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# White River Lodge #62

## Trestleboard

### April, May and June



#### FROM THE EAST

Brethren, I hope this finds you all well. We are living in difficult times and not just because of COVID 19. There are a number of issues/concerns that we face day to day, week to week, and their range and complexity continue to grow in severity and are seemingly impossible to reconcile when we live in such a divided nation. Our Masonic teachings and the Brotherhood we enjoy are tools we should use to help us navigate through these turbulent waters. That being said, I am not going to talk about the corona virus in this article or any of the other issues facing us today...they have been discussed ad nauseum on virtually every news channel as well as every social media site. What I intend to do, is recall and honor a specific event that occurred during the month of April and offer up a piece of American history as a ray of hope and inspiration; that although things appear bleak and impossible in the beginning, there is hope for a brighter future.

*“You, sir, now behold the spot on which the first forcible resistance was made to a system of measures calculated to deprive the whole people of these states of the privilege of free-men.”* (From the Marquis de Lafayette’s journal when he was welcomed on his visit to Concord in 1824)

#### The Shot Heard Round the World

The shot heard round the world took place on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1775. Of that all scholars and historians agree. Where any disagreement exists and it is really a trifle difference as far as history is concerned is *where* the shot heard round the world took place or by *whom* it was fired. The split comes from whether or not it happened in Concord where the British were in the process of searching for and burning ammunition stockpiles or whether it happened at Lexington earlier that day. Regardless of which one you choose to accept as **THE** shot, it became immortalized and forever linked to Concord as a result of Ralph Waldo Emerson’s poem about the Battle of Concord which was sung at the dedication of the monument on July 4, 1837. (Brooks, 2012)

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## FROM THE EAST, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

*By the rude bridge that arched the flood,  
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled  
Here once the embattled farmers stood  
And fired the shot heard round the world.*

*The foe long since in silence slept;  
Alike the conqueror silent sleeps;  
And Time the ruined bridge has swept  
Down the dark stream which seaward creeps.*

*On this green bank, by this soft stream,  
We set today a votive stone;  
That memory may their deed redeem,  
When, like our sires, our sons are gone.*

*Spirit, that made those heroes dare  
To die, and leave their children free,  
Bid Time and Nature gently spare  
The shaft we raise to them and thee.*



*Engraving of the Battle of Lexington and Concord  
by Amos DoLittle circa 1775*

### LODGE SCHEDULE

April 14—Stated meeting, possibly a web based meeting. Please email whiteriverlodge62@gmail so we can be able to send you the connection instructions. All Entered Apprentices, Fellowcraft and Master Masons will be allowed to connect. No physical meeting will be at the lodge.

May 12—Stated meeting.

June 9—Stated meeting.

The lodge will have degree work as the coronavirus restrictions ease. We will keep you informed through email, Facebook, and post cards.

On April 18, 1775, Joseph Warren, a physician and member of the Sons of Liberty, learned from a source inside the British high command that British troops were preparing to march on Concord. Warren dispatched two couriers, Paul Revere and William Dawes (also members of the Sons of Liberty), to alert John Hancock and Samuel Adams who were holed up in Lexington, a few miles east of Concord. They went by separate routes in case one of them was captured. Revere crossed the Charles River by boat to get to Charlestown. As Revere carried out his mission in Charlestown, Dawes left Boston and being very familiar with the area traveled along the Boston Neck peninsula. The two met up in Lexington, and having persuaded Hancock and Adams to flee, Paul Revere and William Dawes then set out again for Concord. On the road, they met a third rider, Samuel Prescott (also a member of the Sons of Liberty), who alone made it all the way to Concord to spread the warning. Revere was captured by a British patrol, while Dawes was thrown from his horse and forced to proceed back to Lexington on foot.

At dawn on April 19, some 700 British troops arrived in Lexington and came upon a gathering of about 77 militiamen. A British major is said to have yelled, "Throw down your arms! Ye villains, ye rebels." The militiamen realizing they were vastly outnumbered had just been ordered by their commander to disperse when a shot rang out. To this day, no one knows which side fired first. Several British volleys were fired before order could be restored. When the smoke cleared, eight militiamen lay dead and nine were wounded, while only one British soldier was injured.

