



The Daylight Deacon



Doña Ana Daylight Lodge #78 AF & AM

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Stated Meeting 2nd and 4th Saturday 9:00 A. M.
Breakfast at 8:00 A. M.

The Master's Mission Statement

The Master will set the standard and provide proper instruction to enable the Brethren to apply the Square and Compasses of the duly recognized but often forgotten Principles to the incidents of their own everyday Masonic lives, and with their aid to produce a Perfect Ashlar which may in turn be of service to the less experienced Craftsmen as a faithful and reliable guide and model. Keith Luck, Master

General of the Armies

In 1919, in recognition of his distinguished service during World War I, the U.S. Congress authorized the President to promote John J. (Black Jack) Pershing to **General of the Armies** of the United States, the highest rank possible for any member of the United States armed forces, which was created especially for him and one that only he held at the time.

Pershing was authorized to create his own insignia for the new rank and chose to wear four gold stars for the rest of his career, which separated him from the four (temporary) silver stars worn by Army Chiefs of Staff, and even **the five star General of the Army insignia** worn by Marshall, MacArthur, Bradley, Eisenhower, and H. 'Hap' Arnold in World War II (Pershing outranked them all).

When asked if this made Pershing a six star General, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson commented that it did not, since Pershing never wore more than four stars but that Pershing was still to be considered senior to the present five star generals of World War II.

After World War II, which saw the introduction of U.S. "5-star" officers who outranked George Washington, both Congress and the President revisited the issue of Washington's rank. To

maintain Washington's proper position as the first Commanding General of the United States Army, he was appointed, posthumously, to the grade of **General of the Armies of the United States** by congressional joint resolution **Public Law 94-479 January 19, 1976**, approved by President Gerald R. Ford on October 11, 1976. The law established the grade as having "rank and precedence over all other grades of the Army, past or present", clearly making it superior to **General of the Army**. The Department of the Army Order 31-3, issued on March 13, 1978 had an effective appointment date of July 4, 1976.

The rank ensures that no United States military officer will ever outrank General George Washington.

Based on excerpts from Wikipedia the free on line Encyclopedia, emphasis mine, JT

From the East:

Recently, I had the privilege of participating in a First Degree initiation as Lodge Chaplain. Although I had studied the prayer for many days, it wasn't until I actually said the prayer in Lodge that its meaning caused me to think about what we're trying to establish in the minds of candidates to Freemasonry.

Key to the prayer's impact is in two phrases. First, "that he become a true and faithful brother among us", and second, "...by the influence of the pure principle of our art".

By the first phrase we are caused to think about the meaning of these three words; 'true', 'faithful', and 'among'. A 'true' Mason is one who lives the principles of Freemasonry everyday in every interaction, 'faithful' alludes to his unwavering support of Freemasonry, his Brethren and his Lodge, and 'among' signifies that we all work, pray and believe together.

Too many Masons are selective about when and where they truly apply our principles. They wear the Masonic label only when it suits them. Their *support* of our Fraternity is seen only when it is convenient for them. And "among" simply asks them to participate in our rituals and consider themselves as one of many but not an integral part of the whole.

From the second phrase, we hope that our "pure principles" will be embraced by the candidate, and thus by all Masons, as a guide to a life of good, allowing them to become good men. That's pretty simple.

So the next time you think that Saturday morning is just too early, think again. Who needs your participation and presence at that time? When you decide to watch a movie or go out on Friday night, think about your Brethren who are working on their ritual that they might do well the next day. And always keep in mind that we are "privileged" to serve the Lodge and the Supreme Architect and should never do so lightly. Keith Luck

From the West

Greetings Brothers, I would like to take this time to thank the Brethren of Dona Ana Daylight Lodge #78 for giving me the opportunity to serve as the Senior Warden of 2009. I am excited to work with our new line officers and I can honestly say we have a great line of officers.

We already have some work to start off the New Year to get us off on the right foot and with the support of the Brethren and our Past Masters, who are in my opinion, second to none; we can accomplish many fine things. So if you haven't been to the Lodge in a while, come and say hello to some familiar faces and some new faces. It would be good to see you.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and a prosperous New Year. Bob Creason, Senior Warden

From the Secretary's desk:

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more than facts. It is more important than the past; than education; than money; than circumstances; than failures; than successes; than what other people think, or say, or do. It is more important than appearances, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company... a church... a home, (a Lodge?).

The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day.

