



Gems of Purpose

The E-Trestle Board for

Bethpage Lodge #521, Free and Accepted Masons



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New Co-County Chairmen Appointed

The Grand Master of Tennessee, Worshipful Brother Sid Dorris, has appointed two new county chairmen for Sumner County. The appointees will replace Bro. Laddie Wilson and Bro. Phillip Simmons. Bethpage Lodge would like to thank both of these brethren for their service and continued dedication to the advancement of the Craft. They will be replaced by Brothers Wesley Hodges (94) and David Stafford (521). Contact these brethren with dates of degrees work, lodge functions, and fund raisers so that they might help in spreading the word.

Wesley Hodges - kingsolomon94@yahoo.com
David Stafford - bethpagelodge521@bellsouth.net

*Proverbs 25:11: A word fitly spoken
is like apples of gold in pictures of
silver.*

Masonic TidBits

Brother Edwin E. (Buzz) Aldrin, Jr., a member of Clear Lake Lodge # 1417 in Texas, when he stepped onto the surface of the moon, carried a special deputation from his Grand Master to claim the moon as being in the territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas. And so it is.

("Fraternal Review", Southern California Research Lodge.)



Anderson's Constitutions

The following is the second charge written by the Reverend Brother James Anderson, D.D. and published in 1723. The remaining four will follow in subsequent editions.

II Of the CIVIL MAGISTRATES SUPREME and SUBORDINATE.

A Mason is a peaceable Subject to the Civil Powers, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concern'd in Plots and Conspiracies against the Peace and Welfare of the Nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior Magistrates; for as Masonry hath been always injured by War, Bloodshed, and Confusion, so ancient Kings and Princes have been much dispos'd to encourage the Craftsmen, because of their Peaceableness and Loyalty, whereby they practically answer'd the Cavils of their Adversaries, and promoted the Honour of the Fraternity, who ever flourish'd in Time of Peace. So that if a Brother should be a Rebel against the State he is not to be countenanced in his Rebellion, however he may be pitied as any unhappy Man; and, if convicted of no other Crime though the Loyal Brotherhood must and ought to disown his Rebellion, and give no Umbrage or Ground of political Jealousy to the Government for the time being, they cannot expel him from the Lodge, and his Relation to it remains indefeasible.

(<http://bessel.org/landmark.htm>)



The York Rite

Did you know that all Masons in Tennessee are York Rite Masons? Tennessee and most all Masonic Jurisdictions in the United States use the York Rite Ritual for the Three Symbolic Degrees. The degrees of the York Rite are a continuation of the degrees all Master Masons have already obtained. In fact, the Royal Arch Degree was once conferred within the Blue Lodge. If you are searching for more light in Freemasonry, why not complete the York Rite degrees. ***The degrees of the York Rite will be next conferred at The Grand Lodge Building on October 27 and 28.*** If you are interested in taking these degrees, contact Brother Stafford. He will direct you in what you need to do to petition the York Rite Bodies.



Bodies of the York Rite

Lodge of Master Masons
Entered Apprentice
Fellow Craft
Master Masons
Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
Mark Master
Past Master (Virtual)
Most Excellent Master
Royal Arch Mason
Council of Cryptic Masons
Royal Master
Select Master
Super-Excellent Master
Commandery of Knights Templar
Order of the Red Cross
Order of Malta
Order of the Temple

Complete the Three Degrees, petition the York Rite today!!!

SYMBOLS by J. V. Perry



What are those shining symbols
On that open Holy Book?
That teaches us of Brotherly Love,
And on it, oaths we took.

I placed my hands upon this book
And pledged by solemn word,
My fingers touching shining symbols
Repeating the oath I heard.

So help me GOD, and keep me steadfast,
These words my final plea,
And now I'll live my whole life
By the tenants of Masonry.

We are all Fraternal Brothers
By the sacred oath we took,
When we placed both hands
On that open Holy Book.

*Let us endeavor so to live that when
we come to die even the undertaker
will be sorry.*

- Brother Samuel Clemons or better known as
"Mark Twain"

11th Annual Macon County Moonlight Degree

We are taught that the Ancients met upon hills and in grooves to partake in sacred rituals. The Masonic Lodges of Macon County invite you to join them for a Master Masons Degree Conferred in the outdoors. The event will be held on Saturday, September 9. The Grand Lodge of Mississippi Degree Team will confer a Master Masons Degree. The event will begin at 4:00 pm. Contact Scotty Wilburn for more information – (615) 633-4348.