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San Bernardino
FREEMASONRY

Lodge No. 178



January 2009

2888 N. Arrowhead Ave. – San Bernardino, CA 92405
Phone: (909) 889-9801 – Email: sbmasoniclodge178@yahoo.com



Gate City O.E.S. #212

January 9th – 7:30 pm – Stated Meeting–Reobligation

New Year's Eve

January 23rd – 7:30 pm – Initiation

Let It Snow

February 13th – 7:30 pm – Stated Meeting–Valentines

As the New Year starts and the old year ends,
There's no better time to make amends for all the
things we sincerely regret and wish in our hearts we
could forget.

We all make mistakes for its human to err, but no one
need ever give up in despair.
For God gives us all a brand new beginning.
A chance to start over and repent for all we have done.

May we all ask for forgiveness and start anew.
Happy New Year to one and all.

See you next month.

Sandy Ditto, PM

YORK RITE BODIES SAN BERNARDINO

2888 N. Arrowhead Ave. - San Bernardino, CA 92405 - (909)883-2615



Keystone Chapter No. 56, R.A.M.

January 7th – 7:00 pm – Building Board Meeting

January 7th – 7:30 pm – Stated Convocation

January 10th – 11:00 am – Annual Installation of Officers



Valley Council No. 27, C.M.

January 7th – 7:00 pm – Building Board Meeting

January 10th – 1:00 pm – Annual Installation of Officers

January 14th – 7:30 pm – Stated Assembly



St. Bernard Commandery No. 23, K.T.

January 7th – 7:00 pm – Building Board Meeting.

January 17th – 2:00 pm – Annual Installation of Officers

January 21st – 7:30 pm – Stated Conclave



FROM THE EAST

This was the speech given by the new Master on December 11, 2008.

Dear Most Worshipful Sir, worshipful guests, affiliated officers, members and our distinguished guests, and friends good evening. First I'd like to tip this hat towards Worshipful Brian Foote who has selflessly led us the past two years. He has made many tough decisions and steered us through some very difficult issues. Thank you Brian for your leadership.

I wanted to take a moment if I may to discuss my Masonic foundations:

Some of you may know that I am a Veteran, but before I was ever in the Army I was taught by my family to be a Patriot. In my youth I can recall every family on the street having the largest American flag flying outside their houses on every imaginable occasion. It was a time when IF you did not have a flag flying in front of your house something was wrong. Now there were also these other people in every town, who were usually war veterans who went the other direction, they not only put their flag out, they kept it out, they installed elaborate flagpoles in their front yard and they were outside at 6am running that flag up the pole and again at 5pm taking it gently down again. And although some would grumble about the block looking like an army base and some people would think it extreme, it was not openly discussed in the negative because we owed the Veterans our gratitude.

I eventually had a flag of my own and put it out on all occasions. But, over time I also began to doubt myself. Was I turning into that guy who was being a little extreme and that everybody talked about? Everyone else seemed to not really care about putting their flags out. Over time I only put my flag out on national holidays, and then only when it was related to Veterans or Independence Day.

Years rolled by and my family bought a new house. Through all the hassles of packing and moving. We had loaded the truck and all was ready. We were to arrive the next day, only across town but a move nonetheless. We arrived at 6am on September 11, 2001 and

(continued on next page)

our friends to help haul our possessions out of the truck. I had a cup of coffee and went inside. As the television came on I watched as the first tower in NYC was burning, and only a few minutes later the second plane hit that second tower of the World Trade Center. after we watched in horror as the two collapsed with all those poor souls trapped inside.

Before we did anything else that morning, I went out to the truck and found that flag we had cared for all those years. I set up the bracket and flew it as high as I could get it. It was the first flag to go up in the neighborhood. And then something happened..By the end of the day, there were three more flags. By the next evening there were 20 flags and by the third day every single house and even several cars had flags flying from them. I was also embarrassed that I had considered not flying my flag on several occasions before in order to join the crowd or to somehow compromise my standards of Patriotism.

At the time I wanted to do more than just fly my flag. So, I went to the internet to find a worthy charity to contribute my money and time to. I put the words “patriot” and “charity” into a search website and you’d never believe what came up? That’s correct. FREEMASONRY. The rest as they say is history. As I have grown in Masonry and learned the various windings of being a member, then an officer, I have met the most extraordinary men of the most exemplary character and wisdom. Among these men, including the men in this room right now, are the best our society has to offer and I am truly privileged and honored to be counted among them.

After approximately 6 months I began to once again see our fellow citizens, begin to put their flags away. I was again the last one to put my flag away –temporarily.

We hear rumblings today about how people who embrace religion or who embrace the idealism of patriotism and charity are fools who grasp at straws and wish for a kinder and gentler age in our Nation’s history. Nothing could be further from the truth. Today it becomes ever more important for us to embrace those Masonic ideals which guide us through life’s most important decisions, Faith, Hope, and Charity. Today I think of the flag as a metaphor for all those times when one’s beliefs and positive convictions are challenged as I hope you will too. *(continued on next page)*

The Child ID Program continues to need your/our support!!