We cannot change our past. We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is to play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. Author Unknown

Parenteses mine, J T

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

When we are at labor on the second degree, the Bible is opened on our alters to Amos 7:7

"Thus he shewed me: and behold the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand. And the Lord said unto me, Amos what seest thou? And I said a plumbline. Then said the Lord, Behold I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more."

Many Masons wonder why this scripture? Simple; it includes a Masonic working tool, the plumb, and makes us feel good that the Lord will never pass us by again---we are safe and secure in His protection forever!

But we should have read the very next line in this scripture:

"And the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

What is going on here? Who was Amos and why is God predicting horrible things for the children of Israel under King Jeroboam II?

Amos lived somewhere between 753 to 793 BC. At that time Israel was divided into two kingdoms (Israel in the North and Judah in the South). Amos was from Judah and says he was a herdsman and a gatherer of sycamore fruit. However his language was highly polished and few simple shepherds would have a knowledge and interest in the world beyond their region. Amos uses the word רֹעֵה (noqed) "Royal sheep Farmer" which clearly suggests a herd owner. In 2 Kings 3:4 King Mesha of Moab is also called a רֹעֵה (noqed). He was able to give tribute of thousands of animals.

Israel was greedy, and taxed, oppressed, and exploited the poor of the land. The rich even used their money to bribe judges and political officials, to the disadvantage of the poor.

Baal-worship was also popular in Israel. It was prospering under Jeroboam II as never before.

The Lord said, *"I hate, I reject your festivals, nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer up to me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them; and I will not even look at the peace offerings of your fatlings."*

For these reasons Amos was called by God to warn the Israelites of God's wrath. Two times God told Amos of His plan of retribution and twice Amos talked Him out of it.

"Thus hath the Lord God shewed unto me; and, behold, He formed grasshoppers in the beginning of the latter growth." And Amos said, "O Lord God forgive I beseech thee: by whom shall Jacob arise? For he is small."

"Thus hath the Lord God shewed me: and behold, the Lord called to contend by fire, and it devoured the great deep, and did eat up a part."

Amos said, *"O Lord God, cease, I beseech thee: by whom shall Jacob arise? For he is small."*

Recall Jacob was given the name Israel when he wrestled with God. So Jacob means Israel.

The Lord repented for both of these: *"These shall not be,"* saith the Lord God.

But when God announced the third strike, he simply said he would set a plumb line in the midst of the people. If they did not walk uprightly, he would not forgive (pass by) them again. Amos did not argue this time, and it came to pass that

several years later the ten tribes of Israel were led away into Assyrian captivity!

So, Amos 7:7 is a threat! Don't take comfort that the Lord will not again pass by us anymore, but strive to walk uprightly by the plumb!!

May the blessing of Heaven rest upon you and all regular Freemasons.

Gunnar Carlson

Coming events:

Feb 7	DAD	degree practice*
Feb 14	DAD	Stated**
Feb 21	DAD	degree practice*
Feb 28	DAD	Stated**

*Coffee and donuts at 8:00, practice at 9:00

** Breakfast at 8:00, Meeting at 9:00

E-Mail Address:

Please send your e-mail address to the worshipful Master or the Secretary and I will send the newsletter to that address so we can save the Lodge the cost of paper and postage.

Visit our web site:

www.zianet.com/ae4w/dad78/

February 22nd is George Washington's birthday

OUR WORSHIPFUL BROTHER, GEORGE WASHINGTON

Masonry has many claims
Including presidential names,
And, foremost, when all's said and done
Would have to be George Washington.
He led our troops in many fights
He helped compose our 'Bill of Rights,'
That all his people might be free
Enjoying life and liberty.
Americans still say today
"We're lucky that we live this way,"
For many, how surprised they'd be
To learn it sprang from Masonry.
For Washington, the Masons knew
Masonic principles were true,
And Masons know around this Earth
They came to be before his birth.
With other Masons, so conceived
He simply wrote what he believed,

Those thoughts and words that set us free
Are not unique in Masonry.
But not too many people know
The liberties they treasure so,
Were put into our Constitution
By Masons from the Revolution.
George Washington is praised by all
For answering his country's call,
For being president so wise,
For never telling any lies.
To each American, he's a part
Of what we treasure in our heart,

To love him not, would be like treason
Though each may have his own good reason.
But Masons o'er the years have cared
In knowing principles we've shared,
It's Washington we praise tonight
He truly shared Masonic Light.
Author Unknown