted Masons

Millville, New Jersey

Instituted - May 21, 1861



Brethren:

All of you have heard Masonry defined as a science veiled in allegory and explained by Symbols. Why is Free Masonry veiled in allegories when few of us even recognize the allegories and certainly are unable to interpret them? Why are the lessons and teachings of Free Masonry explained by Symbols, when none of us can name more than a few of the Symbols and are able to interpret few of those we can name? Why do we not explain the allegories and Symbols in simple English that all may read and understand? Here is my answer to those questions,

About all the secrets Free Masonry has are contained in its allegories and Symbols. Of course, we have some words and signs. Many of the profane think they know what some of these are. If they did know, these would be worth nothing to them except to aid them in attempting to gain admission to a Masonic meeting. All they do for us is to aid us in proving ourselves as Masons, but we could do that without the words and signs. It would be odd if many of the profane did not have a pretty good idea what our ritual contains. Our aims and purposes are broadcast to the world, and are known to many, but have any of you ever heard one of the profane attempting to interpret one of our allegories or Symbols?

Veiling our secrets in allegories and concealing them in Symbols keeps them from the profane. At the same time we keep those secrets from many of us who are entitled to know them. This may reveal one of the greatest secrets of Free Masonry. The secrets of Free Masonry are only for those who diligently search for them. That means study of our allegories and Symbols. That is the only method by which we may know what those allegories and Symbols contain, which is equivalent to saying, that is the only way we may know much about the secrets of Freemasonry.

The new Mason may hesitate to attempt to interpret an allegory or Symbol for fear he may err in his misinterpretation, but he need not hesitate, for he will have lots of company from among the veterans. Besides, who would there be to say his interpretation was wrong? No one has authority to say that any interpretation errs, there is no interpretation of any Symbol that anyone may say is the only correct one. The correct interpretation so far as the individual Brother is enocerned is the one he finds. That becomes to him one of the secrets of Freemasonry. None of the profane may discover that secret because it is locked in the heart of the individual Brother.

The allegory or Symbol is received by the ear or pictured by the eye, but that is not sufficient. It should inform the mind and teach the heart. Our allegories and Symbols present fullest opportunities for serious reflection during a lifetime of study. Such reflection and study are the only methods by which the real secrets of Free Masonry may come into the possession of anyone.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Brethren:

Your are cordially invited to attend the following communications of Shekinah Lodge:

REGULAR COMMUNICATION

Friday, November 6, 1970 — 7:30 P.M.

Balloting on the following petition for membership:

MR. CLAIR BENJAMIN SWEIGART 127 Laurel Lane, Williamstown, N. J. Age 44 Years Supervisor

REFRESHMENTS

EMERGENT COMMUNICATION

Friday, November 20, 1970 — 7:30 P.M.

Fellowcraft Degree

— Dates to Remember —

DISTRICT LODGE OF INSTRUCTION

Wednesday, November 18, 1970 — 7:30 P.M.

Neptune Lodge No. 75, F.&A.M., Mauricetown, N. J.

ANNUAL LADIES NIGHT

Saturday, November 28, 1970

Dinner - Dancing - Entertainment

Buena Vista Country Club - Officers have tickets

WILLIAM H. GOSHEN. Worshipful Master

Attested: Samuel Davidson, P.D.D.G.M., Secretary

Any committee report on a petition not complete on scheduled evening will be balloted on at a later communication without further printing in trestle board.

OFFICERS 1970

| William H. Goshen | Worshipful Master |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Russell A. Roberts | |
| Richard A. Jervis | |
| Sheppard W. Hogan, P.M. | Treasurer |
| Samuel Davidson, P.D.D.G.M. | |
| John A. Shea, P.M. | |
| Robert F. Andrews | Senior Deacon |
| Frank R. Morris | Junior Deacon |
| George Carty | Senior M. of C. |
| Daniel W. Hand, Jr. | |
| William H. Stiles | |
| William R. Piper | Junior Steward |
| Carl W. Nixon | Marshal |
| George W. Radcliffe | Organist |
| Merrill S. Cottrell, P.M. | Historian |
| Edward L. Grau | Tyler |
| John M. Robinson, P.D.D.G.M. | Director of Work |

TRUSTEES

Walter S. Earling, P.M.
Robert D. Barber, P.M.
Two Years
Norman H. Fowler, P.M.
Three Years

COMMITTEES

RELIEF

Sick

Delbert H. Pfeiffer, P.G.C. Harold E. Nichols, P.M. John M. Robinson, P.D.D.G.M. Delbert H. Pfeiffer, P.G.C Edmund K. Reeves, P.M. John A. Shea, P.M.

Delbert H. Pfeiffer, P.G.C. Edmund K. Reeves, P.M. John A. Shea, P.M. Lawrence B. Kates

Max C. Whitmore

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

| | gdon G. Vaughan iam H. Stiles | Thompson A. Schuler William R. Piper |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
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LIVING PAST MASTERS

AFFILIATED PAST MASTERS

| Elmer Gross, P.G.S.B. | 1946 | George G. Chapman | 1954 |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------------|------|
| Horace B. Hand | 1948 | James G. Mathis | 1951 |
| | Peorge S Le | eacock 1945 | |

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

John E. Krumm, Sr. - 140 Castle Heights Avenue - Pennsville, N. J. - 678-3520