## FROM THE EAST—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

The British then continued on to Concord to search for arms. Having been warned by Prescott, most of the weapons had already been moved. While the British were in the process of destroying what remained behind, hundreds of militiamen began occupying the high ground outside of Concord. At some point, militiamen rushed to Concord's North Bridge, which was being defended by a contingent of British soldiers. The British fired first but fell back when the colonists returned the volley. This was the "shot heard 'round the world" later immortalized by Ralph Waldo Emerson.

After searching Concord for about four hours, the British prepared to return to Boston, located 18 miles away. By that time, almost 2,000 militiamen had arrived, and more were coming. At first, the militiamen simply followed the British column. Fighting started again soon after, however, with the militiamen firing at the British from behind trees, stone walls, houses and sheds. Before long, British troops were abandoning weapons, clothing and equipment in order to retreat faster.

When the British column reached Lexington, it ran into an entire brigade of fresh Redcoats that had answered their call for reinforcements. But that did not stop the colonists from resuming their attack all the way through Menotomy (now Arlington) and Cambridge. (Editors, 2020)

Warren had slipped out of Boston early on April 19, and during the day's battles, he coordinated and led the militia into the fight alongside William Heath as the British Army returned to Boston. During the fighting, he was among the foremost in hanging upon the British rear and attacking their flanks. During this fighting Warren was nearly killed, a musket ball striking part of his wig. When his mother saw him after the battle and heard of his escape, she begged him to not risk his life again. "Where danger is, dear mother," he answered, "there must your son be. Now is no time for any of America's children to shrink from any hazard. I will set her free or die." (Blog, 2018)

You could fault the period weapons of the time, but, the colonists that day did not demonstrate the very best of marksmanship skills. Although as many as 3,500 militiamen were firing constantly during the 18-mile march back to Boston, they only killed or wounded roughly 250 British soldiers, compared to about 90 killed and wounded of their own. Nevertheless, the relatively low casualties of the Battles of Lexington and Concord proved they could stand up to one of the most disciplined, well-armed and powerful armies in the world. A few months later, the British barely escaped defeat at the hands of the Americans at Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775 (where Warren was killed). The low number of casualties once again showed the strength and courage and bolstered the resolve of the patriot forces. By the following summer, a full-scale war of independence had broken out, ushering in the creation of the United States of America and a new hope for a brighter future. (Editors, 2020)

With the exception of Samuel Prescott and William Heath, all the men mentioned in this article were members of our fraternity.

The Marquis de Lafayette

Warren, Revere and Dawes were members of the Masonic Lodge of St. Andrew in Boston.

Hancock - Merchants Lodge No. 277

Adams – although there is no actual record of his membership, he is thought to have been a Mason, if for no other reason than who he hung around with. (and possibly Heath for the same reason)

Emerson might have been a member of a Masonic Lodge in Attleboro, MA sometime before it became Ezekial Bates Lodge, AF&AM. Although there is no actual record of membership, there is a record of him giving a lecture at that Lodge where he is referred to as Brother Ralph Waldo Emerson. (Emerson, n.d.)

Paul Diaz

PM, Worshipful Master of White River Lodge #62

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## WINSLOW YORK RITE

We would like to recognize our Sir Knight Thomas Meyer who was knighted on February 29, 2020 in Phoenix.

The Winslow York Rite was practicing the Order of Temple the last few months. We were able to prove to ourselves we were capable of conferring this exemplary Order. It is very challenging to confer. Sir Knight Clay recognized that Tom had an opportunity to receive the Order in Phoenix. Considering the onslaught of the Coronavirus epidemic, we were lucky that he was able to receive the Order in Phoenix before meeting restrictions were imposed..

Over last three years, members of the Winslow York Rite have proven that we can confer all nine of the progressive degrees and Orders of the York Rite. This has been a great accomplishment. Members of the Winslow York Rite are also capable of conferring the Three degrees of the Blue Lodge without any difficulty.

Our next meeting, hopefully on May 6 in Show Low, will represent a new beginning with renewed confidence. .

Frank Edens,  
Secretary/Recorder

## FROM MIZPAH CHAPTER OES

Wow! what an extraordinary year it has been. I still consider myself a newbie in OES and it's been an honor to serve as WM this year. As my term as WM is winding down, my thoughts are of gratitude for this experience with OES and Mizpah #57. Lately, we have been reminded of what is absolutely necessary to make us happy and it doesn't come in the form of material items, or work deadlines rather it is knowing that our family and friends are safe and healthy and thus we make plans to have our time together in the (hopefully near) future.

