



JORNADA LODGE #70

AJ&AM

TRESTLE BOARD

December 2008

From the East



The Gavel and The Hat:

The hat has special significance in the Lodge. "There are two reasons, both symbolic. First, keeping the head covered while all others are uncovered has long been Symbolic of superior rank or office; by the same right, uncovering the head in the presence of superior rank or office has been deemed an act of respect. Second, traditionally the Master of a Lodge wears a hat while presiding over the lodge because King Solomon wore a crown as a mark of royal dignity. Let it be noted that the Master will always remove his hat during prayer" (unknown).

Since the Master recognizes only three superiors; The Great Architect of the Universe, Death, and the Grand Master. He should always remove his hat during prayer, in the presence of death (including announcements), and the Grand Master (or his Deputy).

The Master's hat should generally match his dress. Frivolous caps should never be worn.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the East

The Junior Wardens Message

The gavel is the symbol of the power and authority of the Worshipful master. "The common gavel is an instrument used by operative Masons to break off the corners of rough stones, the better to fit them for the builder's use; but we as Free and Accepted Masons are taught to use for the more noble and glorious purpose of divesting our hearts and consciences

of all the vices and superfluities of life, thereby fitting our minds as living stones for that spiritual building, that House Not Made With Hands, eternal in the Heavens" (Ritual Cipher). Thus, the Master maintains order in the lodge by use of the gavel. On opening the lodge, the master wraps once with the gavel to signify that the lodge will come to order and that he is taking position of the lodge. Note that though the Master holds the highest position in the lodge, he is still but a brother among brethren, and he exercises his power through the most common of working tools of the craft.

The obedience to the gavel is an "ancient usage and custom" of the lodge. While it is within the authority of the master to do what he will in his lodge, arbitrary use of his power and authority is unwise at best. Among the uses of the gavel are the power to cut off discussion, rap a brother down, cause a brother to leave the lodge, control debate, arrange the work, refuse a brother to speak, to gain silence, or close the lodge. This being said, the wisest of masters will use the power of the gavel sparingly, and as long as peace and harmony is maintained, the use of the gavel should be used only as the custom of the lodge requires.

When a brother wishes "to put or second a motion, to discuss business, or to otherwise speak in Lodge, a brother should always rise, address the Worshipful Master; at the same time make the Due Guard of the Degree holding same until recognized by the Worshipful Master then make the appropriate Penal Sign and continue to face the Master while speaking" (Ritual Cipher). This is not only proper etiquette, but a means of maintaining order in the business of the craft. A brother speaking around the Master necessarily wrests control of discussion from the Master and the master may have no recourse to regaining control but to wrap him down. Likewise, when there are side discussions going on during the discussion of Lodge business, the Master shall use his gavel to restore order.



From The South

My Brothers, Remember the day when you were called and told that you had been duly elected to receive the Degrees in Masonry?

The ANTICIPATION/CURIOSITY of going through the first degree (Entered Apprentice)? How you proudly walked around with your escorts during the conferral? Remember all of the new sounds, new words, new smells, words and phrases you heard for the first time? Remember the partial amount of reservation you had in the preparation room? Remember the phrase "Release the Candidate from his cable tow"? Remember the rush you felt and the excitement of being brought to light? REMEMBER LOOKING ABOUT and seeing all of the Brothers of Masonry being there to see you be raised?

I ASK YOU TO REMEMBER THIS, what do you think our new Brothers Remember when they are brought to light and there isn't but just enough members to make up a degree team? What do they remember when they see empty chairs? What do they remember when they look around and there is not 1 extra, or 1 regular or 1 visitor there to congratulate him on his Masonic Journey in Life?

I Remember.....Woe is me, Woe is me

Support in this Lodge of ours, You need not be afraid that you will be asked to participate, participation is offered by you. You are being asked to support, and support SHOULD be offered by you. Of the last 2 conferrals, there has been a total of ONE (1) onlooker and he being of recent affiliation.

None of this is being asked for by myself,

the Worshipful Master or any of the other Officers, this is being asked on behalf of the Candidate.

Message from the junior Grand Deacon

WHO MAKXS A LODGX A SUCCXSS

Although my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll xxcxpt for onx of thx kxys. I havx wishxd many timxs that it workxd perfxctly. It is trux thxrx arx forty thrxx kxys that function wxll xnough, but just onx not working makxs thx diffxrxncx. Somxtimxs it sxxms that somx lodgxs arx likx this typxwritxr – not all mxmbxrs arx working proprly.

You may say to yoursxlf, "Wxll, I am only onx pxrson, I won't makx or brxak thx lodgx." But it doxs makx a diffxrxncx, bxcausx for a lodgx to bx succxssful, it nxxds thx activx participation of vxvry mxmbxr.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

This is another message taken from the 1963 printing of the Square and Compass, a Journal of Masonry, Denver, CO. The illustration is self evident.

Bro BC

Meetings:

We meet every second Wednesday. Dinner is served at 18:30 and lodge is called to order at 19:30

We Practice every Tuesday at 19:00. Come on out, it is fun and informative.

Please Join us for our meetings, and more especially for the fellowship.

Our next stated meeting is set for December 10th

Don't miss this next meeting as we will be installing officers for the ensuing year.

Also Brothers, attendance at our executive committee meeting on the Tuesday before lodge will assure that you get a chance to place an item of importance on the agenda.

