



# GEMS OF PURPOSE

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 6

DECEMBER 2008

## BETHPAGE LODGE #521, F&AM OF TENNESSEE

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## 2009 Lodge Officers

Robert Smith, PM\*—Worshipful Master

Billy Burroughs—Senior Warden

Arthur Lane, PM\*—Junior Warden

Lee Roy Grizzle, PM—Treasurer

David Stafford, PM—Secretary

Eld. Kenneth Woodall—Chaplain

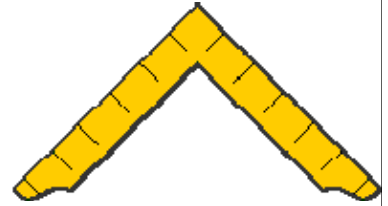
Ferrell Fuqua—Senior Deacon

Russell Breese—Junior Deacon

Timothy Roberson, PM—Senior Steward

Josh Perry—Junior Steward

Chris Harrison—Tyler



\* Brother Smith is Past Master of Portland #326 and Fairfield #553. Brother Lane is Past Master of Hendersonville #359. These brethren have been a wonderful addition to Bethpage Lodge since their addition.∞

### 2009 Stated Meetings

- January 15—Program
- February 19
- March 19
- April 16—Program
- May 21
- June 18
- July 16—Program
- August 20
- September 17
- October 15—Program
- November 19
- December 17

All Stated Meetings begin at 7:00 PM. Nights with programs will be accompanied by a meal at 6:00PM.

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The last page of this newsletter is a flyer for Bethpage Lodge's *Anniversary Masonic Lecture Series*. Please share this page with your lodge secretary to announce at your next stated meeting. We are trying to make as many people as possible aware of these events. We

hope to see you at the January meeting to hear Brother Palmer's lecture and share in the fraternal experience at

Bethpage Masonic Lodge! ∞



# The Rejected Stone



**THE** Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, of London, thus appropriates a well-known Masonic tradition:

I have heard a story — I can not tell whether it is true or not — out of some of the Jewish legends : it is a tale concerning the text : “The stone which the builders refused, the same is become the headstone of the corner.” It is said that when Solomon's temple was building, all the stones were brought from the quarry, ready cut and fashioned, and there were marked on all the blocks the places where they were to be put. Amongst the stones was a very curious one; it seemed of no describable shape, it appeared unfit for any portion of the building. They tried it at this wall, but it would not fit; they tried it at another, but it could not be accommodated; so, vexed and angry, they threw it away. The temple was so many years building that this stone became covered with moss, and grass grew around it. Every body passing by laughed at the stone ; they said Solomon was wise, and doubtless all the other stones were right, but as for that block, they might as well send it back to the quarry, for it was quite sure it was meant for nothing. Year after year rolled on, and the poor stone was still despised; the builders constantly refused it. The eventful day came when the temple was to be finished and opened, and the multitude was assembled to see the grand sight. The builders said, "Where is the top-stone? Where is the pinnacle?" They little thought where the crowning marble was, until some said, " Perhaps that stone which the builders refused is meant to be the top-stone." They then took it, and hoisted to the top of the house; and as it reached the summit they found it well adapted to the place. Loud *hosannas* made the welkin ring, as the stone which the builders refused thus became the head-stone of the corner. So it is with Jesus Christ. The builders cast him away. He was a plebeian; he was a man of poor extraction;



Brother Nicholas, *The Stone Rejected Has Been Made into the Head of the Corner*, *Speculum Humanae Salvationis*, The Hugue, 1450 CA

he was a man acquainted with sinners, who walked in poverty and meanness; hence the worldly-wise despised him. But when God shall gather together, in one, all things that are in heaven and that are in earth, then Christ shall be the glorious consummation of all things.

"Christ reigns in heaven the top-most stone, And well deserves the praise."

He shall be exalted; He shall be honored, His name shall endure as long as the sun, and all nations shall be blessed in Him, yea, all generations shall call him blessed. ∞

A Spurgeon quote for my cigar smoking friends (Bros. Dusel & Kindoll will like this.): *If anybody can show me in the Bible the command, 'Thou shalt not smoke,' I am ready to keep it; but I haven't found it yet. I find ten commandments, and it's as much as I can do to keep them; and I've no desire to make them into eleven or twelve.*