## CORONAVIRUS REFLECTIONS

I looked over our Lodge history tonight. I was curious to find out if there was any information concerning the great Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918-19. I found a scant reference indicating that the Lodge did not meet in October and November of 1918 by order of the Board of Health. I guess there is some historical precedent for our present situation.

How are you doing these days? If you're like me, you're experiencing a lot more time at home as meetings, church, and many other activities are all canceled. It looks like our Easter service at the Methodist Church in Heber will be on some type of internet program like zoom or YouTube. I guess, on the bright side, I will be able to participate in our Easter service on our lap top in the kitchen, possibly sitting in my underwear.

We also bought tickets to see Tony Bennett in Phoenix on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Tony is now 93 years old and this is his seventieth anniversary in show business. He has rescheduled for a date in September. My advice to Tony: don't take any chances at your age and be sure to practice social distancing, especially with the guys in your band.

I have been taking a walk everyday with our little beagle pup, Gracie. We like to hike up to the Holbrook water tower and watch the traffic on the interstate, especially the west bound lane. We see a lot of trucks and not many passenger vehicles. God bless our truckers! They continue to transport all manner of goods in these

*'May the Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another.'*

Christina Diaz  
Worthy Matron

*Worthy Pa-  
tron and Ma-  
tron Paul and  
Christina Diaz*



difficult times. I'm sure that creature comforts on the road are pretty minimal at this point.

Trips to our local Safeway are also interesting at this time. The last time I was at the store there was no toiler paper and no eggs. The only thing I can figure is that people are getting diarrhea from all the eggs they've been eating.

I've also been wasting time watching YouTube videos posted by a guy named Jason Asselin. He's kind of a rustic type that lives in the UP of Michigan and drives around most of the day in a truck with a cracked windshield. He likes trains, like me, so I enjoy his videos. He lives by the Escanaba and Lake Superior Railroad; a line forgotten by time. They have been running a really cool F7A diesel built in 1951 lately with a spiffy dark red and silver paint job. They've also had a couple derailments and had some beautiful runs through the woods with their snow plow train.

All in all, it's good to be riding out this flu deal in "fly over country." I see that New Mexico is in lockdown and that in Chicago you can't even take a walk on the Lakeshore. Use your time wisely or maybe not. Sometimes it's kind of fun to just waste some time doing something that you normally wouldn't do. Hope to see you in lodge or around after this thing blows over!

Pete Johnson, PM  
Chalcedony Lodge

## Don't have Sympathy for the Devil

By Robert Stirling, PM

The greatest trick the devil ever played was to convince the world that he doesn't exist. What is the devil? The devil is the supreme spirit of evil, represented in

Christianity as the tempter of humankind, the leader of all apostate angels, and the ruler of the underworld. Christian Science describes it as: the opposite of Truth : a belief in sin, sickness, and death : **EVIL, ERROR.**

The devil, exists in multiple cultures around the world, God never gave us his real name, but we know him by the names "Apollyon" from Greek, "Baphomet" from the Templars, "Beelzebub" from Hebrew meaning lord of the flies, "Coyote" by American Indians, "Dracula" in Romania, "Loki" in Teutonic, "Moloch" by Phoenicians and Canaanites, "Pan" Greek god of lust considered satanism, "Set" in Egyptian, "Shiva" in Hindu, "Yen Lo Wang" in Chinese, "Shaitan" in Arabic, "Jin" or "Genie" in Islam, "Lucifer" and "Satan".



*“...but actually the greatest trick the devil ever played was convincing the world that God doesn't exist.”*

Encyclopedia Britannica says “In the monotheistic Western religions, the devil is viewed as a fallen angel who in pride has tried to usurp the position of the one and only God. In Judaism, and later Christianity the devil was known as Satan. In the Old Testament, Satan is viewed as the prosecutor of Yahweh's court, as in Job, chapters 1 and 2, but he is not regarded as an adversary of God. In Christianity the devil's main task is tempting man to reject the way of life and redemption and to accept the way of death and destruction. He is the leader of the angels who have fallen from Heaven because of pride. Lucifer means “morning star” and is a fallen angel who was the head of the ministry of music in heaven. It is said that he was the most beautiful of all angels and was the director of the flow of music in heaven, which means he was the conductor of gods choir until his fall from heaven. Lucifer's fall came because he believed he was creating the beautiful music he was conducting, but really it was gods music so he was overcome with pride and became Envious of God's creation.



