



The Daylight Deacon



Doña Ana Daylight Lodge #78 A.F. & A.M.

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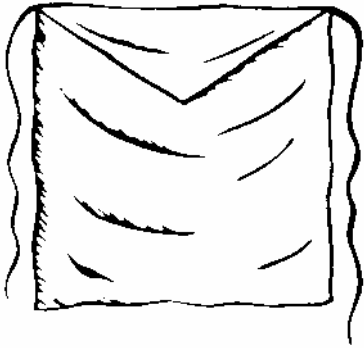
Sec. Larry Cooper
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John W. Taylor PM, Editor

Stated Meeting 2nd and 4th Saturday

Worshipful Master's Mission Statement

It is my mission to increase the attendance and participation of the members of Dona Ana Daylight Lodge in the coming year. Bob Creason, Master



The Masonic Apron

Compiled by Christopher A. Harris, MPS
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One of the first actions of a newly made brother is the investiture of the Lambskin. It is probably the most single recognized symbol of Freemasonry besides that of the Square and Compasses. In each of the degrees the Senior Warden instructs the brother on how to wear the apron correctly.

Why an apron? Why is the Apron square? Why is it white? Why are there different versions of the blue border? How come Aprons don't look the same?

The use of the Apron in ritual goes far back into ancient history. One of the accepted garments of the High Priests in Biblical times was the Ephod. An Ephod is defined as "a linen apron worn in ancient Hebrew Rites; especially a vestment for the High Priest." According to the Bible, the Ephod, which is often called "robe" in its ancient meaning of "skirt", covers the body from the waist down. It is made of white linen and some other threads of other colors. It definitely had shoulder straps, and possibly a bib. It also has a "girdle", which the Bible calls a number of times "curious" but never describes. This is not saying it was an Apron, but merely similar to an Apron.

Elijah and John the Baptist wore one of leather, Isaiah wore one of hair-cloth, and Jeremiah wore ones of Linen. Other religions also use Aprons as a part of the accepted dress for their religious leaders and white was the common color to the Aprons. The Arch Druid clothed himself in a white Apron when he cut the sacred mistletoe. The priests of the Roman god's wore white during the hour of sacrifice and the Ephod of the High Priest was white. These varying faiths met on the one common ground of making the white garment a symbol of the need that men should be pure of heart if they would enter into the presence of God.

Above all other symbols, the Lambskin Apron is the distinguished badge of a Mason. In modern times it has been celebrated in poetry and prose and has been the subject of much

From the East:

The Degree of E.A. is emblematic of the period of childhood, when the mind is not yet formed by lessons of wisdom; when the darkness of ignorance is not yet expelled, and the full light of knowledge hath not beamed forth its rays of divine creation.

The F.C., emblematic of the state of manhood, is invested with knowledge; he feels that he is placed upon earth for something more than the gratification of mere sensual appetites; he glories in the high destiny that awaits him, and perceives that wisdom and virtue are the pillars of strength and establishment that guard the portal of his mind, that glorious and eternal temple whose architect is Jehovah, and whose material is an emanation from his divinity.

The Mason, thus taught to aspire to the possession of the noblest attributes of man, to seek the knowledge of that which is good, and to adorn his walk of life with the beauty of holiness, arrives at length at the Master's Degree, which teaches him that lesson which morality most requires, and instructs him, by the solemn incidents it recites, how to die."

From the Secretary's desk:

At the last meeting (March 24) I had to perform a duty which all secretaries really hate to do, but the Grand Lodge By-Laws say we must do. At the meeting, I had to read the names of the members who are delinquent in their payment of 2007 dues. We don't want to suspend any member for this delinquency, so please, if you haven't yet paid your dues, do so now. Thanks.

Coming events:

April 7	DAD Practice
April 11	Jornada Stated*
April 12	Aztec Stated*

April 14	DAD	Stated**
April 28	DAD	Stated**

*Covered dish at 6:30 PM
** Breakfast at 8:00 AM

Birthdays

April 4 - Tom Priestly
April 7 - Gunnar Carlson
April 11 - Ben Carmichael
April 13 - Robert Fulmer
April 13 - Doug Maness
April 21 - "Billy" Bailey

E-Mail Address:

Please send your e-mail address to:

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and we will send the newsletter to that address so we can save the Lodge the cost of paper and postage.

Visit our web page:

www.zianet.com/ae4w/dad78/

THE APRON

This fair and stainless thing I take
To be my badge for virtue's sake;
Its ample strings that gird me round
My constant cable tow are found;
And as securely they are tied
So may true faith with me abide;
And as I face the sunny South
I pledge to God my Mason's truth,
That while on earth I do remain
My Apron shall not have a stain.

This fair and stainless thing I raise
In memory of Apprentice days,
When on the checkered pavement wide;
With gauge and gavel well supplied,
I keep my garments free from soil
Though laboring in a menial toil;
And as I face the golden West
I call my Maker to attest
That while on earth I do remain
My Apron shall not have a stain.

This fair and stainless thing I lower,—
Its 'Prentice aid I need no more;
For laws and principles are given
The Fellow Craft direct from Heaven;—
To help the needy,—keep a trust,—
Observe the precepts of the just;
And as I face the darkened North
I send this solemn promise forth,
That while on earth I do remain,
My Apron shall not have a stain.

This fair and stainless thing I fold,—
A Master Mason now behold !
A welcome guest in every land
With princes and with kings to stand;
Close tyed within my heart of hearts
I keep all secret arts and parts,
And try to walk the heavenly road
In daily intercourse with God;
And as I face the mystic East,
I vow by Him I love the best,
That while on earth I do remain,
My Apron shall not have a stain.

This fair and stainless thing I doff;—
But though I take my Apron off
And lay the stainless badge aside,—
Its teaching ever shall abide.
Author unknown