# Masonic Term Word Search



APPRENTICE  
BEEHIVE  
CHARGE  
CHARITY  
CHARTER  
COFFIN  
COMPASSES  
DEGREE

DORIC  
FAITH  
FELLOWCRAFT  
GAUGE  
GAVEL  
HIRAMABIFF  
HOLYBIBLE  
HOPE

INCENSE  
LAMBSKIN  
LEVEL  
MASTERMASON  
MOSAICPAVEMENT  
NAKEDHEART  
OPERATIVE  
PETITION  
PILLAR

PLUMB  
SCYTHE  
SETTINGMAUL  
SOLOMON  
SPADE  
SPECULATIVE  
SQUARE  
TUSCAN

Q S E S L P W X K N M B X E I Q E P F F I L T B W W O G E L  
M X D A D E T A S A Q C A P V Z E H Z X V X A S X C I A C L  
X S R Z X F C E S E D F I I Q T M M T A E Y X J P W Y U I A  
L A Q B M U W T P C Z V H R I C S S N Y X J T C K L X G T T  
N H C C P V E I Z O H L L T O H A H E O C F Q J O S X E N N  
U G T R E R R B O L J A I S L D O Y L T S S F Q R P U V E P  
M O C O M P A S S E S O R S R L J Q H Q T T K R U L T T R O  
T K V A V I V U E O N L Q G R A K W U T R I X G C L N R P Z  
G H S K D L Y Y O S H V G S E J N A L N D D N L O E I A P L  
O O N D A L Y C R Z H N C R O Z R J G B Y K X G M C B I A A  
N K O D Q A S Y P H W K J D N E E E S B A K U E M S P F I M  
K Z M R N R P L I G G K D L A E W E I C P M V X Y A S E T B  
X A O G R N U N M O E V Y G J X B E A A S A I K N K U L D S  
N Q L X A M O P Q C D Y N R W W Y N M W P O S W I D S L T K  
N Z O V B V O P E W C P M S E P Y W I C U U O F F S K O S I  
S H S R G L E S E N B X B E B H B P I Y T O K O F U Y W D N  
L E V E L B N L Q R S G R S Z B H A S R D I U A O O Y C N O  
D S W P F E K I E X A G I T E W S C T B X X I J C D Y R M N  
X H S A C G C L Z Q E T H M R O Y T I R A H C R E I Q A O Y  
Z H H N Y R B E U D D G I G M A F F I B A M A R I H F F W E  
L A I R I I K E J Y T X F V U L E I L R L U B B N X X T E M  
J U A N B P D Z X A R L T E E L T H H L D N A C S U T L G V  
N S I Y R B I A K W C G I Q P E R N D C H M O P B Q C H G P  
Z T L Y Q E P U M J P O F H S D W N V E Y U C O Z K I O S Z  
J O H H G V T J D S P E C U L A T I V E K A F A I T H F U J  
H V J O M J I R F F M G U R Y P T C S D H A D Q H D V B S F  
Z Z J K I G R E A F H S D G R S L I A S E H N B E E H I V E  
D R M Z F C Q S X H R F I L I V Y D P P D Y Y G G S F T Y I  
S M L Y U T C P C J C Y J E F M S N O J Y Z W C R H S N S O  
C E S W M B B C G S I P A W W K M H W S O M Y Q O E D T J N



## Scriptures for a Studying Mason

**Hag 2:4** Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the LORD; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the LORD, and work: for I *am* with you, saith the LORD of hosts:

**Hag 2:5** *According to* the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not.

**Hag 2:6** For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it *is* a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry *land*;

**Hag 2:7** And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

**Hag 2:8** The silver *is* mine, and the gold *is* mine, saith the LORD of hosts.

**Hag 2:9** The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.

### FRATERNITY

We build us temples tall and grand,  
 With gifts we heap our altars high,  
 Unheeding how, on every hand,  
 The hungry and the naked cry.  
 We sound our creeds in trumpet tone,  
 With zeal we compass land and sea,  
 Unmindful of the sob and moan  
 Of souls that yearn for sympathy.  
 We hurl to hell, we bear above,  
 With equal ease we loose or bind,  
 Forgetful quite that God is Love,  
 And Love is large and broad and kind.  
 O Thou Eternal Largeness, teach  
 Our petty, shrivelled souls to swell  
 Till Thou, within their ampler reach,  
 In every human heart may dwell;  
 Till Love alone becomes the creed  
 Of every nation, tribe and clan,  
 The Fatherhood of God, indeed,  
 The blessed Brotherhood of Man.  
 - David E. Guyton  
*The Builder Magazine*, Feb 1915 1(10)



### THE KINDLY LIGHT

Not for one single day  
 Can I discern my way,  
 But this I surely know -  
 Who gives the day  
 Will show the way  
 So I securely go.  
 - John Oxenham.  
*The Builder Magazine*, Feb 1915 1(10)

## Looking for a Book?

D. E. Stafford

One of the hardest things about Masonic research is finding the book you need. I often purchase as many as ten books for each subject I study and paper I attempt to write. This becomes expensive and leaves me with stacks of books all over the house (stacks that Mamie hates). Unfortunately, this is often the only solution if you live a great distance from the closest Masonic library. So, where do you find great prices on Masonic books? I have three basic sources I always check for that one book that I must have in hard copy format:



**ABE** - A, B, E are the initials for the online network of booksellers called *Advanced Book*

*Exchange*. I almost hesitate to mention the site. I don't want you to buy that one book I need before I get to, but *alas*, the things we do in the name of fraternity! The site is a collection of hundreds of used booksellers who list their books including the condition, basic information, price, and shipping cost. The site has an advanced search that allows you to search the collections by author, title, publisher, ISBN, price range, keywords, first editions, binding, and more. The site also has a bookseller rating much like e-bay to allow you to judge the credibility of the seller. It was from here that I located a third edition *The Tennessee Masonic Textbook*, the precursor of the current *Tennessee Craftsman*. The site web-address is [www.abebooks.com](http://www.abebooks.com).

**Amazon.com** - Have you heard of Kessinger Publishing. Kessinger specializes in reprinting and preserving rare and hard-to-find books. They are located near Glacier National Park in Montana, and they have digitally preserved thousands of Masonic related titles. Kessinger Publishing is a "print-on-demand" publisher. Their primary vendor is Amazon.com. You can search their titles through [www.kessinger.net](http://www.kessinger.net); however, I have found it simpler to begin and end searches through the Amazon.com site. The books are facsimile copies of their original texts. Some works have been re-typeset for ease in reading. They are, usually, softbound and hold together well. The best part is that they are cheap! *Ordo ab Chao*, which contains early versions of the Scottish Rite rituals, a 448 page book sells for \$26.97! I have one word of caution, some books are only portions of larger works. For example, *The Bristol Masonic Ritual: The First Degree or Entered Apprentice* is \$12.92 and the first section of *Bristol Masonic Ritual: The Oldest and Most Unique Craft Ritual Used in England*. The latter book is only \$16.76. Why buy 1/3 of the book for nearly the same price the entire book costs?

Continued on page 6 . . .



## Looking for a Book? *Conti...*

**E-bay** - I confess, I am an e-bay junkie. There needs to be a twelve-step program for this. You never know what you will find on e-bay. E-bay is the third place I look for a particular book. Why is it the third place? Well before I begin a bidding competition with some brother in cyberspace, I want to be sure I know what a good price on the book is. The easiest and best way to find that out is to look at Amazon and ABE. There is no reason to bid \$50.00 on *Morals and Dogma* when I can purchase a used Kessinger copy for \$5.98 or a hardbound 1966 edition in great condition for 20 bucks on ABE or Amazon. Also, be careful about the Masonic books on CD. Some of these are good, and some are a waste of your money, because you can get them for free elsewhere on the net.

This brings the discussion to electronic versions of books. Although I am still one who prefers to read a book holding it in my hand, there are definite advantages to having an electronic version of a book. The best advantage is that many electronic versions are searchable. This comes in very handy when you are looking for a section of a work that deals with a particular subject.

**Sacred-Text.com** - This site has hundreds of rare and esoteric works preserved in searchable text format. They have ten complete works directly related to Freemasonry including *Morals and Dogma*, *Duncan's Ritual*, and *The Symbolism of Freemasonry*. The site is FREE.

**Pietre-Stones Review of Freemasonry** - This site was started on July 17, 1996. It serves as a clearing-house for hundreds of Masonic works. Masonic authors such as Mark Tabbert, S. Brent Morris, Andrew Prescott, Alain Bernheim, and Leon Zeldis all have paper posted on this site. There are many Masonic books available in searchable format as well. The web-address is: [www.freemasons-freemasonry.com/masonic\\_books\\_online.html](http://www.freemasons-freemasonry.com/masonic_books_online.html). Its also FREE.

**Google Book Search** - Google Book is an amazing site. There are thousands of books on all kinds of subjects. Some of the books provide a limited number of pages for view but many of them offer full access and even pdf download. When looking at the books on Google Book, they are completely searchable even if their pdfs are not! There are tons of Masonic





## Famous Freemasons Crossword Answers

From Last Issue

### Across

2. Albert Pike
4. John Marshall
5. Earl Warren
7. Ben Franklin
12. Voltaire
13. William Morgan
15. John Wayne
17. Paul Revere
19. Sam Houston
20. Bob Dole

### Down

1. Thomas Webb
3. Thomas Claiborne
6. Andrew Jackson
8. Jean Sibelius
9. Samuel Gompers
10. Harry Truman
11. Benedict Arnold
14. George Washington
16. Mark Twain
18. Lyndon Johnson

## HUMAN LIFE AS A JOURNEY

Every Freemason, when he is initiated into the Craft, is taught to consider human life as a journey. He would faint with fatigue, lose himself in unknown roads, or fall over high precipices, if he was not supported, faithfully conducted, and fraternally warned. By these means he arrives in safety at the end of his journey, and is permitted to receive light himself, that he may be able to support, lead and warn others when travelling in the same road.