Islamic theology references the devil as the “Envious one”, who is also known as Ash-Shaytan (“The Demon”) and Adu Allah (“Enemy of God”). In the Quran he appears in the story of the creation of the world. He was the only angel to refuse God's order to bow before Adam, the first man. He was then cursed by God and his punishment will come on the Day of Judgment, until then he is only empowered to tempt the unfaithful and not the true believers. His sins of pride and disobedience are important, and he is sometimes presented as a true monotheist who would bow only to God.

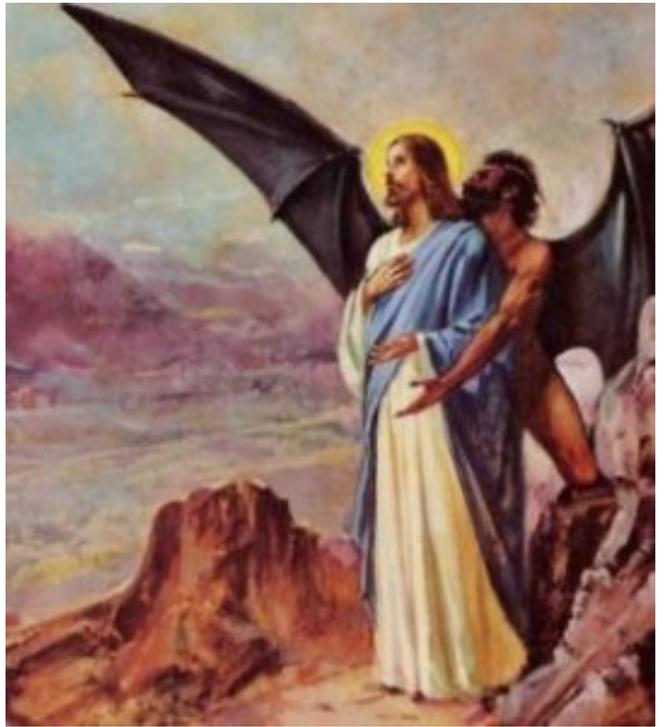
Continued on Page 6

## Don't have Sympathy for the Devil—continued from page 5

The Bible tells us that the devil is trapped here on earth with man to test our free will. Matthew 16:23 ESV But Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.” The Devil can only use materialistic things to tempt mankind to use their free will selfishly, for his favorite word is “More”.

Peter 5:8-9 ESV says “Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.” The devil is always looking for weak men to fulfill his scheme of convincing the world that God doesn't exist. 1 John 5:19 ESV “We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.” Yes this is God's creation but the Kingdom of God is in heaven, Satan is the ruler of this world, you have to pass this test to make it to heaven.

Luke 10:18 ESV “And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.” The devil is trapped here with mankind for eternity, to test man's devotion to the true creator, but he has to



show you his trick first before you commit to it, because it's a test of free will. If to use your free will to commit sin you get cursed. Satan's showing his trick is called “tipping of the hand”. 1 Corinthians 10:13 ESV “No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.” The devil can't kill you, only trick you to destroy yourself, but God always leaves the pathway to redemption open. John 8:44 ESV “You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.” 2 Corinthians 11:14 ESV “And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.” The number 666 is known as the number of the devil. The reason is because 666 is actually the number of Christ, so when the devil needed a number to represent himself he stole the number of Christ to hide behind. An example of the 666 used in our Masonic ritual is the 24 inch gauge, when split into thirds you get 1/3 of the day or .333 to rest and 2/3 or .666 of the day for work and worship.

In The Book of Job KJV chapters 1-2. First Satan takes everything Job possesses, so Job “fell down Upon the ground and worshipped and said “naked I come out of my mothers womb and naked I shall return thither: the Lord giveth and the Lord have taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord. In all this Job sinned not nor “charged God foolishly”. Job is then further tempted by Satan in chapter 2 -3-13 “ and the Lord said unto Satan “has thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and upright man, one that fear only God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou moved me against him to destroy him without cause. And Satan answer the Lord and said, skin for skin, yeah all that a man hath will he give for his life. But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone in his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face. And the Lord said unto Satan, behold he is in thine hand, but saveth his life. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from soul of his foot into his crown. And Satan took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal: and he sat down among the ashes. Then said his wife unto him, does thou still retain thine integrity? Curse God and die. But he said unto her, thou speaks as one of the foolish women speaks. What? Shall receive good at the hand of God, and Shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.” So after Job lost all his material possessions and his bodily health, he still was grateful toward the creator and rejected the trick of the Devil.