September – Route 66 Rendezvous

Please contact Russ Davis at (909) 883-4552 for times and places.

Sickness & Distress

Irv Uffer - 7534 Palm Avenue, Highland
Hue Covey - Waterman convalescent
Roy Stephenson is now at Home
Please visit these brothers if you can.

Prayers work!!! Just ask someone who has come back from a serious illness!

In Memorium

*Bro. Jack Widmeyer, Bro. Dick Grove,
Bro. Smith Marshall, Bro. Harvie Wagoneer*

Into thy loving hands we commend the spirit of our departed brothers. If you hear of someone passing on please let the Secretary know, so that he can send a card to the family.



SCOTTISH RITE BODIES VALLEY OF SAN BERNARDINO

4400 Varsity Ave. - San Bernardino, CA 92407 - (909)887-4415

January 13th – 5:30 P.M. – Executive Board Meeting

January 20th – 6:15 P.M. – Dinner
– 7:30 P.M. – Stated Meeting, Annual Election
– 7:30 P.M. – Women’s Association Meeting

February 1st – 2:00 P.M. – Installation of 2009 Officers



From the Secretary

I want to welcome everyone to a new Masonic year. Wor. Sean has assured us its going to be a great year with activities, lodge fellowship, new members etc..

We have our dues coming out and I am in the process, and should be finished here shortly, so keep your eyes peeled and your wallet open. Also, we have several more petitions we are voting on including a degree at our stated meeting in January. It being on the New Year, we have another Stilt, who will be joining our ranks and he is going to have his whole family I guess. We better order some more chairs.

The Lodge is doing fine financially and we have had some pretty safe investments, so we will continue to build, slow and sure, so that most of our bonds yield some kind of dividend, but our membership is slowly falling by the way side. Through the usual means that I have heard every secretary talk about since I have been a member. We have had some really good new members coming who are not just taking the degrees, but who are taking part in our rituals and coming to lodge. This is where we should focus. Having things which are meant to bring members back, different things which have some interest to our members new and old. I think the next year we, will probably not have a fish fry. As the last one seemed to be more people not eating fish, but a bar-b-que or something along those lines. Its the start of a new Year and I say Happy New Year and hope to see all of you sometime along the way.

Wor. Robert Jacka, PM
Secretary

As many of you know there is much studying which goes into the responsibilities of Master. We must study Masonic law, rules and regulations and prove that we are qualified to perform the duties of Master. In preparation for this duty I asked Brother Rick Stilt to coach me and assist me. On one of the last nights we met before I had to qualify with our Officer's Coach. I was considering telling story to you ...and how I might make it short and to the point! I was considering all that I had learned from this experience with the flags and the multitude of metaphors which the story could represent to other people. How to stand tall when your personal principles are challenged, and how to keep your convictions close to your heart when you know them to be important. How to tolerate being that one "over-the-top or militant veteran down the street" that everyone talks about.

To my surprise, as I pulled up to Brother Stilts' house, on that very day he had installed a full size flagpole in his front yard with floodlights and everything! As I walked up to the house I looked around the neighborhood and didn't see any other displays of Patriotism and as I looked up and saluted that flag I knew that I was doing the right things, in my rightful place, and keeping the right company.

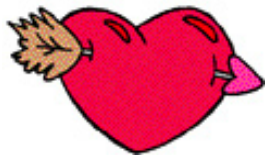
I wish you all a safe and restful Holiday Season and hope that you will visit us often this coming year.

Happy Holidays
Fraternally, Sean Brannon
Worshipful Master

WHOSE JOB IS IT?

This is a story about four people named Everyone, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job.














Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed



San Bernardino Lodge

FEBRUARY 2009



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5  Dinner 6:30 pm Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	6  Hi-Twelve Arrowhead CC-11:30 am	7  Job's Daughters, 11:00 am At Scottish Rite Center
8	9	10	11  De Molay 7:00 pm At Scottish Rite Center	12 <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i>	13 <u>Hi-Twelve</u>  Gate City OES Stating Meeting 7:30 pm	14 <i>Valentines Day</i>
15	16 <i>President's Day</i>	17	18	19  Practice 7:15 pm	20 <u>Hi-Twelve</u> National Sojourners	21  Job's Daughters, 11:00 am At Scottish Rite Center
22 <i>Washington's Birth- day</i>	23  DOA at Fontana 6:00 pm	24  Scottish Rite 6:15 pm – Dinner 7:30 pm – Stated Meeting Election	25  De Molay 7:00 pm At Scottish Rite Center	26  1st Degree 7:15 pm	27 <u>Hi-Twelve</u>  Gate City OES 7:30 Nawlins-Mardi Gras	28
				 Practice 7:15 pm		