— Gadicke

*The Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror*, January 1871

We profess to confer initiation, but few Masons know what real initiation involves; very few, one fears, would have the wish, the courage, or the willingness to make the necessary sacrifices to attain it if they did."

- W. L. Wilmshurst

*The Masonic Initiation*, 1957, (p. 17)



## Masonic Lecture Series Schedule

W. Bro. John L. Palmer, PGM—January 15, 2008

Bro. Thomas Driber, Ph.D.—April 16, 2009

Bro. Joe Kindoll—July 16, 2009

Bro. George Ladd—October 15, 2009

Each evenings event will begin with a meal at 6:00 PM. The lodge will open at 7:00 PM, and the lectures will begin promptly following opening. Please let the secretary know if you plan to attend dinner to assist in dinner plans.

## Looking for a Book? *Conti...*

books available in searchable format and pdf download. Titles include *Light on Masonry*, *The Principles of Masonic Law*, *A Lexicon of Freemasonry*, and many rituals and exposés. There are also complete volumes of *The Mystic Star* and *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum* (both Masonic periodicals). To access Google Book, go to the normal Google site, click on the *more* arrow, and click on books in the scroll down menu. All you have to do is sign up for a free account and you can create your own library to store your favorite available books.

With these six simple sources, there are few books needed by that an armchair Masonic researcher cannot obtain. It will also allow you to increase your sources without adding a new stack of books for your wife to fuss about. Check these site, and I promise you will find a book that you cannot live without. ∞

## About Us

### ***Bethpage Lodge No. 521, Free and Accepted Masons***



Accepted Masons of Tennessee on January 27, 1885. It is named for the small community in which the lodge hall sits. Bethpage, Tennessee is an unincorporated town in northern Sumner County, just north of Nashville. In its 123 years, the lodge has flourished and been the Masonic home to many traveling brethren. It is a country lodge with many traditions. It currently has an active membership of around 90 members. Bethpage Lodge meets on the Third Thursday of each month at 7 pm, and its meetings are open to all Master Masons from Masonic Jurisdictions recognized by the Grand Lodge of Tennessee.∞

### ***Gems of Purpose***



is the electronic trestleboard or newsletter of Bethpage Lodge. Its primary mission is to assist in the spreading of Masonic light to not only the members of Bethpage Lodge but to Masonic brothers wherever this publication might land. It is edited and compiled by Brother David E. Stafford, Past Master and current Secretary of the lodge. Brother Stafford began publishing *Gems of Purpose* in 2006 as a service to the Lodge and has continued to do so. Although it is an official media of Bethpage Lodge, the views and opinions contained in *Gems of Purpose* do not necessarily reflect those of the lodge, the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, or Freemasonry. If you have questions or comments, please direct those to Brother Stafford via e-mail at [bethpagelodge521@bellsouth.net](mailto:bethpagelodge521@bellsouth.net). ∞

**Submission** - Although *Gems of Purpose* is the official educational voice of Bethpage Lodge, the lodge encourages anyone who has an interest in Masonic Education to submit possible material for inclusion in the newsletter. Items on Masonic history, philosophy, ideology, figures, and symbolism will be considered. Of course due credit will be given to the writer and if the writer is not a member of Bethpage Lodge, his lodge will be identified. *Gems of Purpose* reserves the right to edit all submissions. ∞

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125 Years of Masonry

Bethpage Lodge, #521

# **ANNIVERSARY MASONIC LECTURE SERIES**

## **BETHPAGE LODGE NO. 521**



Bethpage Lodge is pleased to announce that it will host an *Anniversary Masonic Lecture Series* in celebration of 125 years of Masonry in Bethpage, Tennessee. Lectures will be held quarterly throughout 2009 at our Stated Communications. The lodge invites all regular Master Masons to attend the lectures. A meal will be served at 6:00 pm, and the lodge will open at 7:00 pm each night. The floor will be turned over to each night's lecturer at the Worshipful Master's pleasure. Please find below a schedule of lecturers. For more information, contact David Stafford, the lodge secretary, by the means provided below. If you plan to attend a lecture with a group please let Bro. Stafford know, in order to prepare the numbers for dinner.

### **SCHEDULE**

**Bro. John L. Palmer, PGM - January 15, 2009**

**Bro. Thomas Driber, Ph.D. - April 16, 2009**

**Bro. Joe Kindoll - July 16, 2009**

**Bro. George Ladd - October 15, 2009**

**Where:** Bethpage Masonic Lodge,  
695 Old Highway 31E, Bethpage

**Time:** Meal at 6:00 PM  
Lodge Opens at 7:00 PM

**All Master Masons Welcome!**

If you plan to come with several brother,  
please let the secretary know a number.



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