## Don't have Sympathy for the Devil—continued from page 6

So who are you going to follow “God the Father” or “The father of lies” the devil? There is no reason to fear the devil because it cannot kill you, and has weaknesses that are easy for all people to exploit. Like I said earlier the devil has to show his trick first before you can commit to it, the phrase the devil is in the details is referring to that. The devil will always put his signature all over his lies. One example is climate change, one of the details is that man is going to destroy God's creation because we drive cars and have electricity and running water. That's the trick, only Satan can come up with a lie big enough to trick mankind into thinking we could destroy God's creation, Only God can destroy God's Creation. Satan's tricks



always are aimed at convincing man he can have God's power. If you do commit to the trick and say that man is destroying God's creation by driving cars and having electricity and running water, that is an example of giving sympathy for the devil because you are sympathizing with the lie that is designed to destroy what separates mankind from animals. If you are tricked into committing sin by the devil it is considered your fault because you were shown the consequences beforehand and still used your gift from God, your free will to sin and be destructive to yourself and family. “So they say the greatest trick the Devil ever played was convincing the world he doesn't exist, but actually the greatest trick the devil ever played was convincing the world that God doesn't exist.” I'm going to close this with an article by Martin Luther about how the devil hates to be mocked.

To Spite the Devil—Martin Luther drinks his demons away.

Whenever this temptation of melancholy comes to you, beware not to dispute with the devil nor allow yourself to dwell on these lethal thoughts, for so doing is nothing less than giving place to the devil and so falling.

Try as hard as you can to despise these thoughts sent by Satan. In this sort of temptation and battle, contempt is the easiest road to victory; laugh your enemy to scorn and ask to whom you are talking. By all means flee solitude, for he lies in wait most for those alone. This devil is conquered by despising and mocking him, not by resisting and arguing. Therefore, Jerome, joke and play games with my wife and others, in which way you will drive out your diabolic thoughts and take courage.

Be strong and cheerful and cast out those monstrous thoughts. Whenever the devil harasses you thus, seek the company of men, or drink more, or joke and talk nonsense, or do some other merry thing. Sometimes we must drink more, sport, recreate ourselves, aye, and even sin a little to spite the devil, so that we leave him no place for troubling our consciences with trifles. We are conquered if we try too conscientiously not to sin at all. So when the devil says to you, “Do not drink,” answer him, “I will drink, and right freely, just because you tell me not to.” One must always do what Satan forbids. What other cause do you think that I have for drinking so much strong drink, talking so freely and making merry so often, except that I wish to mock and harass the devil who is want to mock and harass me. Would that I could contrive some great sin to spite the devil, that he might understand that I would not even then acknowledge it and that I was conscious of no sin whatever. We, whom the devil thus seeks to annoy, should not remove the whole Decalogue from our hearts and minds.



# DIFFICULTIES ARRISING FROM INTERNET AND HISTORICAL SEARCHES

I asked what I believed was a simple question. “What was the effect of the Israelites leaving Egypt have on the economy of Egypt?” The attached table demonstrates the contradictions I found from similar sources. These contradictions were in the area of 600 to 800 years. For example, I found a record of a Pharaoh who drowned in the Red Sea, but I could not find further details about him. It may have happened around the end of the dynasty of line Pharaohs , thus much of the history of this event would have been lost. According one source, Egypt was invaded from all sides as a result of the Pharaoh losing his army, but other sources did not confirm this. I also found discussions about if the Pharaoh lost his life or just his army.

The best that research can tell us is that the Israelites were in Egypt during the time of the Bronze Age. They returned to what is now Israel during the time of the late Bronze Age or early Iron Age.

There is evidence in the early Iron Age that many Canaanite Cities were destroyed, this may have been due to the return of the Israelites to the area occupied by warlike tribes of Canaan and the constant fighting among themselves and the Israelites.

We must realize that the various records in the Bible were written by nomadic people who did not have access to calendars that were used in other parts of the world. Thus, we must take the stories from the Bible as the spiritual instruction that they were intended.

Frank Edens, PM

## Contradictions found on Various Internet Sources when Attempting to Create a Timeline of Biblical Events

Timeline by Bible Hub	Timeline by Bible Bender	
1906 BC Jacob received the name Israel	2686 BC until 2648 BC – Joseph had the Egyptian name of Imhotep who was an advisor to Pharaoh Netjerikhet (Djoser)	
1898 BC Joseph Sold into slavery		
1898 BC Joseph Prospers Under Potiphar		
1889 BC Joseph is falsely accused and imprisoned		
1886 BC Joseph interprets Pharaoh’s dreams		
1886 BC Pharaoh puts Joseph in charge		
1886 BC Seven Years of plenty begins		
1875 BC Famine begins		
1875 BC Joseph’s brothers sent to Egypt		
1800 BC Jacob’s family, who are called Israelites, stay in Egypt		2181 – 2040 BC – a breakdown of the central government
1806 BC Joseph dies		
1700 BC Israelites multiply in Egypt		
1600 BC Israelites oppressed by new King		
1539 BC Pharaoh orders first born killed		
1525 BC Birth of Moses		
1486 BC Moses flees into Median		
1446 BC Moses returns to Egypt, and the 10 plaques begin		
1446 BC The Exodus begins, Moses received the law		
1445 BC The Tabernacle is erected		
1406 BC The death of Moses	Pepi II (2278 – 2184 BC) Ruled from the time he was six until 100 years old	
1406 BC Israelites conquer Jericho and Ai		
1405 BC Northern Palestine is conquered		
1374 BC Israelites conquer Jerusalem and Hebron		
1024 BC David kills Goliath		
966 BC Solomon makes plans for the Temple and his palace		
959 BC Solomon dedicates the Temple		
References:		Ramesses II (1279 – 1212 BC) – A popular candidate for the Pharaoh mentioned in Exodus.
<a href="https://biblehub.com/timeline/genesis/1.htm">https://biblehub.com/timeline/genesis/1.htm</a>		
<a href="https://biblehub.com/timeline/exodus/1.htm">https://biblehub.com/timeline/exodus/1.htm</a>		
<a href="https://www.history.com/topics/pre-history/bronze-age">https://www.history.com/topics/pre-history/bronze-age</a>		
<a href="https://www.bibleblender.com/2019/biblical-lessons/biblical-history/dynasties-of-egypt-rulers-pharaohs-biblical-narrative">https://www.bibleblender.com/2019/biblical-lessons/biblical-history/dynasties-of-egypt-rulers-pharaohs-biblical-narrative</a>		
<a href="https://www.history.com/topics/pre-history/iron-age">https://www.history.com/topics/pre-history/iron-age</a>		

The Bronze Age lasted from about 3300 B.C until 1200 BC

Iron Age lasted from about 1200 B.C. to 550 BC

## The Veneration Gap

Older people have grouched about younger people for millennia – Now we know why!

Complaining about the young is a longstanding prerogative of the old: Just as baby boomers and Gen 'Xers today lament the short comings of millennials and Gen Z. Parents in the 1920s looked askance at their flapper daughters. The mothers of pre-revolutionary France pooh-poohed their "effeminate" sons, and so on back to the fourth century B.C. and Aristotle, who said of Greece's young people: "They think they know everything, and are always quite sure about it."

Now some 2,500 years later, researchers are offering a pair of psychological explanations for this recurring complaint, or what they call the "kids these days effect." In studies involving 3,458 Americans ages 33 to 51 recruited and evaluated online, John Protzko and Jonathan Schooler of the University of California, Santa Barbara, measured respondents' authoritarian tendencies, intelligence and enthusiasm for reading. "While people may believe in a general decline," the researchers observed in the journal *Sciences Advances*, "they also believed that children are especially deficient on the traits in which they happen to excel."

Authoritarian people, it turns out, are more likely to suspect that today's youth are lacking in respect for authority, while well-read people are more likely to bemoan that kids these days never seem to be reading. More intelligent people are also more likely to say that young people are getting more stupider—a remarkable conviction, given decades of rising intelligence domestically and globally.

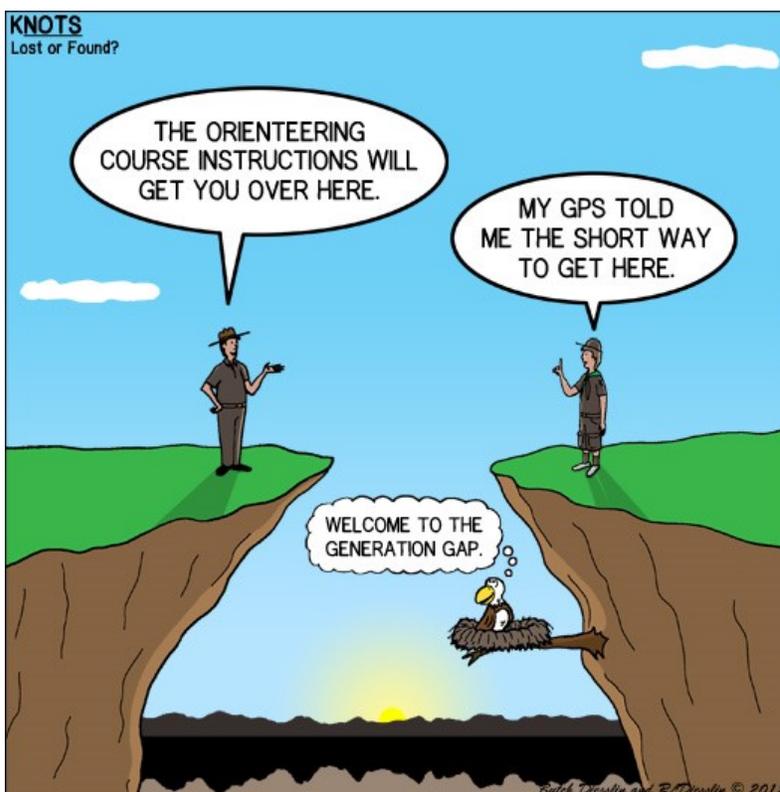
At the heart of this denigrating effect is flawed memory, Protzko and Schooler say. Sometimes older people mistakenly recall that kids in the past were more accomplished than today's kids, who suffer by comparison. "People in their 20's and 30's are going to grow up looking at kids and think they are deficient," Protzko says. So, while the baby boomers continue to weather volleys of "OK, boomer" from youngsters who blame them for despoiling the earth, older Americans can take comfort in knowing that members of Generation Z will one day hear the inevitable: "OK, zoomer."

I want to thank the Smithsonian Magazine and writer Ted Schienman for providing me with this article.

It wasn't the article I wanted... But being a pre Boomer, I have another trait, I tend to forget where I put things. There are a few who are getting like me. You place your "Dues Notice" where you wouldn't forget it and now you can't find it. If you are having difficulties do to the *VIRUS* or other reasons please contact me or one of our other officers. We are here to help. It is part of our obligation as you know.

Your sometimes-Forgetful Secretary.

Clay Howard, PM



## Similarities of Freemasonry and the Martial Arts

On the surface Freemasonry and martial arts such as Shotokan karate, Taekwondo and Wing Chun kung-fu appear totally different, possessing no similarities. Freemasonry is a beautiful system of morality veiled in allegory and symbolized by working tools and other emblems. The martial arts are deadly systems of self-defense. The uninitiated in either, believe we should simply end this article right here and right now.

But, let us look deeper. Both Freemasonry and the martial arts require screening before admission. Historically, the admission into the martial arts was restricted to small groups such as families, if



someone from the outside wanted to join, they had to be “vouched for.”

Both Freemasonry and the martial arts were taught in secret. This was a matter of life and death. Members of the martial arts did not want their adversaries to know their techniques.



The stone masons did not want

to share their secrets so that they would continue to work to be able to feed their families. In my opinion, I believe that although many Freemasons were Christian, they did not necessarily conform to the Catholic Church. Many of them took more of a gnostic view that an intermediary, such as a pope, was not needed to connect with deity. They also wanted to educate their children at a time when few children received an education.

Both the martial arts and Freemasonry have a Master and Grand Master who give instruction and make them conform to certain norms. Both systems are progressive systems, meaning that initiates go through various levels of instruction, they need to demonstrate proficiency before advancing. Both require learning physical movements. Freemasonry uses steps, signs and due guards. The martial arts require the learning of forms and katas to demonstrate knowledge.

Both have their exoteric and esoteric aspects. The martial arts have katas that appear to be dance routines that can be demonstrated in public. The underlying meaning of the movements used in the katas are kept secret.

Freemasonry attempts to teach good men to be better men, the martial arts have a similar objective as can be seen in a quote from the founder of Shotokan Karate - Master Gichin Funakoshi:

*“Those who follow Karate-do will develop courage and fortitude. These qualities do not have to do with strong actions or with the development of strong techniques as such. Emphasis is placed on the development of the mind rather than on techniques. In a time of grave public crisis, one must have the courage, if required for the sake of justice, to face a million and one opponents.”* (from Brother David Pugh’s article in The Midnight Freemasons)

Brother David Pugh also quotes “Taekwondo has the five tenets of Courtesy, Integrity, Perseverance, Self-Control, and Indomitable Spirit, which each student is charged to inculcate; this is like the four cardinal virtues of Freemasonry: Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice.”

The martial arts Dojos in the US will now allow anyone who has the funds to start training, thus they may have lost some of the spiritual values of the martial arts. But, Masons still attempt to screen those who express an interest. I believe that we as Masons should continue to carefully screen our membership and maintain our spiritual values without undue influence from the outside world.

Frank Edens, PM

### References:

Brother David Pugh, Masonry & The Martial Arts, The Midnight Freemasons, <http://www.midnightfreemasons.org/2019/04/masonry-martial-arts.html>, retrieved 3/25/2020.  
Freemasonry & Martial Arts, Ossipee Masonic Lodge #47, <http://nhmasons.org/masonic-news/2010/4/23/freemasonry-martial-arts.html>, retrieved 3/25/2020

## FROM THE SECRETARY OF MIZPAH CHAPTER #57

We still have some members who have not paid their 2020 dues. They were due on Jan 1, 2020. If you haven't sent in your dues, please remit \$35 payable to Mizpah Chapter #57, PO Box 1802, Show Low, AZ 85902

Sue Connors, Past Matron

Secretary of Mizpah Chapter #57

## WASHINGTON LIVED MASONRY

Taken from the Bicentennial History of Fredericksburg Lodge #4 by Wm. Brown 1958



George Washington lived his Masonry and demonstrated it in many ways. One of his first acts after being made a Mason was to take Governor Dinwiddie's message to the French in the Ohio country. He had to have an interpreter, so he returned to Fredericksburg and invited Jacob Van Braam, a Brother Mason, to go with him.

In the formative period of this nation, when men held decided views on Government, it was necessary for leaders to surround themselves with men whom they could trust. When an important post was to be filled, or an important message was to be delivered, Washington often selected a man as much for his Masonic affiliations as for his ability, because, living his Masonry, he looked for others to live their Masonry also

When Benedict Arnold deserted the American cause, Washington's disappointment was made more bitter because Arnold was a Mason. His comment was "Whom now can we trust"

Contributed by Steve Beardsley. PM

## A Nice Masonic Story

Contributed by Mike Gibbs who received this from a fellow Shriner

I always like to pass on funny jokes or nice stories that give a very important message.

A salesman breaks down in a remote country lane, a farmer in the adjacent field comes over and they discover that they are "Brothers". The salesman is concerned as he has an important appointment in the local town: "Don't worry says the farmer you can use my car, I will call a friend and get the car repaired while you go to the appointment" Off goes the salesman and a couple of hours later he returns but unfortunately the car is awaiting a part which won't arrive until the next morning. "It's not a problem," says the Farmer, "use my telephone and re-schedule your first appointment tomorrow, stay with us tonight and I'll see that the car is done first thing!" The farmers' wife prepares a wonderful meal and they share a glass of fine single malt during an excellent evening, the salesman sleeps soundly and when he awakes there is his car, repaired and ready to go. After a full English breakfast, the salesman thanks them both for the hospitality. As he and the farmer walk to his car he turns and asks, "my brother, thank you so much but I have to ask, did you help me because I am a Mason?" "No" was the reply, "I helped you because I am a Mason" Travel well my Brothers.

# PICTURES FROM WHITE RIVER LODGE #62

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The OpenTable Lodge on January 17, 2020—Above, below and to the upper right



Brother Tom McRitchie receiving his 50 year pin and apron on 12/12/2019

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